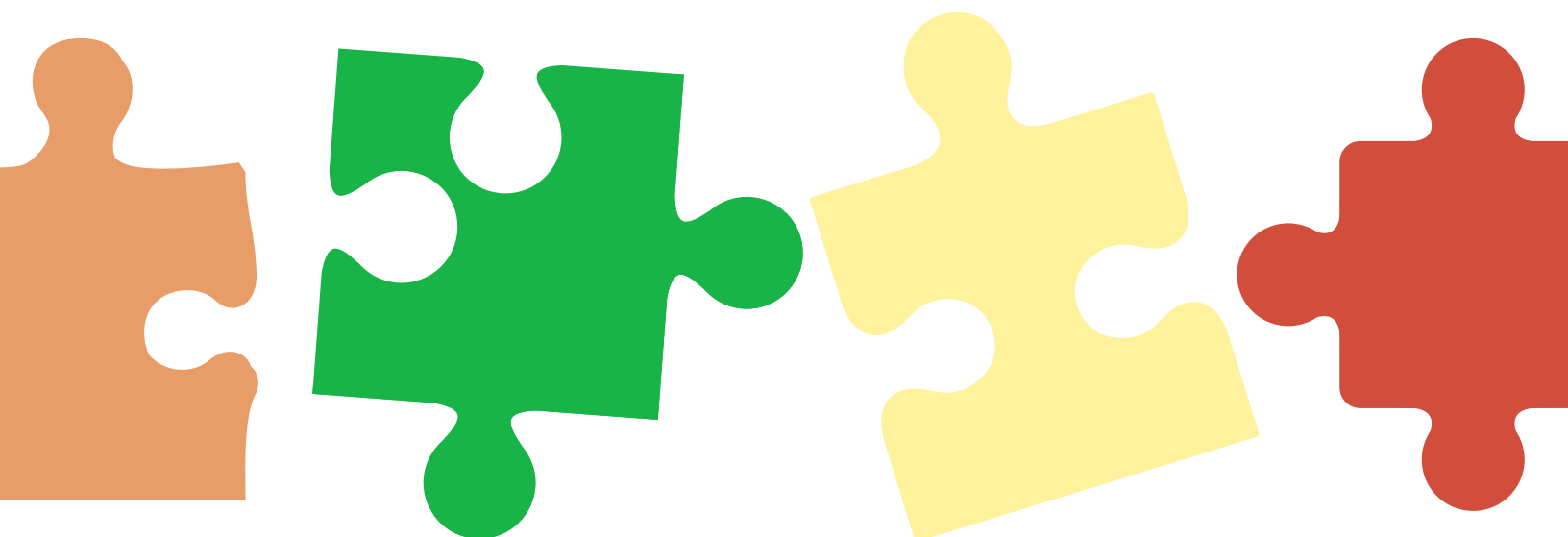


CCA NEWS

Winter 2020-2021



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Susie's Corner

What's Happening at CCA

I cannot believe it has almost been a year since we closed due to COVID-19. I wish I could say it has been an easy year. We have faced many challenges but through it all we were able to remain open with only a few disruptions to programming. Now, I cannot say the same regarding our recent snow closures. I am going to be optimistic and say there is a light at the end of the tunnel for both. I am happy to report CCA staff received their second COVID vaccine on March 5.

Parents have now received the Summer Services Brochure and registration form. We have added the Occupation Exploration Program and appointment based services for OT, Speech, Intensive Feeding Program, and CCA Fit services. If you have not received this information please contact Katie Maus.

In addition, we sent out an intent to return survey for the 2021-22 academic year. It is important that this survey is completed so we can plan appropriately.

During this turbulent time, the PTO preserved with fundraising activities. The Spring Bazaar was cancelled and replaced with the Online Auction- which they now plan to make an annual event! The amount raised was \$3,881. Additionally, the PTO ran their annual popcorn fundraiser and raised \$2,163. This amount tripled from last year! A special thank you to the PTO for all their time, commitment, and support. Emails are sent out monthly regarding PTO zoom meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend, so please join us. Please enjoy the CCA Newsletter with all of the wonderful events and activities the students are participating in. I am hoping we can all be together soon!

December

In December, our Activities Coordinator, Haley, spearheaded a special project - our first Winter Activities Book. This packet of fun was sent home prior to winter break to provide students and their families a variety of activities to stay busy over break. Our staff submitted an array of activities, games, recipes and crafts that were then compiled into a 75 page book! Hope you all enjoyed!

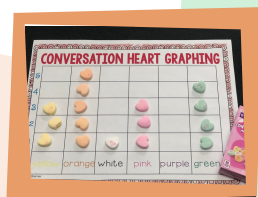


January

We kicked off January with a remote learning to help transition back, and minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 following holiday celebrations and travel. After this remote week, the students celebrated being back in the center by having hot cocoa bars set up in individual classrooms. Each classroom was given hot cocoa mix, marshmallows, whipped cream, and disposable cups to enjoy hot cocoa while remaining socially distanced. Later in January, students celebrated national puzzle day by completing puzzles and creating their own! The students had a great time learning and having fun!

February

February in Cincinnati had a clear theme: snow! Through the cold, ice, and snow, we kept our spirits high with a spirit week. Students and staff participated by wearing their favorite pajamas, crazy socks, wacky clothes and Valentine's day colors: pink and red. To continue the Valentine's celebrations, students had holiday parties in their classrooms. They did crafts, such as making picture frames, and completed math activities like sorting and graphing with conversation hearts.



Upcoming Dates

March 1st-5th: Dr. Seuss Spirit Week

March 11th: National Popcorn Day

March 17th: PTO Meeting

March 19th: Parent Phone Conferences

March 22nd-26th: Spring Break

April 2nd: Autism Awareness Celebration

April 9th: Staff Development, no school

May 27: Last Day of Services

May 28th: Staff Development & Parent Phone Conferences

May 31st: Memorial Day



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Online Auction

In December, the PTO organized their first online auction in place of our Spring Bazaar. The auction made over \$3,500 through the sale of over 75 baskets, art pieces, handmade items, and more. The PTO was so pleased with the success of their first online auction that they're hoping to make an annual event! We are so thankful and extremely happy that they were able to donate the money to help with our students' needs.



Popcorn Fundraiser

We held our annual popcorn fundraiser with the goal of \$2,000 in mind as an online fundraiser! We exceeded our goal tremendously! All students will receive a celebratory party. All money that has been donated and continues to be donated helps serve our student's needs.

CCA Fitness

In an effort to promote movement and physical activity, CCA Fit continues to encourage students to participate in monthly fitness challenges. Classrooms compete to see who can complete the most repetitions of the given exercise of the month. The competition consists of 3 "conferences" grouped by age and ability:

OHIO Conference, HAMILTON Conference, and CINCY Conference. At the end of the month, points are tallied and winners are announced. First time winners receive CCA Fit T-shirts. Repeat winners receive an ice cream or pizza party of their choice (all items individually packed to ensure health and safety during the pandemic).

Winter Exercises:

December: Calf Raises

*Winners: Rangers

January: Head-Shoulders-Knees-Toes

*Winners: Leapsters 2, Space Travelers, Ocean

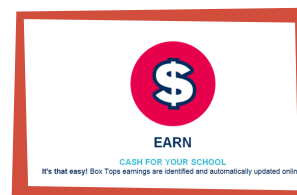
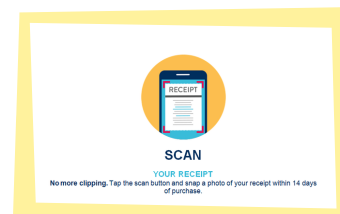
February: Squats

*Winners: Explorers

Ways to Donate

Want to help donate to Cincinnati Center for Autism? Box Tops have made it even easier to help. Download the Box Tops app on your smartphone and sign up. Follow the guided instructions and select Cincinnati Center for Autism as your school. Next, simply look for the Box Tops logo while shopping at your local grocery store. Use the scan button on the app to snap a picture of your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Based on eligible purchases, Box Tops will then update your earnings. CCA will receive bi-annual checks and use the donation to help buy materials for students! Visit the link below for more information:

<https://www.bboxtops4education.com/refer>



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Meet the Staff

This year, we have added some new faces to the CCA family. Read on to learn more about Taylor Young, an Intervention Specialist in the Leapster classroom, Cristina Roughley, an Intervention Specialist in the Ocean Room and Karen Gold, a Supervising BCBA in our Secondary School.

Meet Taylor!

My name is Taylor Young and I am currently an Intervention Specialist in the Leapster Room, with students ages 3-6! I am originally from Sidney, Ohio so I am still becoming familiar with the Cincinnati area! This is currently my 3rd year teaching as an Intervention Specialist and I plan on going back to school this coming fall for my Master's in Special Education. Everyone at CCA has been extremely welcoming since I have started this position. I am so blessed to be a part of an amazing team!



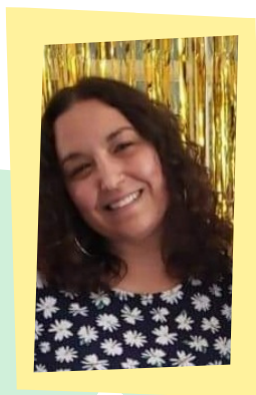
Meet Cristina!

Hi! My name is Cristina Roughley. I am so happy to be working at CCA this year! This is my first year at CCA, but my fifth year teaching. I graduated with my Master's Degree in Special Education from St. Joseph's College in New York (where I am originally from). Some of my favorite interests/ hobbies include spending time with family and friends, hiking, and doing circus arts (like silks and aerial hoop) . I am excited to watch all my students at CCA learn and grow this year :)



Meet Karen!

My name is Karen Gold and I am the Supervising BCBA for the upper school. I just moved back to Ohio after spending several years in South Florida working within the Special Education and ABA field. I received my Bachelor's degree in Mild/Moderate Intervention from Cleveland State University in 2012 and my Master's degree in Special Education with a concentration area in Applied Behavior Analysis in 2016. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to work in school, clinic and home-based settings. I am so grateful to have joined the CCA team and look forward to an amazing second half of the year!



Amazon Wish List

Cincinnati Center for Autism's Wish List is a registry of items to help enhance our school and classrooms throughout the academic year. Amazon offers the ease of shipping items directly to CCA! These supplies are essential to fostering success in the classrooms and for our students at CCA. To continue supporting each child's potential to learn and grow, please consider shopping our wish list. A link will be provided in an email sent by our Building Administrator.



*thank
you* ❤️

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