

Dear Kiddie Academy Families,

Mark your calendars for the following events during the month of April:

- **April 8, 2017: Parent Date Night:** Have the kids join us from 6:00-10:00 pm for a fun filled night of activities, a movie and pizza.
- **April 11, 2017: Suncoast Blood Bank onsite.** Parents are welcome to participate in this community event. They will be onsite from 3:00-6:00 pm.
- **April 11-12th: Little People Portraits** will be onsite for spring and VPK cap and gown pictures. Check your child's classroom door for your picture day.
- **April 13, 2017: Easter celebrations.** Students will have an egg hunt during their morning playground time. During afternoon snack time students will have an Easter celebration.
- **April 14, 2017: School Age Camp (K-5):** Manatee County Schools will be closed. We will be offering care for school age students and VPK.
- **April 24th -28th, 2017: NAEYC Week of the Young Child.** Each day we will be celebrating different themes to continue with NAEYC learning.
- **April 24th -April 28th, 2017: Scholastic Book Fair.** Scholastic books will be available for purchases in our lobby. Please remember we do not accept cash payments.
- **VPK/ ELC:** ELC is now providing VPK vouchers for the 2017/2018 school year. We currently have two classes full and have opened the third class for 9-12 only.
- **School Age Camp Adventure (K-5):** Calendars are available at our front desk. We have an exciting summer planned with different themed club weeks.
- **Kiddie Camp (Current VPK Students):** We are now enrolling children that are entering Kindergarten in the fall 2017 for Kiddie camp.

*Happy Birthday!*

Olivia M , Savannah, Lily, Ella, Ava, Brelynn, Colton, Sullivan, Brody, Charles, Owen, becks, Vincent, Leyla, Sophia, Braden, Anelise, Jonathan, Katelyn, James, Aarya, Tobias, Olivia

## A Few Good Reasons to Feel Great about Child Care

When you're considering the best child care option for your family, considering a formal, structured, and licensed environment like Kiddie Academy can have many benefits to both children and parents. Though the decision is one of the most important ones you'll ever have to make, when you place your child in a safe and nurturing setting with an appropriate amount of stimulation and learning, the experience can prove to be a truly positive part of your child's upbringing—with lasting benefits. Here are just a few key reasons why your decision to choose child care can be considered advantageous, now and later.

- **Character builder.** We've all heard the phrase 'It takes a village to raise a child.' There's plenty of room for teachers and other students at school to have a positive impact on your child. Not only does exposing children to caregivers other than their parents help them to become well-rounded as they get older, it encourages them to be more flexible and adaptable in the face of new situations—a great trait for all ages.
- **Social stimulator.** One of the first and most important lessons children learn in school is how to get along with their peers. Child care gives young children a jump start on learning this essential life lesson. When 2-year-olds spend their days with same-age peers, they're encouraged to adopt the spirit of cooperation and sharing sooner.
- **Immune booster.** Sneezing, coughing and runny noses are an inevitable part of life for most young children. And although it's natural for us to want to shield our children from being coughed and sneezed on by their peers, there's actually some benefit behind that spray. The sooner your child is exposed to germs, the earlier his immune system will be activated to fight against them and, in turn, become stronger. In fact, researchers who study childhood immunity have begun to draw connections between children who are exposed early and regularly to common viruses (e.g., through attendance at child care) and a reduced likelihood of developing certain illnesses and chronic conditions.

**Kiddie Academy® of Lakewood Ranch**  
4225 Concept Court  
Lakewood Ranch, FL 34211  
**941.727.9072**  
kiddieacademy.com/lakewoodranch

**KIDDIE**  
**ACADEMY.**  
EDUCATIONAL CHILD CARE

## Learning Through Play at Kiddie Academy



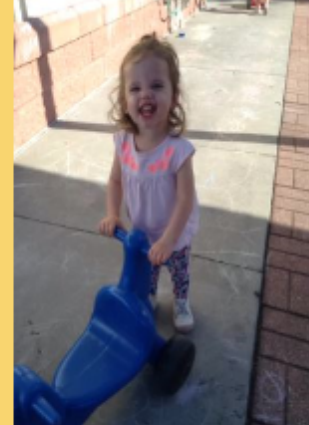
The early years are the most critically important in shaping learning and development for young children.

This April, the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), an early childhood education association and accreditor, will focus attention on the importance of quality education for young children with their annual **"Week of the Young Child"** celebration across the United States from **April 24-28, 2017**.

Play is the most important and effective way that young children learn. Through playing, children can learn social, emotional, physical and cognitive components of the real world around them, all the while retaining key information and refining skill sets as they have fun. As children play, they build important social-emotional connections with both adults and peers, and begin to grasp character values like respect and tolerance that prepare them for life.

Since playing comes so naturally to young children, it expands their creativity allowing them to practice adult roles through pretend or imaginative play. It also offers young children the opportunity to socialize, problem solve, explore and discover without pressure or judgment from parents or teachers, allowing them to fully express themselves as artists, leaders, athletes, playwrights, chefs and so much more. This kind of play builds confidence over time so children feel comfortable as they meet challenges in life, and persevere to overcome obstacles and try new things.

## Happy Spring!



### Parent Reminders

- Please pack a seasonally appropriate change of clothes (including socks and underwear). Be sure to replace this extra set of clothes as the seasons change and your child grows
- Reminder: We are a Peanut-Free Center