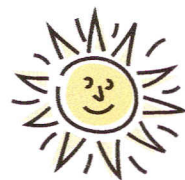


KIDS FIRST FOCUS ON FORT SMITH



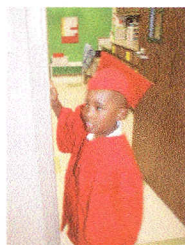
June 2010

Vol. 5 Issue 6

KIDS FIRST GRADUATION

This year's graduating class is the largest in KIDS FIRST- Fort Smith history.

Twenty-five students from Pooh's Corner , Rabbit's Garden and Hunny Pots donned caps and gowns to receive their diplomas on Saturday, June 5th. Karen Tyler, Administrative Director, served as emcee for the event. Diplomas were awarded by



Lisa Ewald, supervising teacher for the Pre-K rooms. Students performed two musical numbers, "Good Morning" and "The ABC Song" assisted by caregivers Mehgan Gray, Laura Hicks, Tasha Howard, Tessa McGuire and Miriam Newton, .

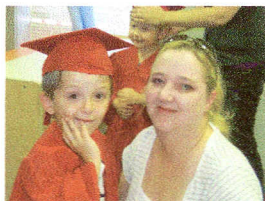
A reception of cake and punch followed the event and featured a slide show



of all the graduates. Thanks goes out to Sam and Stephen Tyler for presenting a flag ceremony. A special thank you goes to Lisa Ewald for putting such a wonderful slide show together for graduation. Good luck to all our graduates.

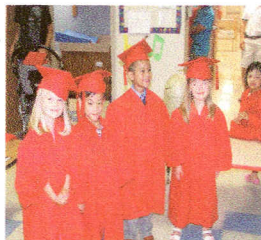


Genesis and mom, Daiyse



Eathan and mom, Miranda

Emma, Wilson, Emiliano, and Ella



Abby gets a last minute cap adjustment

Dawn and her mom, Amanda



DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Families,

It is already hot, hot, hot! I would like to remind families of a few safety tips. Please make sure your child comes to the clinic in closed toed shoes (such as tennis shoes) and have at least one change of clothes. If you haven't already done so, please make sure your child also has sunscreen. Also, when bringing your child(ren) in or picking them up, make sure you hold their hands on the parking lot. (It can get quite hairy during drop off and pick up times.) .

Many thanks to our families and our staff for our very successful graduation ceremony. We had a great turnout.

Let's all try to stay "cool" for the rest of the summer.

Karen Tyler, M.Ed. , CDA
Administrative Director,
KIDS FIRST-Fort Smith

Don't Forget!

***KIDS FIRST WILL BE CLOSED
ON MONDAY, JULY 5, IN
OBSERVANCE OF
INDEPENDENCE DAY***

Nurturing Idea for June

Item needed: broom After dinner, give each family member a bristle from the broom. Ask each one to please sweep the floor, using their piece of straw. Then ask: Would it be easier to sweep the floor with this? (Of course!) When all the pieces of straw are joined together (when we work together), much more can be accomplished.



WHAT IS PROJECT NURTURE?

Project Nurture is KIDS FIRST's Infant Mental Health Program. Our goal is to promote the social and emotional well-being of KIDS FIRST infants, toddlers, and families through secure and nurturing relationships.

Every parent has fought the battle of bringing a toy from home. A lot of times it seems easier to give in and let your child bring their toy. Please remember, though, that your child's teacher will have to fight this battle all day, trying to explain to your toddler (or big kid) that they either have to share their beloved toy with 10 other children or have it in their cubby all day. Just know that if your child brings a toy into the center, staff will ask you to take it with you. The same is true when your child wants to bring food with them in the mornings. This is even more of a problem because of the many nutrition issues we have with our children in the center. If your child must have food on the way to school please have them leave the food in the car for later. Also, let your child's teacher know that they have eaten something before you came because it affects their appetite for breakfast.

ANNIVERSARIES

Several employees are celebrating anniversaries with KIDS FIRST. In June, these employees celebrate, Angela Scoggins, 13 years, Miriam Newton, 12 years, Tasha Howard, 4 years, Roberta Roberts, 4 years, Virginia Kennedy, 2 year and Alana Gregory 4 years. Congratulations!

Perfect Attendance

Seventeen children had perfect attendance for the month of May. They are: Savanah B, Abbagale B, Marcus E, Malachi E, Zowie E, Jessenia G, Samuel H, Arion J, Sasha M, Alexandra M, Emma P, Guy R, Trevor S, Dawn S, Cameron S, Ella T, and Sandy T. This month's winner is Savanah B.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

This month's employee of the month is Lillie Stewart R.N. Affectionately known as "Grandma Lillie", she began working for KIDS FIRST in 1994. She has since "retired" from full time employment



and now serves as a PRN nurse for KIDS FIRST. Lillie has been married for almost 54 years and has raised 4 children of her own, plus numerous foster children, grandchildren, and any "stray" that she

can find. Lillie has dedicated her life to helping, nurturing, and loving everyone she comes in contact with. KIDS FIRST is truly fortunate to have her. Make sure to congratulate Grandma Lillie when you see her

"While we teach our children all about life, our children teach us what life is all about" —Angela Schwindt

June Birthdays

KIDS FIRST children celebrating birthdays this month are Chris C, Francisca B, Kinsley E, Malachi E, Brianna J, Cameron S, and Emily S. Staff celebrating are: Angela Scoggins, supervising teacher, Caregiver Amber Alder and Sara Staed, RN, Happy Birthday to all our June babies!

