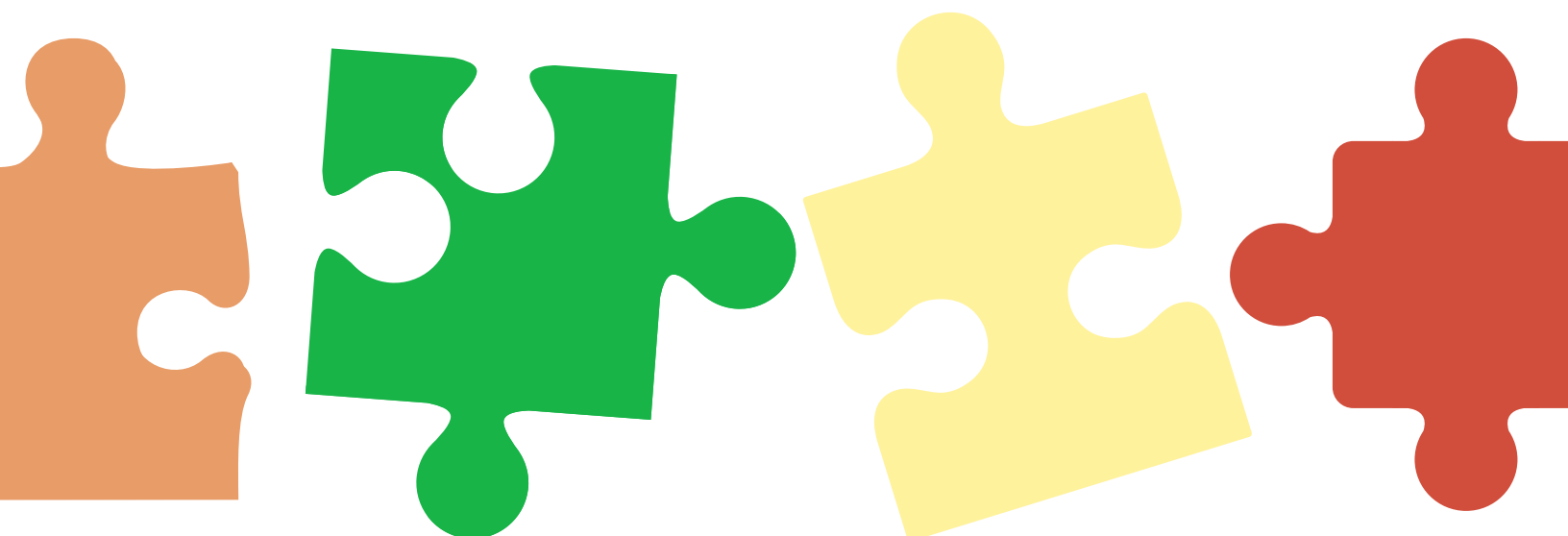


CCA NEWS

May 2019



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Autism Awareness Month
Go-Local Project
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Susie's Corner

What's Happening at CCA

It is hard to believe the 2018-2019 school year is over. I say it every year but, where did the time go? As you read this newsletter you will see how busy staff and students have been. To recap, we had our first Movement Marathon sponsored by the PTO, Family Fun Night, our first Graduation Ceremony, a celebration of Autism Awareness Month with student-focused activities, and a Spring Scavenger Hunt. There are three remaining events scheduled for next week: an Ice Cream Sundae Celebration hosted by the PTO, a Recognition Ceremony, and the student and staff end of year Luau.

As we end the year, we are preparing for summer services. Second session is already filled and only a few spots remain for the first session. We have been busy with intakes and are close to full enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year. Stay tuned as we continue to grow, change, and improve.

I want to wish everyone a fun-filled, safe summer and I look forward to seeing everyone back on August 12, 2019 for Parent Night.

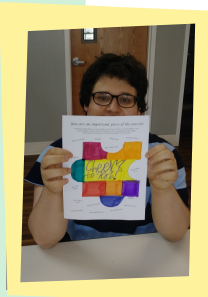
Family Fun Night

Our Family Game Night was a huge success. We had over 50 attendees who enjoyed carnival games, caricatures, face painting, snow cones, and more! Special thanks to our parents for donating parts to create all of our DIY games, the UC student volunteers who helped prep all of our materials, staff for running the booths, and to students and their families for showing up and having a great time.



Autism Awareness Month

April recognizes Autism Awareness month and CCA had no shortage of Autism Awareness and Acceptance! Students celebrated with a day full of activities. Miss Susie made each student a special puzzle piece shaped cookie to decorate and snack on! Each student was able to use their creative side to make elaborate cookie decorations with icing and sprinkles galore. Miss Brittani led a group activity where each student shared what they love to do, what makes them happy, and why they are special! The staff and students all wore their favorite blue shirt and Autism Awareness spirit wear to let their pride shine visibly to all those around. We love giving our students the opportunity to show pride in themselves and to show the importance of both Autism Awareness and Acceptance!



Upcoming Events

May 20th: Ice Cream Sundae Party
Our students earned ice cream to celebrate their Movement!

May 22nd: Recognition Ceremony
Staff will distribute individual awards to students for their achievements!

May 23rd: Luau Party
Students will celebrate their last day of school with a Luau! This "cookout" will help kick start summer!

Movement Marathon

CCA PTO initiated a new "Movement Marathon" for students and to say it was a success is an understatement! Students raised money with the help of friends, families, and neighbors who made pledges to their exercise. Teachers taught lessons on staying healthy and exercising, and students put this knowledge to action by participating in different activities! Students organized races, ran laps, partook in obstacle courses, used the treadmill and elliptical, and more! We could not be more proud of a successful first year of a new tradition.

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Go-Local: Landscaping, Mural Project

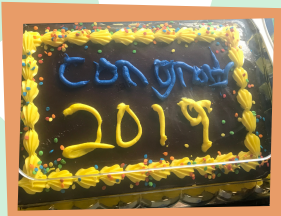
Saturday, May 18th, volunteers from all over Cincinnati came to CCA to participate in two major service projects!

Volunteers helped to give new life to our flower beds and gardens by reorganizing and adding some fresh flowers. Our hallways also got some attention with a new mural. Check out their hardwork!



Graduation Celebration

CCA students are each unique and special and, therefore deserve a Graduation just as unique. Some of our students graduate by returning to their school district or moving to a new school. Other students graduate onto a job placement. As different as their paths are, we make sure to celebrate them each in a special way! This year, CCA held a graduation ceremony that celebrated two students returning to their school districts, two students moving to a larger school, and one student who is moving onto a job placement! Families joined as staff shared their favorite memories of working with these students. We are so happy that we could help these students make their next big step and wish them all good luck with the upcoming adventures!



Wish List

Preparation for Summer Services is in full swing! We would love your help in gathering supplies to make our students' summer educational and fun!

- empty pringles cans with lids
- coffee cans (or similar size) with lids
- half gallon milk jugs
- coffee filters
- empty toilet paper and paper towel rolls
- reusable kitchen utensils (plates, cups, bowls, forks)



Box Tops

Box Top collections have continued to be at an all time high! We cannot thank our students, parents, staff, and friends for helping with our Box Top initiative. Our fearless Box Top leader, Debbi Connelly will keep the collection going through the summer months so make sure to collect those box tops all summer long!

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Staff Shout Outs

We are proud to have staff that push themselves to be the best versions of themselves through continuing education. We want to take an opportunity to recognize a few of our staff who have recently shown their commitment by earning new certifications and degrees. Congratulations to Stephanie Williams, Haley Perkins, and Chandler Sollmann on completing their Masters programs in Behavior Analysis. Congratulations to Amy Emish who passed her boards and is now a Board Certified Behavior Analyst! Congratulations to Erin Arlinghaus for her Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) certification! Our staff's commitment to this field is just one of the many aspects that makes CCA and its students successful!

Field Day

Our youngest students in the Leapster and Tadpole Classrooms participated in their first ever Field Day! Students and staff donned their homemade tie-dye shirts and geared up for a day of friendly competition! The students were able to learn new games and enjoy the sunny day with their classmates!



Spring Scavenger Hunt

Spring is a time for celebration at CCA as students and staff can enjoy programming outside! This year we celebrated spring's arrival with a scavenger hunt. Students found eggs of every color full of fun treats and prizes. This was a great opportunity for students to work on identifying colors, using teamwork to help each other find hidden eggs, and following directions by making sure to find the colors listed in their scavenger hunt list. The students and staff had a great time enjoying the weather and welcoming spring!



Cafe Express

The students of our Express Class have been working hard on their "Coffee Cart" business all year. The students go to each classroom every morning to gather orders, make coffee and tea, deliver the drinks, and exchange money. The students have shown great skill in these vocational areas, as well as working on their social skills. Due to their success, they decided to expand to a full breakfast menu and host the Owl Class as their first guests. The Owls were able to practice attending a restaurant, placing an order, and eating with their friends. Vocational, social, math, and daily living skills were just some of the skills each student used during this awesome experience!



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