



HAPPENINGS

fruit & flower

Parent Survey

At Fruit & Flower we are always working to improve the care and service we offer our children and parents. Please take a moment and let us know how we are doing. The link below directs you to our latest Parent Survey. The survey will take under 10 minutes to complete, and all responses remain completely anonymous. No IP addresses are collected and we encourage both parents to respond and give us your thoughts. Surveys must be completed by February 1st, so please click on the link and share your experience!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/fruitandflower>

Save the Date

The annual Fruit & Flower Auction will be held on **Saturday, April 28, 2012** at Wieden+Kennedy. This year's theme is the Roaring 20's and you won't want to miss it! Want to help out? Come meet the Auction Committee on January 24th from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the main lobby to find out about volunteer opportunities.



Storm Watch!

Snow or ice may cause a delay in opening the Center. Please check our voicemail or visit www.pdxinfo.net for the latest info on delays or closures.

Important Dates

<i>Martin Luther King Day (Center Closed)</i>	<i>Jan 16</i>
<i>Parent Discussion</i>	<i>Jan 25 Feb 29</i>
<i>Date Night</i>	<i>Jan 27 Feb 24 Mar 30</i>
<i>Family Night</i>	<i>Feb 15</i>
<i>Teacher In-Service Day (Center Closed)</i>	<i>Feb 20</i>
<i>Grandparents Day</i>	<i>Mar 16</i>
<i>Fruit & Flower Auction</i>	<i>Apr 28</i>

Date Night is Back!

Mark your calendars for Friday, January 27, 2012. Fruit & Flower Date Nights are held the last Friday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 9 p.m. Siblings are welcome and dinner is provided. The cost is \$20 for the first child, an additional \$15 for the 2nd child, and an additional \$10 for the 3rd child. Sign up at the front-desk as soon as possible — spaces are filling up fast!

Seeking Volunteers

The Board of Directors is currently recruiting parents to join one or more of the following committees. If interested, please contact Rhonda at Rhonda.Mcdowall@fruitandflower.org

- Facilities Committee
- Program Committee
- Finance Committee
- Auction Committee
- Community Development

Did You Know?

- *Fruit and Flower sponsors a quarterly "Family Night"?*
- *The annual Auction is scheduled for April 28, 2012?*
- *Fruit & Flower is an "eco-friendly certified" child care facility?*
- *Free coffee is available every morning for parents in the main lobby of the Center?*

Love and Logic: Semester II

Space is still available for Semester II of the Parenting with Love and Logic Curriculum, a philosophy based on empathy, love and understanding, which strives to strengthen relationships within our family and community.

The cost is \$35 per family for all five sessions and childcare is provided. Each family completing all five sessions will receive a Love and Logic Parent Workbook and one Date Night Coupon! The first session begins Tuesday, March 6th and registration is at the front desk.

Solutions to:

- How to handle disruptions during meal times
- How to get children to stay in their own bed
- How to end temper tantrums
- How to discipline your toddler in public without creating a scene
- How to get children up and out in the mornings
- How to stop whining and bickering
- And many other day-to-day parenting challenges...

This parenting program is designed to give you practical skills that can be used immediately!

Starlight Parade

Fruit & Flower has applied to have a float in this year's Starlight Parade — and we need your help! Entry forms and Float design sketches are due March 2nd. If you have a great idea for a theme or design, please contact us at info@fruitandflower.org.

Love and Logic

Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun!

A five module parenting program designed by the
Love and Logic Institute

Tuesday Evenings

5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Fruit & Flower Conference Room

**Session 1: Handling Misbehavior without breaking a Sweat.
Tuesday, March 6th**

**Session 2: Teaching Kids to Listen...the first time.
Tuesday, March 13**

**Session 3: Avoiding Power Struggles.
Tuesday, March 20**

**Session 4: Limits to Create Happier Parents, Happier Kids and
Happier Families.
Tuesday, April 3**

**Session 5: What to Do When Your Kids Leave You Speechless.
Tuesday, April 10**



Room Transitions

The Fruit & Flower staff works diligently to create an environment which provides a smooth room transition for all children and parents. In an effort to improve and streamline the transition process, we have implemented several new procedures for all classrooms. We are confident that these new procedures will allow for a successful transition for your child.

When your child is ready to transition to the next classroom, you can expect to be notified of a start date and visitation schedule. Your child's current lead teacher will communicate any allergies at this time to be passed on to the new classroom as well as successful strategies for helping the parent and child transitions at drop-off and pick-up times. Your coordinator will communicate with you about the transition, provide you with a welcome packet and introduce you to the new teacher prior to visiting. Your child's cubby space will be set up to use during visitations and visitation forms will be completed each day by both the sending teacher and visiting teacher so you will be well apprised of your child's progress. We hope that these procedures will help to foster easy transitions for your child and family.

Speech & Hearing Test

Friday, January 27th, 2012 from 8:30 to Noon

Fruit and Flower will be providing speech, language, and hearing screenings for your child on **Friday, January 27th, 2012 from 8:30 to Noon**. The screenings will be supervised by a licensed speech-language pathologist, Claudia Meyer, CCC-SLP and conducted by graduate students in the Speech and Hearing Sciences program at Portland State University.

The fee for the screening is \$15 for hearing and \$30 for speech and language. By taking advantage of this program you can have your child screened with considerable savings of time and money. Children will also be screened in the familiar environment of their school setting.

Children ages 3 years and older can participate. You will receive a brief write up of your child's results with an explanation of the findings and whether further assessment is warranted. The results of the screen will be maintained in your child's file at Fruit and Flower School. For more details, please visit the front desk.



Be aware that the parking circle fills up quickly. Please make your drop-off and pick-ups brief to avoid congestion.

Parent Discussion

Wednesday, January 25th, 4:30-6 p.m.

Join Naomi Seeger, lead teacher for the Peaches and Preschool/Kindergarten coordinator for a talk about **transitioning into kindergarten**. The conversation will include an open dialogue about the transition to "big school." Come talk with other parents about their experiences with the change, get an information packet that will contain public/private schools in the area and their lotto dates/open houses and contact information.

Now is the time to decide where your child will go and to learn about what to expect.



fruit & flower



quality childcare since 1906

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Support

Fruit & Flower is Oregon's first child care center. It is a non-profit 501(c)3 and relies on donations to meet its annual budget and provide scholarship funding to 20% of its families.

Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Check with your company to see if they will match your contribution to Fruit & Flower. Many businesses will match payroll deductions, charitable giving, time spent volunteering, and other ways to support our school. For more info contact pamela.bock@fruitandflower.org.



7 of the 8 women who founded Fruit & Flower Mission (from left to right): Helen Burrell, Lucy Schuyler, Kate Randall, Daisy Harker, Antoinette Montgomery, Clara Teal, Elise Montgomery