



Sidewalk Chalk

Monthly e-newsletter

OUR VISION

All children in Randolph County enter school healthy & ready to succeed.

In this month's issue:

- Community & Diversity Through Play workshop
- Giving Tuesday
- Santa helps promote the Imagination Library
- Hummus Dip & TurkeyPeppers recipe
- Don't forget to scroll all the way down for calendar reminders



"It is time for parents to teach young people early on that in diversity there is beauty and there is strength."

~Maya Angelou

Inspirations

At this time of year I love hearing about friends' and colleagues' holiday celebrations and the rich, time-honored, and sometimes quirky traditions that we hold dear. While there are many similarities across our families and communities, there are also many cultural-specific twists and nuances that give me pause when I think about the enormity of all that goes into something as seemingly simple as coming together at a family table or gathering at our places of worship.



One thing that holds true for my family – and I'll bet the same can be said for yours – is that having young children in the mix during holiday celebrations adds greatly to our joy. Getting the opportunity to behold momentarily the world through the eyes of a child is truly magical.

With the passing years, I've come to appreciate more fully just how important celebrations and traditions are for our little ones. These experiences help our children form strong cultural identities -- giving them a sense of belonging, which is important to a child's mental health and well-being. When children have a strong cultural identity, they are well placed to make social connections with others, both within and across cultures, and more likely to be engaged in their communities and resilient when life throws out its curve balls.

We know that our young children are always learning, absorbing, and making

connections that form their foundations for future learning and success. This holiday season is a great opportunity to help young children develop a sense of who they are and where they come from. To whom will you give the *gift of belonging* this year?

Lisa Hayworth

Executive Director

Community & Diversity Through Play



Young children need time to explore and discover. Incorporating loose parts into a child's play area, whether at home or in an early learning environment, fosters discovery, enhances problem-solving skills and expands creativity.

Loose parts are a collection of natural or synthetic materials, found or purchased – anything children can move, manipulate, control and change within their play.

Did you also know that it can be a tool for reinforcing culture, tradition and diversity?

The open-ended qualities of loose parts allow children to recreate and represent their cultural and home languages in a variety of ways, represent everyday moments they experience within their families including holiday traditions, and open opportunities for the classroom community to create and celebrate diversity. Loose parts are materials that can represent and embrace the diverse cultures found in early childhood environments.

Randolph County's early childhood professionals are invited to participate in a workshop on how to do just that in their classrooms.

WHAT: Using Loose Parts to Create Cultural Environments & Holiday Joy

WHEN: Tuesday, Dec. 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

WHERE: Randleman Senior Center

144 W. Academy St., Randleman, NC 27317

To register, complete and return [THIS FORM](#).

For more information, contact:

Susan Helsabeck

Professional Development Specialist

336-629-2128 ext. 31

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PHOTO: Andee Edelson and Patty Sullivan posing with students at Harmony Place.

Giving Tuesday is Nov. 27

This year through **Giving Tuesday**, we are raising money to help our local pediatricians promote reading.

Our goal is to raise **\$5000** for our **Reach Out & Read** program now through November 27, this year's Giving Tuesday.

Through **Reach Out & Read**, we partner with Randolph County pediatricians so they can "prescribe" books to young

children during well-child visits.

100% of your **Giving Tuesday** donations made through November 27 will benefit our Reach Out & Read program.

Follow us on social media on **Giving Tuesday** to watch our progress toward meeting our \$5000 goal!



Donate to Reach Out & Read NOW!

Santa Photo Shoot for DPIL



Since July 1, we've been promoting Dolly Parton's Imagination Library in an effort to enroll as many of Randolph County's more than 8,000 infants, toddler and preschoolers as possible.

When we first partnered with NC Partnership for Children to expand enrollment funding to include all children younger than 5, about 4% were enrolled. Today, 20% are enrolled.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if 100% of children younger than 5 in Randolph County were receiving their very own free book in the mail, addressed personally to them, every month until their 5th birthdays?

Santa thought so. That's why he stopped by for a special photo shoot right before things got really busy up at the North Pole. Sophia Atkins, left, and Olivia Newby, right, enjoyed story time with Santa during a photo shoot at the Partnership. The photos will be used for outreach during the holiday season to help us find and enroll more children in the Imagination Library.

Look for social media posts, ads and more featuring Santa with Sophia and Olivia over the coming weeks. And if you have an infant, toddler or preschooler — or know someone who does — enroll them today!

For more information about DPIL, contact:

Meredith Shields

Family & Literacy Engagement Specialist
Randolph Partnership for Children
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To reach Santa, contact:

Gerry Cheek, a.k.a. Santa Gerry

336-541-6974
(certified professional Santa)

Hummus Dip & Turkey Peppers



Thanksgiving begins a season of rich, delicious foods served at holiday meals celebrating the diverse cultures and traditions that make up the melting pot that is America.

Here's a healthy recipe from Super Health Kids that is as fun as it is delicious.

Ingredients

- 15 ounce – chickpeas (garbanzo beans), canned
- 1 clove – garlic
- 1 medium – lemon
- 1/2 cup – yogurt, plain
- 1 tablespoon – olive oil
- 1/8 teaspoon – salt

Serve with:

1 each medium yellow, red, green and orange bell peppers.

Directions

1. Drain and rinse chickpeas, mince garlic, and juice lemon.
2. Blend above ingredients along with yogurt, oil, and salt in a food processor until smooth.
3. Cut the top off of one pepper and remove the seeds; cut the other peppers into strips.
4. Fill the hollowed-out pepper with hummus then add the strips, positioning them as feathers; use scraps to make a face, using a bit of hummus to make everything stick. Find the eyes in the cake-decorating section of your craft store.

For more healthy, fun, kid-friendly recipes, visit SuperHealthyKids.com.

Penciled in

- **Wednesday-Friday, Nov. 21-23:** Offices CLOSED. Happy Thanksgiving!
- **Wednesday, Nov. 28:** Farm-to-Childcare meeting at [Harmony Place](#) **noon**
- **Thursday, Nov. 29:** KidsReadyNC meeting **3-5 p.m.**
- **Friday, Nov. 30:** Offices CLOSED. Staff retreat.
- **Saturday, Dec. 1: Franklinville Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **10:30 a.m.**
- **Saturday, Dec. 1: Liberty Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **2:30 p.m.**
- **Saturday, Dec. 1: Seagrove Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **5**



p.m.

- **Sunday, Dec. 2: Archdale Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **3 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, Dec. 4:** Grant Review Committee meeting **12:30 p.m.**
- **Thursday, Dec. 6: Randleman Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **6:30 p.m.**
- **Friday, Dec. 7: Asheboro Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **7 p.m.**
- **Saturday, Dec. 8: Ramseur Parade** (Give the Gift of Reading free book giveaway) **5 p.m.**
- **Friday, Dec. 21:** Board of Directors meeting **8 a.m.**

*Help us put kids first in
Randolph County!*

Donate

new & gently used books
new infant blankets
diapers

Shop

We're connected with Amazon Smile, so when you shop and select Randolph County Partnership for Children, you're helping to raise money for literacy programs, parent support, early childhood professional development and NC Pre-K right here in Randolph County!



Randolph Partnership for Children | 349 Sunset Ave., Asheboro, NC 27203 | 336-629-2128

Visit our Website