

The ECFE Extra

Roseville Early Childhood Family Education and School Readiness

APRIL 2012



Tuesday, April 24th
Rally @ 10am
State Capitol Rotunda

CALENDAR

April

- 4-5** School Readiness conferences; no classes
- 6** No ECFE or Preschool classes
- 13** ECFE Advisory Council meeting, 1-3pm
- 21** ECFE Stuff Sale
- 30** No School Readiness classes
- 30** No ECFE, Preschool classes

Mark your calendars! It is time for a trip to the State Capitol. On April 24th children, parents, educators and legislators will all gather in the rotunda of the State Capitol to sing, dance, laugh and cheer in support of Early Childhood Education!

Voices for Children Advocacy Day is a chance for us to gather as friends, listen to the Teddy Bear Band, admire the architecture and meet our legislators. We will have scheduled meeting times with the district's Senators and Representatives. During the meetings we can thank them for their continued support and let them know what early childhood education means to our families and to our community. The meeting times will be in the morning and early afternoon from around 9:00-11:30. Feel free to come at any point during the day! An approximate schedule will be posted when we solidify the times.

This is a great opportunity to show our kids what it means to be a part of something big. Let's be bold and stand up and be counted as LOUD and PROUD voices for our children!!

www.voicesforchildrenmn.org

Preschool and ECFE calendars are available in your ECFE Parent Handbook and on the school district's website: www.isd623.org/commed/ecfe

Linder's Fundraiser is Back!

Gardening season is almost upon us! There are two ways that your gardening hobby can help the ECFE program. In the coming weeks, special invitations will be available in the office and in parenting classes. During the ECFE invitation weekend, which is Friday, May 4 to Monday, May 7, present your "invitation" at Linder's and ECFE will receive 15% of your pretax sales!

Also back again this year is the very popular gift card program. ECFE will be selling gift cards to Linder's Garden Center and Flower Marts. Gift cards can be used at any Linder's location, anytime (including our invitation weekend!) And, they never expire! Best of all, the ECFE program will receive 15% back from each certificate sale. Gift certificates come in values of \$10, \$25 and \$50 and will be available in the ECFE office starting on Monday, April 23.



Find us on facebook!

www.facebook.com/RosevilleECFE



2012 STUFF SALE IS APRIL 21



The wildly popular Stuff Sale is fast approaching and is shaping up to be the best one yet! Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 21 from 8:30am-1:00pm, with the half price sale starting at 11:45am. Please help us spread the word – the more shoppers we have, the more our sellers can make and the more money we have to spend on things like classroom supplies and scholarships.

Our biggest change this year is: Bar Coded Tags! No more hand writing, no more forgetting to put a price or seller number, and you can see what you sold within a day of the sale's end! Sellers will also be given the opportunity to sell their unsold items at the Munchkin Markets sale the following week at the Fairgrounds. Details on this and walk through of tagging are available in the ECFE office, or request information by emailing Nicole at niclindstrom@yahoo.com.

If you have never shopped the sale before, we carry clothing (newborn to youth 12+), shoes, accessories, maternity clothes, toys, ride on toys, sports equipment, outdoor play equipment, baby gear, books and games. The list goes on and on. If you need something for your child, it will likely be for sale! This year again we will be using the hallway for large ticket items (you will need to pay on the spot for these). The clothing room and toy room are separate. Items purchased in each of these rooms will need to be paid for separately by cash or check only. If you're paying by check, please remember to bring several checks and your ID to the sale. We are also accepting donations of gently-used items now till April 13. Please contact Molly at will1523@umn.edu or 651-295-9237 to set up a time for pick-up or drop-off. You will receive a tax receipt for your contribution. Your donations are much appreciated!!! Thank you!

Volunteer at the Stuff Sale

We need volunteers to make this sale a success. Why volunteer? If you're planning on selling, you will be able to keep 75% of your profits. (Non-volunteer sellers will only keep 50%.) Volunteering is a fun way to meet other ECFE parents and be involved in the largest ECFE fundraising opportunity, not to mention the opportunity to pre-shop the sale from 6-7am the day of the sale! The profits from this sale directly benefit the classes that you take with your children. You can sign up for a volunteer shift through your consignor account online if you sell, or by contacting Tracy at tracyknutson@msn.com. Please remember to arrive 5-10 min before your shift to sign-in. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes for your shift. Water and snacks will be available to volunteers. Please note that only current or past ECFE participants can sell and/or volunteer. Regular volunteers can drop off their items Friday April 20th, 6-7:30pm. Toy room items will be dropped off in the hall. Please try to have your clothing items grouped by size and gender, and we ask that you hang these on the racks yourself (all clothing over 18 months must be hung to be put on the sale floor). Those volunteering all day on Friday can drop-off at 4:30-7:30pm. Pre-shop for our volunteers will be Saturday, April 21 from 6-7am.

Unsold items that you do not want to be donated after the sale must not be marked for donation and MUST be picked up Saturday afternoon 2-2:30pm. Checks will be available in the office May 4th. Please contact Nicole Lindstrom at niclindstrom@yahoo.com if you have any questions.

COLLECTING BOX TOPS AND LABELS



Thank you to all that have collected and brought in your Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education, and Tyson Project A+ labels.

We will continue to collect labels and box tops. Please check packages before recycling or throwing them away! Labels and box tops can be dropped off in the parenting lounge at Parkview Center School.

NEW EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING PROGRAM



In May 2011, the Roseville Area School District was one of four districts in the state to be awarded a grant from the MN Dept of Education. This grant begins to address some of the needs within our districts growing refugee immigrant population and helps increase access to early childhood programs for families facing significant economic and language barriers. It includes thirteen, 4 and 5 year old students from Karen (pronounced Ka-Ren) refugee families that have recently immigrated to Roseville.

The Karen are an ethnic group, that live primarily in Burma (Myanmar) and refugee camps along the Thailand/Burma border. They have immigrated to the US due to violence and displacement caused by 60 years of genocide and civil war in their home country. Many Karen families have lived in refugee camps for 10-15 years before arriving in Minnesota. This one-year grant has given these children an opportunity to progress in language, social relationship skills, kindergarten preparedness and in simply learning “how to be a student”. They come to school each day eager and excited to learn.

However, with all opportunities come challenges as well. The grant awarded by the MN Dept of Education is a one-year grant. Staff within the district are working to find funding sources so we can continue to offer similar programming in the future, instead of just one school year. If you feel that this kind of early childhood programming is a valuable part of our district’s mission and believe it is an important step in working to close the achievement gap that exists among our students, please, contact the district and your state legislators. Thank them for giving this opportunity to these 13 children, and also ask them to consider allocating additional funding to continue what has started with this grant class so we can “start early” to most effectively meet the changing needs of the early learners in our community.

Lastly, we would like to extend our gratitude to all those who have partnered with the grant classroom program, to enrich the lives of our students and give them the best educational opportunities possible.

If you have any questions or would like more information, feel free to contact Helene Douville at helenedouville@yahoo.com.

PIZZA NIGHT AT DAVANNI'S

Support your favorite ECFE program just by eating some tasty pizza, hoagies or salads at Davanni’s in Roseville!

Roseville ECFE will earn 20 percent of every purchase made from 4-8pm on Thursday, April 12th. Please be sure to bring in your coupon, available in the office or in your parenting classes in the coming weeks so that our program gets the discount. The program benefits from take-out or eat-in orders, but not on delivery orders, so stop in and support the program on April 12th!



ROSEVILLE ECFE SPONSORS

INSURANCE WITH INTEGRITY

NEIL ANKRUM



The Sherman Insurance Agency
(651) 285-3941 • neil@shermanins.com

Contact me for competitive auto, home, and life insurance options from many of the nation's most trusted and highly regarded insurance companies.

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CALLING ALL PARENTS!

The ECFE ADVISORY COUNCIL needs you. We are a group of parents that help the ECFE program through event planning and fundraising efforts.

If you think the Advisory Council is a good fit for you, please come to our next meeting on April 13th, 1:00-3:00 pm. Free childcare is provided; just call the ECFE office in advance.

For more information, contact Shelly Hutchcroft, Advisory Council Chairperson at shelly@shellysbooks.com