

August 2024 Newsletter



Dear Parents:

This summer has flown by and it is hard to believe that we are already gearing up for our Fall 2024 school year program! The summer has been filled with many fun activities, and special memories for all of our children and classes. We would like



to extend a warm welcome to our new families starting at the Center later this month and wish our "graduating" families God's richest blessings!

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart; don't rely on your own understanding. Know Him in all your ways, and He will make your path straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6

This Month

- Teacher In-Service
- Transition Week
- Fall Enrollment Fees
- Evacuation Drills
- FCA 1st Day of School
- Staff Anniversaries & Farwells

Center Closure:



As a reminder, the Sonshine Center will be closed for our all staff teacher in-service and professional training day on Friday, August 9th.



Transition Week: Many of the children will be graduating to new fall classrooms during transition week which is August 12-16. Classroom assignments were designated in your Fall 2023-2024 Re-Enrollment Confirmation emails that were sent out in July. If you are unsure of what class your child is in for the Fall program, please stop by the front desk. Back To School Night informational packets for each class are available as of August 5th and will be sent home in your child's folder as well as emailed through Procure.

Fall Fees: As a reminder, the annual enrollment fee and materials fee will be billed to your Sonshine Center account in August. The fees are as follows:

Infant Center & Main Center Enrollment Fee: \$100.00 (1 per family)

Preschool Materials Fee:

\$30.00 per child in Rainbows and Sonbeams Classes

\$50.00 per child in Shining Lights, Sonshine Express, Sonshine Kids, & Jr. Kindergarten classes

Please Note: The last day of attendance for all elementary aged children and families that are NOT enrolled for Fall 2024 is **Thursday, August 8th**. Faith Christian Academy and Jr. Kindergarten programs start on **Wednesday, August 14th**, so please plan accordingly. If your child is attending Kindergarten at a local public school, we recommend you verify what the first day of school will be. There is not care available for your child at the Sonshine Center after **August 8th**.

Drills: We will be holding evacuation and tornado drills for the Main Center on Tuesday, August 7th at 10:00 am. These drills are important for both the staff and children to be familiar with what to do in case of emergency. The drills will take approximately 20 minutes and will be out of the classroom area during this time, so please plan accordingly.

FCA 1st Day of School: The K-8 Faith Christian Academy students will be returning on Wednesday, August 17th for the first day of school! This will affect traffic patterns and parking for Sonshine Center. A map is attached to show how traffic will be guided and where it is safe to park to enter the Center. When FCA school is in session there will be **NO PARKING** permitted on the south east side of the building. Please also note that the busy times will be at the start and end of the FCA school day which are 7:45-8:10 am and 2:30-3:10 pm. Remember, the traffic pattern and parking designations are in place to ensure safety for all children so please cooperate, be kind and respectful to the volunteers that are helping direct traffic!



Staff Employment Anniversaries

Happy anniversary to our staff members celebrating this month:

Congratulations to all of these Amazing employees celebrating anniversaries this month!! They are:

Heather Bilyou	24 Years	Head Teacher – Sonbeams
Loraine Braithwaite	23 Years	Group Leader – Sonbeams
Jody Connor	26 Years	Director – East Campus
Jessica Bilyou	18 Years	Group Leader – Sonbeams
Emily Gichert	11 Years	Group Leader – Rainbows
Nancy Keyser	8 Years	Substitute – Sonshine Express
Malita Dietrick	3 Years	Substitute – Lions and Lambs
Julie Weathers	3 Years	Substitute – All Classes, Infant Center & Main Center
Cristaine Cavalcante	2 Year s	Teacher Aid – Little Blessings

The Sonshine Center has been in business for 30 years and we are grateful to serve the community of Arvada and surrounding areas! None of it would be possible without an amazing staff. Thank you for your hard work and dedication, you are a blessing!

Staff Farewells

Change is always difficult, and we hate to say goodbye to Sonshine Center teachers and staff that have dedicated their lives and hearts to the ministry of the Sonshine Center! It is a blessing to work in a place that allows us to be more than simply co-workers, we are lifelong friends that become family. Please join us as we wish Ms. Etleva, Ms. Rhonda, and Natasha many blessings as they step into new stages of life. If you can, please pop in to let them know what they mean to you and to wish them well!

Ms. Etleva is going to be a teacher aid at Faith Christian Academy K-5 and she is very excited for this new opportunity to work with the elementary school and be on a matching schedule with her two boys. Etleva has faithfully served at the Sonshine Center for 6 years, working both in the Lions and Lambs classroom as well as the Shining Lights class. We will miss her warm smile and tender care for the children each day. Ms. Etleva's last day at Sonshine will be Friday, August 2nd.

Ms. Rhonda has several exciting new adventures with her family coming soon! She will have opportunity to travel more as she helps support her husbands growing business partnership and opportunities AND they are expecting their first grandchild (a grandson) at the end of August. Rhonda has dedicated more than 20 years of her life to early childhood education and we are so blessed that the last 7 years have been at Sonshine Center. Rhonda has faithfully served as Head Teacher in both the Lions and Lambs and the Sonshine Kids classrooms. We will miss her high energy, fun-loving, educational expertise at the center! Ms. Rhonda's last day at Sonshine will be Thursday, August 8th.

The front desk will NOT be the same without Natasha's bright smile to start each morning and her organization that keeps all things Sonshine on track! Natasha is saying goodbye to Sonshine to embrace the opportunity to homeschool her two elementary aged sons, Axel and Onor as well as getting more quality time with her daughters Kadence, who is a sophomore in highschool and Wheeler who will be one in September. It is hard to be a working parent when your kids are little and we are excited that Natasha has this opportunity to focus on her family. Her ability to juggle 100 things at once, fix all of our technology issues, and be an encouraging face of kindness will be greatly missed! Natasha's last day at Sonshine will be Thursday, August 8th.

