



HELEN R. WALTON  
**CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT  
CENTER**

# News & Notes



April 2017  
Issue 135



**Autra Smith**  
Assistant Teacher  
Toddler

## A WHOLE-CHILD APPROACH



CONTACT INFO  
1701 NE Wildcat Way  
Bentonville, AR

Ph: 479.273.3552  
Fax: 479.271.6803

HWCEC.ORG

## “How Moms Can Raise Math Whizzes”

Based on the article by OZY Genius Awards

“3-year-old whose mothers nurtured their math skills through play – by engaging in labeling set sizes – performed better on preschool and first grade math skills than those whose mothers didn’t.”

Ok it’s not just moms who can do this, anybody can!

Focus on the development of three concepts:

1. Identifying numbers (for instance, asking a child to name the number on a cash register button)
2. One-to-one counting (such as counting pennies)
3. Labeling the size of sets of objects (such as referring to a pair of blocks with the word two)

It may not be unusual for a child to be able to count a row of three pennies, but the words one and three may not have any more meaning than ennie-meenie-miney-mo. By labeling set sizes, they begin to understand that the last number they say when counting a group of objects represents its quantity – a concept known as cardinality that is crucial for mastering addition and subtraction.

Start with one object, a block, for instance, and say, “There is one block here. Let’s count it.” Point to the block and say, “There is just one block here.” Repeat with many different types of objects before moving on to two blocks, three, and so on. Eventually you can start asking, “How many blocks are there?” Instruct your child to touch each block as she counts. Then ask again how many blocks there are. Patience is required – it’s a slow process.

## News from PAC

(Parent Advisory Committee)

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 1 - 5

Hey parents! Teacher Appreciation Week is coming up the first week of May! This is your opportunity to let our amazing teachers know how much we love them! The theme this year is Science. There will be additional details to follow. But in the meantime, please donate unused gift cards or cash at the front desk-- we need teacher gifts, prizes and decor.

Thank you! Becky Schoewe

## Spring Wine Pairing Event

Benefiting Capital Campaign

Saturday, April 22

4:30 – 6:00 pm.

Join us at Brightwater Culinary School for a Spring Wine Pairing to remember! Wine and appetizer pairings made by Chef Terese Post, Chef Epps and Kim Crawford, CEO of Natural State Distributing & Sommelier. In addition, enjoy a tutorial from James King, owner of King James Wine School and Director of Alcoholic Beverages, Brightwater, on the basic guidelines of tasting wine.

Tickets can be purchased at:

<https://springwinepairing.eventbrite.com>



## PAC Meeting

(Parent Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, April 12

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

HWCEC - Training Rooms

## Easter Egg Hunt

April 14

9:30 a.m.

Honey Bees

Baby Geese

Cougars

Jaguars

10:00 a.m.

Chicks

Panthers

10:30 a.m.

June Bugs

Polar Bears

9:45 a.m.

Lady Bugs

Chickadees

Cubs

10:15 a.m.

Rolie Polies

Ducklings

Koala Bears

Tigers

10:45 a.m.

Panda Bears

We ask each child brings in **12 filled eggs (or more if you would like) by Monday, April 10.** Please use nut free treats. If the eggs are not pre-filled, please tape the eggs as we do most of the hunts outside.



## Arkansas Children's Week

April 23-28

Theme: Going Outdoors – Play and Explore!

Parade: April 27 at 10 a.m.

We love to have parents and guests join us for the parade!

## Employee of the Month

Autra Smith, Toddlers

“On Monday, March 6, during breakfast, my son was eating a banana and choked really bad. Ms. Autra rushed over to him and without thinking and leaned him downwards and started performing back blows until the banana came out. My son was really shook up afterwards and wanted to stay with Ms. Autra so she offered to stay up front with him until he felt comfortable. After the incident, my husband and I came and picked him up. When Ms. Autra went to lunch that day, the first thing she did on her personal time was message me to check up on him and see how he was doing. I was so moved by her compassion. She also knows and teaches sign language to the kids, which has helped my son be able to communicate with us even more since he isn't able to speak a whole lot just yet. She definitely deserves some recognition for all she does day in and day out!” states a relieved mom.

Ms. Autra has been a valued team member for 1.5 years at HWCEC. She holds a bachelor degree in early childhood development.

Please congratulate Ms. Autra!

