

# Early Learning Center

Where Families Connect to Learn, Grow and Play!

Contact us at: [www.bellevuecollege.edu/childcare](http://www.bellevuecollege.edu/childcare) 425-564-2240

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## September 2018

### Dates to Remember:

#### Dear ELC Families,

I am happy to announce **Pam England** as our **New Assistant Director**. Pam has worked at the ELC for 16 years in our Head Start program in 3 different positions. In each of her positions she has worked to educate children and parents to provide a strong individualized early educational foundation and support to each family. She is ready to take on more responsibilities. Please join me in **Congratulating Pam!**



Whether these are your family's first days at the ELC, or your child has been here since the infant room, there is a new energy that goes along with the beginning of Fall Quarter. Some children move to a new classroom, some graduate and move on to kindergarten while others welcome in new friends to join their community. At home, everyone in the family is likely taking on new roles and responsibilities.

At the ELC we will be making some staffing changes in the preschool rooms.

**Karen and Ali** will be moving up to **Prek 1**  
**Donna and Mala** will continue in **Prek 2**  
**Page** will be teaming with **Wendy** in **P3**  
**Brianne** will be teaming with **Cindy** in **P4**

In preparation of the opening for Student Housing the ELC back entrance is being changed to an employee only entrance. We ask that all families please park in the front of the building in the 20 minute drop off spots or the adjacent lot 99 and only use the front entrance. This is also to implement changes in monitoring access to the building. The door codes will not work on the back entrance door. Please plan your pick up and drop off accordingly. Also please **DO NOT** park in the fire emergency curb/area. We need this area open for emergency vehicles in the event that your child might need assistance.

Transitions like these require courage and time till the world seems familiar again. Remember we are here to help!

Warmly,  
Lisa  
Director, ELC

**9/3/18**  
**Labor Day**  
**ELC CLOSED**



**9/7/18**  
**Early closure at 4:15pm**  
**Please be in the building by 4:00 to pick up your child.**

**9/13/18**  
**Bellevue College**  
**Opening Day**

**\*BC and ELC**  
**CLOSED**



**9/17—12/6/18**  
**Fall quarter**

## What's New in the Infant Room?

Infant 1 & 2 Teachers: Liliana, Mahboobeh, Tiffany & Rachel



Jade is so curious, investigating toys



Yvonne is the explorer girl! Checking out toys



Vinnie is proud to show us his new standing skills!

In the last month, our Infant Room welcomed new babies! As we have more babies Lilianna moved to Infant Room 2. We also welcomed our new teacher Tiffany! Tiffany and Mahboobeh will work in Infant Room 1. We will have two more new babies in Infant Room 1 by September, so we will start our fall in a busier, full classroom.

Children in the Infant Rooms are busy and everyone showed us some new skills and growing on old ones.

We saw a lots of growth in physical skills, raising hands to catch a toy, rolling over to their back from their tummy, moving forward to explore and trying to pull self-up, were some of them.

For next month we will add more opportunities for children to practice and explore within their new surrounding environment. As we all get to know each other!

Welcome teacher Tiffany!



Zuri pusher herself up to look around the room!



Samira crawls to the top of the climber, pulls up to stand then waves to her teachers proudly!



Xander smiles as he pulls to stand ... contemplating taking a step



Thomas greets us with beautiful smiles

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\*Lilliana - [lmartell@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:lmartell@bellevuecollege.edu)

\*Tiffany-[tiffany.xiong@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:tiffany.xiong@bellevuecollege.edu)

Specialist for Infant and T1 Rooms: Linda Boyd



## What Have the Young Toddlers Been Learning?

T1 Teachers: Brian & Lisa Ann

Welcome back everyone as we get ready for fall quarter in T-1.

We are preparing to have half our class comprised of new children and those returning from break over the summer. With that many children getting used to being at school and adjusting to the routine, we will be giving the children lots of time to explore the environment and become familiar with their teachers.



We will be singing songs to calm and engage the group as well as making ourselves available to the children, some who we expect may need extra comfort during this transition.



We regularly use some select sign language signs with the children along with words to help give them additional methods to communicate their needs with us. “More”, “eat”, and “please” are the most common signs the children understand first as they related to mealtimes.



For those families who are with us for the first time, it is typical to see your child upset when first dropping them off with us at school. It can be hard for them (and for you) to say goodbye and be with people they're unfamiliar with. We understand that it is our job to build trust with the children and you the parents to create an environment that the children will get used to and comfortable with. It just takes time depending upon the individual child's temperament.



Don't hesitate to let us know your feelings and concerns. Questions are always okay.



Again, welcome! We're glad to have you all with us as we begin a new school year together.

Brian - [bcooper@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:bcooper@bellevuecollege.edu) \* Lisa-Ann—[lowens@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:lowens@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Specialist for Infant and T1 Rooms: Linda Boyd**

## What have the T2 Toddlers been learning?

Teachers: Rita, Parisa and Darrell

In the month of September we will welcome our new families and existing families who came back to our classroom after summer break!



The children who joined us in July have been settling down and we are looking forward to get to know the new children and their families.



We are going to be focusing in build on literacy. Expanding on children vocabulary and language as we introduce new words. Our children are showing a lot of interest in books and songs. We are going to read new books and teach our children new words.



We will be making a song box that will include all of the children favorite songs to choose from. We are asking parents to share their favorite songs that they sing at home so we can sing them in the classroom.



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\* Parisa - [pmohamad@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:pmohamad@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Specialist for Toddler Rooms: Vanessa Von Papp**



## What have the T3 Toddlers been learning?

Teachers: Iryna, Yen-Chiu and Darrell



During August, our toddlers had a chance to develop and improve new skills. We started practicing using scissors cutting the grass for our team art activity. They are developing fine motor skills by learning how to cut paper, and how to hold scissor. Children said “Open, cut and shut”. It was challenging for them, but nevertheless, they showed curiosity and the ability to work hard. This demonstrated a positive approach to learning.

We have also been practicing our counting skills. Children use math skills in their daily routines and activities. Right now we are working on the ability to count verbally and to recognize numbers. During the circle time, our toddlers can stand in front of their friends, point to the numbers and name them.



August also brought great improvement in establishing and sustaining positive relationships. The children used successful strategies for entering groups. They loved to have pizza party, tea party, etc., playing together for extended period of time sharing materials.



We continue to build on the old skill of clean up. They already know that “it is ok to make mess, but it is not ok to leave mess after you are done”. So, it is a part of daily routine to clean the area after themselves.



Clean up time!

In September, during our outdoor activities, we will be working on following directions and our listening skills. Practicing holding safety rings while walking around our school helps our toddlers improve their safety skills in order of fire drill or field trip.

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**Specialist for Toddler Rooms: Vanessa Von Papp**

## What have the T5 Toddlers Been Learning?

Teachers: Paula, Lily and Khazal

### Fun Times in T5

We have been working towards helping the children become more independent when working on activities together as a group. Allowing the children to create their own idea's around activities. We have noticed once we took a step back and let them explore on their own, the group is learning to solve

problems and communicate with each other better.



Teacher Lily is assisting the children with “gak”. Some were interested while other choose to work in different areas in the room. With this activity the children learned how to wait and watch their friend explore until it was their time to explore.



In another activity the children worked together at building a house for the farm people. They came together and decided what colors to use for the house and who would live in the house. We will continue to support the children

in this area as they continue to grow.

In the upcoming month we will be working on how we handle emergencies. This will include how we walk and hold the rope, and how we keep our feet safe by keeping our shoes on and safe ways to use our hands.

We will also work on a new cozy area in the classroom as we noticed the children enjoy sitting and reading stories together.



Paula - paula.bourgeois@bellevuecollege.edu \* Lily - linchih.wang@bellevuecollege.edu

**Specialist for Toddler Rooms: Vanessa Von Papp**



## What have the T6 Toddlers been learning?

Teachers: Annie, Megan and Khazal

We had such a great summer!

We enjoyed our warm weather with water play days and a summer picnic on the playground! We spent more time investigating the wonders of outdoors in the sun. Our gardens have sprouted and are beginning to produce some green beans and herbs. It has been so exciting for the children to care for these plants and see that they can actually grow food that they can eat!



Summer months also brought changes to our classroom roster with children moving up from Toddler One, leaving temporarily, exiting the program, new children joining the program, and children transitioning to Toddler Two and Three. As teachers, we strive to help the children understand and make sense of these changes!

In September, our primary focus will be on social skills required to coexist in a large class, such as getting to know each other, and learning about our classroom routines together. Also, we will observe the changes in the trees, plants and insects.



As we see more and more spiders out and about, we will talk about how they make webs, hatch babies and why they want to come into our house.

Again, thank you for all our families' support, our teachers' professional development day in August went well!



Annie, Megan, and Khazal

Annie - [ygu@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:ygu@bellevuecollege.edu) \* Megan - [meganl.russell@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:meganl.russell@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Specialist for Toddler Rooms: Vanessa Von Papp**

## What have the P4 Preschoolers been learning?

Teachers: Page, Wendy and Naghmeh

Hello all and welcome back to school!

There has been a few changes in our pod. Teachers are looping into new classrooms and so the bright and shining faces you will be seeing in Preschool 3 will be Wendy, Page and Naghmeh! We are excited to begin the new school year as a team to help your child dive into more social emotional skills and begin the process of writing.

We will be starting the school year working on welcoming new friends and new teachers into the classroom. Building children's welcoming skills creates a sense of connection and comfort in the classroom. This allows children to participate fully in classroom learning experiences. As teachers and parents it is a perfect opportunity to reinforce behaviors and model welcoming others and to complement your child when they make the effort to do so on their own.

To be able to get along with peers and become ready for school success, children need to learn to control their emotions, thoughts and actions, also called self-regulations. We will be working on learning to pay attention, use our memory and control our behaviors.

We can't wait for the year to get started! Let us know if you have any questions or concerns, we are here as your child's advocate and friend.

Page, Wendy, and Naghmeh  
Preschool 3



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**Preschool Program Manager:**



## What have the P3 Preschoolers been learning?

Teachers: Brianne, Cindy, and Naghmeh

As we enter a new school year we are excited to be a new teaching team. It's an exciting time as children move up to PreK and new children transition into preschool. We are excited to meet our new students and look forward to working with you!

We will be hitting the ground running. We will be working on recognizing our names and learning our letters.

Since we are a new teaching team and we will be welcoming several new students, we will spend most of September getting to know each other, creating and reviewing the classroom routine and guidelines.

We look forward to forming relationships with you and your child. We are excited to start this wonderful school year and to see the growth and development we will all experience in these coming months.



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**Preschool Program Manager:**

## What have the Pre-K classes been learning?

Teachers: Mala, Donna, and Margarita

August offered, us in Pre-K Two, a number of opportunities to explore the many activities that the Early Learning Center's Gross Motor Room, AKA "Preschool Five" has to offer.

The room was set up in "stations," each of which offered the children a different gross motor experience where they could experiment with various physical activities, among which were Turtle Shell Rockers, Sit and Spins, a climber, Sit Scooters, balls, and wedge gymnastic mats, the latter being by far the most popular of the centers.



Some of the amazing feats of physical prowess witnessed at the wedge mats were summersaults, cartwheels, log rolls, and a variety of flips, both backward and forward!

In September, Pre-K Two will be welcoming new children into the room. One of the many ways to welcome Children into a new environment is to facilitate a positive social-emotional atmosphere.



We use games and activities such as Mister Clown, The Telephone Game, and Bug in a Rug to help children regulate and express their emotions appropriately.

We also use circle time books such as "Will I Have a Friend?" "Do You Want To Play?" "Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores", among others to help both "old" and "new" children learn to build relationships with others, and interact in groups.

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\* Donna - [dflanner@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:dflanner@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Preschool Program Manager:**



## What have the Pre-K classes been learning?

Teachers: Karen, Ali and Margarita

What an exciting September! We are so joyful for a new school year beginning and the opportunity to be your children's teachers.

**A note from Teacher Karen:** I am so excited about returning to Pre-K. I have been at Bellevue College for 11 years, I have been an Early Education teacher for 22 years as I am continuing my education I also have a wealth of experience in the Early Education field from Toddlers to Pre –Kindergarten. I'm looking forward to our new adventures together.

**A little about Teacher Ali:** Teacher Ali has been with Bellevue College for 2 ½ years and has 14 years' experience in the field of Early Childhood. She has an AA degree in Early Childhood Education from Bellevue College and is currently enrolled at UW working towards a BA in Early Childhood and Family Studies. She just bought a home in Puyallup with her fiancé and two daughters Malia (12) and Ari (7). She enjoys reading, music, family time, nature, and photography.

Teacher Margarita will continue as the Specialist 1 in the pod going back and forth between classrooms.

We look forward to partnering with you in your child's early learning journey and transition into kindergarten.

-P1 Teaching Team



Karen - [kcarpent@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:kcarpent@bellevuecollege.edu) \* Ali - [allison.beckvold@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:allison.beckvold@bellevuecollege.edu)

**Preschool Program Manager:**