Can you believe the summer is almost over? With August and the hot days of summer comes the beginning of a new school year. First, the staff at Becky Gates Children’s Center would like to wish all of our students who will begin Kindergarten this month a fond farewell! Each of you will be missed, but you are leaving us well prepared. Have fun, make new friends, keep learning, and don’t forget to come for a visit!

Now that August is here, the staff is gearing up for another fun and exciting school year. Children will move to a new classroom and new friends will join us on August 24. The week of August 17, to help with the transition, the children will visit their new classroom for a little while each day. The teachers will plan fun activities for the children to engage in during their classroom visit. The administrative staff is working diligently on setting classroom rosters for the fall. As soon as class rosters are finalized, your child’s teacher will let you know which classroom your child will move into.

Important dates in August:

- August 20 – BGCC will close at 12:30
- August 21 – BGCC closed for staff development
- August 24 – Beginning of the 2015-16 school year
- August 25 – “Meet the Teacher” night 5:30-6:30

Thank you for entrusting us with the care and education of your children! It is a responsibility we do not take lightly!

Debbie
Assistant Director
4th of July Parade
Howdy All,

Can you believe this is our last month together? It flew by. Although I am sad that I am losing them, I am happy for their new experiences. We have learned so much this year. It has been a joy to teach and love on these little ones. We will be reviewing for our new class and doing many of our favorite activities. Including we will read all of our favorite books. We will do our Song Box and The Little Red Box. Fun stuff.

I can’t believe this is my last time to brag on my sweet little Butterflies. Brooklyn has been my little assistant for a few months now. I will need her to train someone new before she moves on. Ha Ha! She will be missed for sure. Her bright smile and eagerness to come to school and those big bear hugs too. CeCe has been such a sweetie; she loves those babies. She is so much fun to watch and I know she is going to make a great mom someday! I will miss that fun, shy smile. Vishaka is my little package of dynamite. Her bursts of energy just make our room delightful. She always has a smile on her face and loves to sit in your lap and just relax. I sure am going to miss her. Lucas is my little adventurer; he is into everything. There is not a place in our room that he has not explored. He kept us on our toes in a great way! I will miss his sweet little voice and those kisses he blows to me at the end of the day. Now let’s talk Daniel! He is the most loveable, sweetest and kind little boy. He was by far well taken care of. All of his friends went out of their way to make sure he got every need met. I will always remember his sweet little grin. And lastly Alice, what a sweet heart. She came into our room in the latter part of the year but you would have thought she had been here all year. She loves her classmates and they love her. She jumped right on board taking care of babies with CeCe. She loves pretending to wash her hands at the little play kitchen. I will miss her calling my name and smiling every time. Ok I am not going to lie, writing about them made me tear up a little. I want to tell you all as parents, you have done a remarkable job and I have enjoyed getting to know you all. Thank you for making a wonderful year go with ease. I wish you all the best and I will miss you all so much.

Love, Mrs. Andrea
Howdy Wonderful Bumblebee Parents,

We learned so much in the month of July. We had a great time learning about music and various types of instruments. The bumblebees are growing and learning so much! In the month of August, we will review what we have learned so far this year and discuss the circus.

We have lots of fun during splash day. The children love to get wet and run around the water tables. We will continue to have splash day on Tuesdays at 9:15. Please remember to bring your child in already dressed with sunscreen on. So we can be on time for splash day. If you would like to have pictures emailed to you of your child partaking in various activities, please let Ms. Sadie know. She will be more than happy to send them to you.

We are very glad to have all of our friends back from summer vacation. We are very excited to hear about all of the different activities our friends were able to partake in during their summer vacation. Please bring in or send pictures so we can all see and share our experiences with our friends.

The ice cream party was a big hit! The children loved being able to share a tasty treat while spending time with their parents, teachers, and friends. I want to thank each and every one of you for always being a part of our parties and ensuring that they go on smoothly.

Please remember the weather is always changing and we want your child to be comfortable. Please dress your child according to the weather conditions, as we will still be going outside. Please also make sure if your child has an accident to bring back an extra change of clothes the following day. We want your child to be as comfortable as possible and to be in clothing that fits them. Having the extra change of clothing in their cubby ensures this.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at abush@bgcc.tamu.edu. I will return your emails as soon as possible.

With Love,

Ms. Ashley
Dear Parents,

I can’t believe this is our last month together! I am so amazed at how much your sweet children have grown and how much they have learned over the year. They have become very independent people. We are going to miss each one of them, but we will be sure to say hello to them as we see each other during the next school year. We will also stop by and see them in their new classroom and they can always stop by to say hello. We want to give a big thanks to our classroom parent, Lauren Douglas.

The Fourth of July parade was a total success! Your sweet children had so much fun walking in the parade and seeing you cheering them on. Thanks to all of you who came and had lunch with us!

Reminder:

Thursday, August 20th —
Center closed at 12:30pm for Teacher Professional Development

Friday, August 21st - Center closed for Teacher Professional Development and the changing of classrooms in preparation of the new school year
Dear Parents,

We would like to welcome everyone back! Where did the summer go? We can’t believe it is almost over already. We hope everyone has been enjoying their summer. We have been enjoying the fun activities that only summer can bring. Sprinkler days have been a big success, and hopefully we can look forward to lots more of them.

In the month of July, we had a two-week center-wide music project. Mrs. Grace Ko, our teacher’s assistant, played Korean drums to our Blue Jays class, and Mrs. Kristen Collins played a Clarinet. Children had an opportunity to explore the Korean musical instruments. In the first week of July students learned about opposites in music (loud/soft, fast/slow, long/short) through singing, listening, moving, and playing musical instruments. In the second week, children learned how to identify these concepts through pictures and symbols. We are continuing to reinforce these concepts, and it was a fun learning experience for our little Blue Jays!

It has been a busy, hot summer and we will be ready to slow down and get back into the groove of things. Soon enough it will be September, and our friends will be back to their regular schedules as summer ends and the school year begins again. The start of the new school calendar year will be on August 24th. We want to thank you for all your help through the summer, and getting your child/children here and ready for a fun filled time.

During the month of August, we will be talking about: the circus, our favorite things, and reviewing our letters, numbers, colors, and shapes. We had a blast this summer and are ready to see what the rest of the year has in store for us!

Stay cool!

Ms. Mable & Ms. Grace

Friendly Reminder:
Please dress your child in loose fitting clothes.
Please remember to sign your child In/Out on the clipboard by the door.

Thursday Nights are Family Swim Nights at Adamson Lagoon from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Families receive half-price admission. For more details, please visit cstx.gov/pool

Dates to Remember:
- August 20th—BGCC will close at 12:30pm
- August 21st—BGCC will close all day

THEMES:
- Circus
- Favorites
- Review (2 weeks)

COLORS:
- Review

SHAPES:
- Review

LETTER:
- Review

NUMBERS:
- 1-20

FINE MOTOR:
- Ripping paper
- Puzzles
- Play dough
- Stripping papers

GROSS MOTOR:
- Running
- Balancing
- Bouncing balls
- Kicking balls
It seemed like I blinked and July was almost over! It has been a busy month. I wish to thank everyone for coming to the Fourth of July parade and picnic. We enjoyed your being here with us. The music theme was so much fun! It was interesting to teach the children to play Musical Chairs. We did not have a child sit out but some of the children wanted the same chair every time. We will practice learning our last name this month.

I find it hard to believe that our year together is almost through. I am amazed to watch every day and notice new growth and development in each of them. We will prepare for move up day this month. It is important to talk about these changes with your child. They will progress even more with their new teachers and classes. We will have an End of the Year Celebration!

The children have made much progress with their toilet training. As we look forward to moving up, being able to take care of their own clothing after toileting is important. Clothing that is easy for them to push down and pull up is very helpful. We wish to increase their independence in this area not only at school but also for you at home.

Ms. Sandy has exciting news! Her son, Kyle and his wife, Marcy are expecting their first child in late January 2016. We are looking forward to meeting our second grandchild!

Parent Tip: Summer is sizzling but you can stay cool at the Artic Wolf Ice Center located at 400 Holleman Drive E. in College Station. It is a very child friendly environment. They offer family skate times. And even group specials. For a small fee of $3.00, you can even rent the ice skates. For beginner skaters, there are cones your child can hold to help them glide across the ice! This is an experience your child is sure to remember for years to come. When the temperature outside is in the 90s, you will be cool in the ice center!

Important Dates
- Monday 8/10-Wednesday 8/12: Ms. Brittney is on annual leave
- Thursday 8/20: BGCC closes at 12:30PM—last class day as Robins
- Friday 8/21: BGCC is closed in preparation for the new school year/professional development
- Monday 8/24: First day in our new class!
Summer is winding down and we find ourselves reflecting on the year gone by. Like exquisite flowers, each child has blossomed and bloomed, showing their beautiful hue, bit by bit. Some grew quickly, eager and impatient, reaching for the sky. Others unfolded themselves little by little, revealing their colors cautiously, slowly. A few bloomed bright and bold, exclaiming, “Look at me!” Through careful tending and cultivating, each child grew and thrived, reaching their potential. Some days there was rain and we weathered the storm, only to discover that the rainy and stormy times are where we grew the most. We enjoyed the sunny days, appreciating the calm it brought and realizing that these were the days we would remember most. Some days brought gentle breezes and we blew about, exploring and learning new things. The year has come to a close, but the garden will surely continue to grow and change. It is with a little sadness, but a lot of pride we send our beautiful bouquet to next year’s gardener who is already preparing for the precious blooms that have been so carefully guarded.

**REMINDEERS**

Mrs. Martey will be out August 12-14.

Remember that we have splash day each Tuesday at 10:00. Bring your child dressed in their swim suits, ready to splash with water shoes and a towel. Be sure to apply sunscreen. Your child will also need a change of clothes and shoes after splashing. If your child does not have all the necessary items an alternate activity will be provided.

When dropping off or picking up your child make sure to sign in and out each time. This is a licensing requirement, and a serious violation if it is not done. It is also important to ensure that the teacher is aware that your child had arrived or departed. It is very unsettling to look and notice a child who was there a moment ago is no longer there. You must always enter the room to drop off or pick up your child. Please do not lift your child over the gate to place them in the room, or remove them from the room. If you cannot open the gate we will be glad to help you!

The center will close at 12:30 August 20th, and remain closed Friday, August 21st for staff development and preparing for the fall semester.

The children will begin their new class Monday, August 24th.

Thank you!

Mrs. Martey & Ms. Elaine
Howdy Parents,

Wow this summer flew by so fast. It has been an amazing summer with your child. I know that they have enjoyed all the summer activities. We will truly miss them and we will be checking on them as they make their journey though BGCC. I just wanted to thank everyone for being great supporters of your child and within the classroom. We are wishing them GREAT success. Stop by and say hello! Each Seal has grown and developed in their own special way.

The Seals class will be celebrating the end of the year classroom party, on August 20 during morning rotation. We will be having rainbow pancakes with the children. Please look for a sign-up sheet coming soon.

Please make sure that your child has a bag on Thursday August 20 for all items going home. This will make it easier for you on pick up time.

Hope to see the Seals class walking in the hallway during the year!

It has been an amazing year with the seals and we look forward seeing them throughout BGCC. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Mrs. Jamie.

jamieg@bgcc.tamu.edu

Important Dates:

August 20, 2015: End of the year classroom snack-Pancakes with the teachers
August 20, 2015: Center will be closing at 12:30 for Teacher Preparation for the new school.
August 21, 2015 – Center will be closed for Teacher Preparation for the new school year.
Meet the Teacher Night – TBA

"Don’t cry because it’s over… Smile because it happened!"

~Dr. Suess
Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe that this is our last newsletter. Our preschool year is winding down and my Whales are moving up to Pre-k.

Thank you for entrusting your child to me this year. I have enjoyed working with all of your precious children. I have seen huge growth, development and skill acquisition in all of the boys and girls. I have also witnessed how your children have grown in the ways they deal with frustration and the care and concern they express for one another. I am really impressed with the extended attention spans of these little ones. It is not unusual for them to sit attentively through a twenty-five to thirty minute story time. Hoorah for the Whales!!!

I thank you for your support throughout the year. I feel a close partnership with you and send you my best wishes.

Love,
Ms. Marina

DEVELOPMENTAL GOALS

FINE MOTOR: Tearing paper, painting with brushes, journal writing, eyedroppers, and cutting with scissors, stringing beads
GROSS MOTOR: Walking backwards, catching balls, hopping on one foot, balancing skills
SOCIAL AND SELF-HELP: Delaying gratification, self-regulation, sustaining and maintaining positive relationships
LANGUAGE: letter knowledge, vocabulary pertaining to unit
MATH: numeral/number agreement
PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS: beginning sounds

REMININDERS

Please check your child’s cubby to make sure that the extra set of clothes is weather appropriate.

Please apply sun-screen prior to school arrival.
Dear Seahorse Parents,

The seahorses had such a busy month of July! First of all, thank you to all of those who were able to come to the Independence Day parade. We love any opportunity to bring families into the classroom. We hope you enjoyed it and were able to catch the story on KAGS News (if not it is posted on their Facebook page).

Our study on music went extremely well! Your little musicians were all able to participate in activities such as singing and playing instruments from each of the music families. We loved being able to watch your children explore music with a hands-on approach. Following music, our zoo and circus unit was a hit! The kids loved being able to learn important concepts while incorporating zoo and circus themes. Channeling the seahorses’ inner spirit of the “12th Man”, the children studied sports through investigating the various sports balls.

In August we will begin learning about the author, Laura Numeroff, with a focus on baking, summer treats, then in preparation for the fall semester, a week of children’s choice activities. Ms. Ashlin’s last day for the summer will be August 18th as she prepares to go student teach in a first grade class at Mumford Elementary School. **We will be closing at 12:30pm on August 20th for teacher professional development and all day August 21st for the changing of classrooms in preparation of the new school year.**

We appreciate your constant support and all you do for your child’s learning at home. Please be on the lookout for any important reminders in your child’s mailbox and by the sign in area. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Ms. Ashlin or Ms. Jamie.

Sincerely Yours,

Ms. Ashlin & Ms. Jamie

jamarriott@msn.com
ashlinsweet@tamu.edu
It was a great pleasure to have your little ones in my classroom this year! I enjoyed seeing them grow and mature. It was an honor to be a part of their lives. We laughed, played, learned, and grew together, and unfortunately, must move on. Your children made an impact on my life and I will always remember them as the years go by. I am very hopeful for your child’s future, and wherever they go, I wish them great success! I will miss each and every smiling face that entered my classroom in the morning, but what I will miss the most is the hugs they offered me throughout the day. As an adult, they remind me that we all need to forgive, laugh, and not take things too seriously. It is amazing to watch two children disagree, but then make-up and continue to be friends. They are open to new friends and quickly accept them.

I hope to see my Dolphin class members throughout the following year, and I will be check on them often.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Carolina Bratlien

Important Dates

Aug 3 – 7: Mrs. Carolina’s Vacation—if you have any concerns while I am away, please tell Ms. Ashlin or Ms. Jamie

Aug 19 @ 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: New Parent Orientation @ Multipurpose Building

Aug 20 @ 12:30 pm – 5:30 pm: Center closed for Staff Development

Aug 21 @ 7:30 am – 5:30 pm: Center closed for Staff Development

Aug 25 @ 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm: Meet the Teacher Night @ All classrooms
Howdy!
August is here!!

First, let me thank everyone who came for the children’s parade and BBQ lunch. We had a great time and the children enjoyed sharing a meal with their family.
(Check us out on KAGS news!)

This month will be a busy one as we prepare for our Kindergarten transition. We will be learning about dinosaurs and ice cream. The children will also help create a “Children’s Choice” lesson plan for the week before school. We will also be talking about what to expect our first day of school.

This month marks the beginning of a new chapter in your child’s life. Although I will miss the Jaguar students, I am excited for the new adventures they will have as they move up to Kindergarten. I have enjoyed having your child in my class and watching them grow and I will miss each and every one!!

As your child transitions to Kindergarten there can be some anxiety for both you and your child. Leaving the familiar faces of teachers and friends and entering into a new environment can be difficult for anyone. Most children quickly adapt to a new classroom, especially if you talk and prepare them for what to expect.

**Here are some tips to help your child with their transition to Kindergarten**

Know Your Child, and Realize that Each Child’s Response Is Different: Children’s responses to change depend upon their age, temperament, and experience. **STAY POSITIVE!** Children have incredible intuitive skills. They sense our anxiety and hesitation. As the first day of school draws near, talk with your child about what to expect and about any concerns or fears they might have. Present school as a place where they will learn new things and make friends.

Establish a Drop-Off/Pick-Up Routine: Expect the first few days of school to be hectic. Remember every child and parent is learning the schedule. As soon possible, establish a routine with your child. How will they get to school? If you are driving, let them know where you will drop them off each day. Talk with them about what to do after school. (Are they taking a bus? Are they walking home? Are you picking them up?) Letting your child know what to expect can alleviate anxiety for both you and your child.

Make a Connection between Home and School: Meet the teacher. Talk with them about any concerns you have. Be an advocate for your child. Getting to know your child’s teacher will help build a strong line of communication. Talk with your child about their day. What did they do? Did they play with a new friend? Ask questions often and let your child express their feelings and emotions.

Best Wishes,
Mrs. Krista
Howdy Tiger Parents:

Can you believe summer is almost over? The new semester will be starting soon and all my friends will be leaving for Kindergarten. This is the part of my job I hate, saying good-bye! I have really enjoyed the summer fun and activities. Please bring your child back to visit when you can. I love hearing about their adventures going to public school.

We will be studying about Dinosaurs the first week of this month. Kids love to talk about them and I always have fun trying to say all their names correctly! I remember one year I was sounding out a dinosaur name and a child spoke up and said “Mrs. Kay, I know why you can’t say it, you don’t have your glasses on!” That was my laugh for the day!

The second week we will be talking about Ice Cream and we will have some as a special snack with toppings! We will also have our Farewell Party during this week.

The last week will be a short week. We will be open Monday, August 17\textsuperscript{th} – Wednesday, August 19\textsuperscript{th} full days. Thursday, August 20\textsuperscript{th} we will CLOSE the center at 12:30 p.m. for Teacher In-Service and Friday, August 21\textsuperscript{st} we will CLOSE ALL DAY to prepare our classroom for our new children who will start Monday, August 24\textsuperscript{th}.

If you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Thanks for sharing your child with me this year!

Mrs. Kay

**Weekly Lessons**

Wk.1 Dinosaurs

Wk.2 Ice Cream

Wk. 3 Children’s Choice
Administrative Staff:

Director
Kisha Lee klee@bgcc.tamu.edu

Assistant Director
Debbie Almand dalmand@bgcc.tamu.edu

Children’s Center Cook
Edwinna Ferguson eferguson@bgcc.tamu.edu

Educational Staff:
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Andrea Powers apowers@bgcc.tamu.edu
Krista Van De Flier kvandeflier@bgcc.tamu.edu

TAMU Becky Gates Children’s Center
1% milk is served with morning snack and lunch, water is served with all meals

| August 2015 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| “Meatless Mondays” | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| 3 | Cereal | - French Toast Sticks w/ Syrup | - Cereal | - Cereal |
| | Spinach Tortellini | - 8 oz Fry Chicken w/ Vegetables | - Smiley Steak | - Cheese Omelet |
| | Corn | - Steamed Rice | - Mashed Potatoes | - Chicken Spaghetti |
| | Citrus Fruit Mix | - Pineapple | - Green Beans | - California Blend Vegetables |
| | Cinnamon Raisin Bagels | - Fruit Crispies | - Animal Crackers | - Peaches |
| | | (contains gelatin) | | - Blueberry Muffins |
| 10 | Cereal | - Biscuits and Gravy | - Cereal | - Cereal |
| | Beans and Rice | - Fish Sticks | - Ham Burgers w/ Lettuce and Tomato | - Cheese Omelet |
| | Cornbread | - Glazed Carrots | - Tater Tots | - Chicken Spaghetti |
| | Mandarin Oranges | - Toasted Salad w/ Ranch | - Rice Cakes | - Beef and Bean Burrito |
| | Cheese and Crackers | | | - Spanish Rice |
| | | | | - Mango |
| | | | | - Chee Mix |
| 17 | Cereal | - Waffles with Syrup | - Cereal | - English Muffins with Jelly |
| | Baked Ziti with Italian Cheese | - Chicken Fajitas, Taco w/ Lettuce, Tomato, and Cheese | - Beef and Broccoli | - Cheese Pizza |
| | Green Beans | - Pineapple | | - Salad with Ranch Dressing |
| | Strawberry Applesauce | - Goldfish | | - Chocolate Pudding |
| | Blueberry Bagels | | | EARLY RELEASE AT 12:30 PM |
| 24 | Cereal | - French Toast Sticks w/ Syrup | - Cereal | - Cereal |
| | Macaroni and Cheese | - Chicken Biscuit Sandwich | - Beef and Broccoli | - Steak Fingers w/ Gravy |
| | Peas and Carrots | - Mixed Vegetables | - Rice | - Mashed Potatoes |
| | Peaches | - Orange Slices | - Pears | - Pears |
| | Chocolate Chip Cookies | - Cheese Puffs | - String Cheese | - Cereal Bars |
| 31 | Cereal | - Grilled Cheese Sandwich | - Cereal | - Cereal |
| | Tomato and Basil Soup | - Tomato and Basil Soup | - Turkey Roll Ups w/ Lettuce, Tomato, and Ranch | - Steak Fingers w/ Gravy |
| | Apricots | | | - Mashed Potatoes |
| | Graham Crackers | | | - Pears |

All Menu Changes Will Be Posted in the Front Foyer