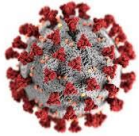


October 8, 2020

Keeping Parents Connected

Dear GAC Parents, Thank you for giving me the opportunity to bring you up to date with some transitions that have taken place in October. We want to thank each of you for being flexible during the past six months and we are grateful for the small signs of recovery.



COVID has affected every aspect of our operations including our staffing and capacity. What has not been shaken is our commitment to your children in delivering consistent engaging learning experiences. **Please allow me to bring you up to date so you will be fully informed.**

1. **The Governor lifted the limitations on our room capacity which limited the number of children we could serve.** For the past six months, our daily attendance ranged between 25 and 67.

Before COVID the Academy was at capacity serving 106 families. Ms. Brooke and Ms. Amanda have reached out to the children on our waiting lists and families will be coming gradually back over the next three weeks. After that transition, we will post any openings if they are available.

2. **Leadership promotions announced.** Ms. Brooke and Ms. Amanda Weddle have made a tremendous leadership team over the past six months working through the challenges of COVID.

I have promoted Ms. Brooke as my Executive Assistant and Accounts Manager for GAC. She will be working virtually as GAC's account manager and curriculum specialist; and for me as my editor of my publications. Brooke will continue to support Amanda over the next few weeks directly to ensure the transition is seamless. The good news you will still see her often.



I am very pleased to announce that Ms. Amanda has been promoted from Infant Room Coordinator to our new Academy Director. She has worked for GAC for 10 years and is so excited about her new role and promotion. I am so proud of her; she has shown exceptional leadership skills during COVID – the timing was right to initiate both promotions.

3. **The Infant Room has a new coordinator.** Ms. Rebecca Lachance, one of our past GAC parents, has accepted the position and began her training this week.
4. **Ms. Patsy in the Toddler room is scheduled to be back on November 9th** if she is released from the orthopedic doctor. She fell about 6 weeks ago and is recovering nicely- she has been by a couple of time to hug her children! She appreciates the prayers and is excited to be coming back soon.
5. **Children's move-up transitions will take place October 19th before returning children arrive.** Ms. Amanda will be preparing new class rosters this week. Our goal is to move all children who will enter kindergarten in fall of 2021 into Ms. Lucy's class.



6. **The Christiansburg GAC Academy hours of operation will change October 12th.**
 - a. **Opening at 6:45 am and closing at 5:45 pm**

I trust this information is helpful as we continue to rebound to get back to normal!

Donna Thornton-Roberts GAC President and CEO 703-994-1597 www.childcareauthority.com