

SUMMER  
2019

# Commonwealth Family Childcare

# August 2019

## In This Issue:

- Summer Fun & Safety!
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- EEC Changes
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- A Message from the Director

## Amy Says:

*With the recent policy changes regarding subsidies, it's important that you refer parents to the agency with any questions they have. I am still in the process of becoming familiar with these changes but I will gladly speak with you and reach out to EEC if there is something that I can't answer.*

### Time off:

Sometimes educators will take time off around an Agency Closure.

- When a child goes to sub-care in your program and there is an Agency Closure you cannot be reimbursed for that day. The child's regular Educator enters the closure so please leave attendance blank for sub care children on agency closure days.
- Emails must be sent to **both** Donna and Amy when you are notifying us of your time off.
- Attendance is due *every* Friday and by noon on the last **business day** of the month!

Hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer!



**Did you know? Summer is the perfect time to engage in experiential learning! Read a book about something outdoors, then let children experience the unique colors, textures, scents, and temperatures that summer offers!**



# ***BACK TO SCHOOL***

## **Kindergarten September Start Dates**

### **FYI:**

*If you know of a child in need of a back pack and school supplies please call the office or speak with your Support Specialist, we may be able to provide some back to school supplies.*

New Bedford Public School – Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Monday, September 3, 2019**

Bridgewater-Raynham Public School Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Wednesday, September 4, 2019**

Middleboro Public School Kindergarten  
**Wednesday, September 4, 2019**  
Middleboro Public School Pre-K  
**Monday, September 9, 2019**

Acushnet Public Schools – Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Thursday, August 29, 2019**

Freetown-Lakeville Public Schools – Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Thursday, September 5, 2019**

Taunton Public Schools – Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Thursday, September 5, 2019**

Brockton Public School – Kindergarten and Pre-K  
**Monday, September 16, 2019**

### **Back To School**



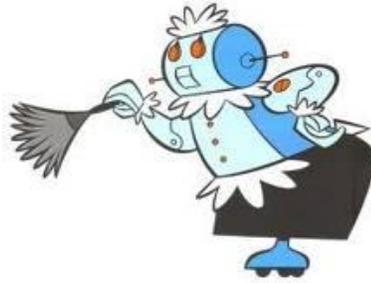
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*Have your school-aged children registered for school yet? CFC may be able to provide information to those families who need assistance*

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***Carolyn Mulhern***

# ***NOT JUST “SPRING CLEANING”...***



## **Remember:**

### **Infection Control**

Personal items intended for individual use by children, including but not limited to bottles, pacifiers, toothbrushes and sleeping materials, must be labeled with the name of the child for whom they are intended.

The following items must be monitored for cleanliness and washed and disinfected at least daily:

- toilets and toilet seats;
- containers, including lids, used to hold soiled diapers;
- sinks and sink faucets;
- drinking fountains;
- play tables; and
- washcloths and towels.

The following must be washed and disinfected at least weekly:

- cribs, cots, mats and other approved sleeping equipment;
- sheets, blankets or other coverings;
- machine washable fabric toys;
- smooth surfaced, non-porous floors; and
- mops used for cleaning.

The disinfectant solution used to disinfect child care items, equipment and surfaces must be either a bleach solution prepared by the licensee in accordance with EEC guidelines or a commercially prepared disinfectant that has been registered as a sanitizing solution by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Registration by the EPA will be indicated on the product label. Commercially prepared solutions must be used in accordance with manufacturer’s directions.

**Catherine Maltais**





# Summer Activities & Safety

By Tina Slavick

**Drowning is a leading cause of death among young children, both nationally and in Massachusetts. To help prevent water-related injury and drowning:**

## Pool Safety

- Designate a responsible adult to watch young children while in the bath and all children swimming or playing in or around water at all times.
- Whenever infants and toddlers are in or around water, an adult should be within an arm's length at all times providing "touch supervision."
- Adults should not be involved in any other distracting activity while supervising children, not even for a moment.
- Do not drink alcohol while supervising children.
- Learn to swim. But, remember, constant, careful supervision and barriers such as pool fencing are necessary even when children have completed swimming classes.
- Do not use air-filled or foam toys, such as "water wings," "noodles," or inner tubes, in place of life jackets. These toys are not de-signed to keep swimmers safe.

- Do not use air-filled or foam toys, such as "water wings," "noodles," or inner tubes, in place of life jackets. These toys are not de-signed to keep swimmers safe.
- Remove floats, balls and other toys from the pool after use so that children are not tempted to reach for them.



## When swimming at a public pool or beach:

- Swim only in designated swimming areas
- Everyone should always swim with a buddy



## Summer and Cars

Cars can be unsafe - and not just because of car crashes. Children left in a hot car can die from overheating. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that a closed car, sitting in the summer sun, quickly turns into an oven, with temperatures rising from **78 degrees to 100 degrees in just three minutes and to 125 degrees in six to eight minutes.**

Never leave children alone in a parked vehicle, even when they are asleep or restrained, and even if the windows are open.

*Children have a natural curiosity and attraction to water. Preventing access to swimming pools for small children is essential.*

# ***IN OTHER NEWS***



*We were deeply saddened to learn that one of our educator's homes was involved in a fire while she was away on vacation. Although no one was hurt, the loss was tremendous, and our thoughts are with the family. We will let you know of any opportunities to help as we learn more.*

**I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to Linda Winn, Carol Stacey and Maria Caceras for their commitment to the families of CFC, Inc. over the past years. All 3 FCC Educators have been with us for over 20 years, and we cannot thank them enough for their continued support and dedication. We wish them well in the next chapter of their lives!**

**Sincerely,**

**Carol Tousey-Crosby,  
Director**

*"When we play, we are at our happiest, and we can withstand incredible hardships. When we play, we are engaging in complex interactions with each other, and we are building our brains. And when we play, those social interactions become relationships. And we need play to connect all three of those together."*

— Laura Huerta Migus, executive director, Association of Children's Museums, in the video, ["Play in Early Childhood: The Role of Play in Any Setting,"](#) Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University, August 8, 2019