**New Horizons Child Care Center**

Dear Parents,

 Welcome to the Older Twos and Young Threes Class. We will have such a great time learning through play and various activities.

 We are greatly excited for what’s ahead. We use Creative Curriculum and enjoy watching children experience learning through play every day. We are literacy bases and incorporate reading books into every part of our day and throughout our centers in our room. We incorporate songs and finger plays into class daily. This classroom incorporates the first steps of social and emotional relationships.

 We have a few ways that we measure our social and emotional behaviors and relationships. Our first behavior modification is the “Fuzzy Fillers” game. Every child has a pocket with their name on it, for every good behavior they are rewarded with a fuzzy to place in their pocket. At pick up we ask that you are excited to let your child show you and count how many fuzzies they collected! This builds excitement during the day because the children know you will be counting them with them later. The second thing we implement is the emotions poster and calming corner. When a child is showing extreme behaviors and emotions a teacher helps them identify the picture of the emotion they are feeling on the poster. A teacher guides them through other healthier ways to cope and express the emotion. Lastly, every child has a behavior folder in the top of their cubby. This is a stop light system that lets you know the tone of their day. Green light means a great day, yellow light means they had some warnings, red light means the same behaviors that earned a yellow light continued. Each day when you pick up your child we ask that you are excited to see how full your child’s party pocket is! When checking their behavior folder we ask for your partnership in addressing the behavior that may have changed the light from green.

 Children hit their developmental milestones at their own pace. Each and every child has their own way of learning and processing. We partner with parents between their routines at home and school. We continue potty training in this class but every child will master potty training when they are ready. Please do not become discouraged if your child does not become potty trained right away. This process takes individual time frames, stages, and parent-teacher partnerships. Every child is to be potty trained and wearing underwear, except for nap times before moving up to the Three year old class.

Each child has their own portfolio that contains art work and writing from throughout the year. We also do assessments twice a year, or as needed to help measure your child’s growth and ensure we help them in the areas they need assistance with. You will receive their art work portfolio at the end of their time in the two year old room, to see how much they have grown during our time together. We also offer parent teacher conferences during nap hours to discuss and answer questions or just to touch base with you on how your child is developing.

Your child will need a fitted crib sheet, blanket and 3 changes of weather appropriate clothing. Please remember your child is growing and ensure that the clothing in their cubby fits as they grow. If they have a small sleep toy or “lovey,” feel free to bring it to encourage your child to feel comfortable. All lovies must be small enough to fit in the top of their cubby.

Wipes, pull-ups, and any diaper creams need to be labeled. Please no plastic bags in the classroom. Feel free to talk to us at any time you feel that you have a concern of any kind. We look forward to teaching and discovering the world around us together.

 Love,

The Older Twos/ Young Threes Teachers