

# PARENTS AS TEACHERS

## NEWSLETTER

MAY 2026



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### REFLECTIONS FROM THE COORDINATOR

*Hello PAT families,*

Happy May Day!

What a fun year we have had, filled with home visits, parent events, group connections, and playgroups. We have laughed and cried together, watched children reach milestones, and parents conquer goals. We truly celebrate the privilege of coming alongside your parenting journey. I wanted to extend a huge thank you to the 132 families who completed our Parent Satisfaction Survey. It brings me joy to read through the meaningful comments you've shared and to hear about the impact the program has on your family. We will use the feedback you provided through the survey and home visit conversations on Monday when our team meets to plan forward into the new year. For those of you whose time is coming to an end this month, we want to thank you for the time you have invested in growing as a parent and seeking to be intentional in your parenting. Our wish is that you will feel equipped to continue striving to be a safe, stable, nurturing parent for your child as you move into this next season. Please consider joining our PTA to stay connected. And for those of you who have recently joined the program, we look forward to the year ahead and are excited for you to experience all the intentional, meaningful, and fun opportunities ahead.

As we transition into summer, if I could encourage you to focus on just a few things, they would be these:

- Take 10 minutes a day to set aside your phone and distractions and be fully present in play with your child
- Share a book with your child daily
- And work towards a family mealtime as many days a week as you are able

Research shows that these practices will pay dividends in your child's growth and development, as well as their connection with you. And we know that connection leads to cooperation.

We wish you well,

*Michelle Kelly*

Program Coordinator  
Blue Valley Parents as Teachers

## JUNE PLAYGROUPS



BV PAT is excited to welcome families to our playroom. In-person playgroups offer numerous benefits, including opportunities to connect with other families, introducing new activities for children to explore, and helping children learn to interact with one another.

To facilitate connections between children and families. In **June**, we will host individual playgroups for children from birth to 36 months of age. Please **register by FAMILY** and put the children's names and dates of birth in the comments.

We ask families to only sign up for **TWO** playgroups so we can serve as many families as possible.

If you are on the waitlist, we kindly ask that you do not move your name into an open spot. To ensure fairness for all families, Mandi will reach out, in waitlist order, as openings become available.



### JUNE PLAYGROUP SIGN-UP WILL BE EMAILED ON MAY 19TH

Each group will be limited to 15 children.



- Only one adult per child may attend. A nanny or grandparent is welcome to bring your child in place of a parent if necessary.
- In **June only**, we will allow additional siblings under the age of 5 to attend.
- All adults must show a valid state-issued photo ID or passport to enter any BV building. Please plan to bring ID with you every time you come to playgroup, or you will not be allowed to attend.
- Strollers and car seats are not allowed in the playroom. Please plan to wear or carry your baby while in the playroom when not on the floor playing.
- If a session is full, please add your name to the waiting list. Waiting list families will receive priority registration for the next month.
- If you miss two sessions in a row, your spot will be given to the next family on the waiting list.
- Please stay home if you or your child is ill.

#### WEDNESDAY

9:15 - 10 am:  
6/3, 6/10, 6/17, 6/24

10:15 - 11 am:  
6/3, 6/10, 6/17, 6/24



#### NOTE

**NO**  
Saturday & Evening  
Playgroup

## TOUCH A TRUCK



Our Annual Touch-a-Truck will be held **Saturday, May 2nd**, from **9 - 11 am** in the **Hilltop Learning Center parking lot (7700 W 143rd St)**. Bring the whole family out for a fun-filled Touch-a-Truck event! Kids (and kids at heart!) will have the chance to explore a variety of vehicles up close—from fire trucks and police cars to construction equipment and more.

Climb aboard, honk the horns, and meet the community helpers who operate these amazing machines every day. There will be plenty of photo opportunities, hands-on learning, and excitement for all ages. Don't miss this interactive experience that's sure to spark curiosity and create lasting memories!

## SAVE THE DATE

Bring a Friend to Baby Playgroup on **Wednesday, July 22!**

Join us from 9:15–10:00 AM for a special Baby Play where enrolled families are invited to bring a friend! This playgroup is designed for ages 3-12 months, including your friend's little one. It's a fun way to share the joy of playgroup, connect with other families, and introduce someone new to the wonderful experiences Parents as Teachers has to offer. We can't wait to welcome you and your little one for a morning of play, learning, and friendship!

Look for a **separate** sign-up Genius to be sent on **June 8th!**



## PTA NEWS

To join the BVEC PTA, [Click Here](#).

PTA membership is only \$30, which includes access to additional playgroups, as well as other activities throughout the spring.

If you sign up now, membership is good through next year.

**Executive Board Positions**—we will have some open positions on our executive board as current members little's, transition to Kindergarten! We will also have lots of one-time volunteer positions open as well! Consider if you'd like to join us in some capacity next year! Kristen Byers is happy to answer any questions about roles/commitment, etc. [parentsasteachersvp@gmail.com](mailto:parentsasteachersvp@gmail.com)

Getting involved with the PTA can be a great way to meet and connect with other parents with young children.



## LIBRARY

As we approach the end of the school year, we kindly ask for your help in returning any library books or materials you may still have checked out.

To ensure everything is accounted for and ready, please return all library items by **May 15th**.

You're welcome to give it to your Parent Educator during your next home visit or drop it off at Hilltop Learning Center.

If any pieces are damaged or missing, we get it; things happen. We would appreciate your consideration of a donation to help replace those items.

We truly appreciate your support in helping us keep our library organized and available for all families.



## ANNUAL PARENT SATISFACTION SURVEY

Each year in May, we have a long planning meeting where we reflect on the year, review the great feedback we receive from you in our annual survey, and begin to plan for next year. You can help us prepare for this year's meeting by sharing your feedback and PAT experience with us by completing the survey.

Please use the comment boxes to share what you love and ideas you have to help us grow.

Thank you!

[Survey link here](#)



## BORROW A NANA

Looking for intermittent childcare?

Date nights, long weekends, out of town/country trips, or a parent's day off!

One of our parent educators, Claudia Burford, is offering childcare beginning this summer and welcomes your call or text.

[Click Here](#) to see her "Borrow A Nana" flier for additional information.



COMMUNITY



# AUTISM ACCEPTANCE IN ACTION

## Family Day & Resource Fair

KidsTLC is hosting a free, inclusive community event on Saturday, **July 25, 2026 | 9:00 AM-12:00 PM** as we celebrate the opening of our new athletic field.

Families can enjoy outdoor, kid and sensory-friendly activities in a relaxed setting, while connecting with trusted community resources that support children with autism.

**Come explore, play, learn, and connect!**



- Sensory-friendly fun
- Local community organizations
- Resources for every stage of your journey



July  
25

9:00 AM to  
12:00 PM

We can't wait  
to see you!

Let's Connect! @kidstlc   



# BABY HEALTH BEHAVIOR LAB

We are a research team that is dedicated to the health and developmental outcomes of infants and young children.

## Do-Re-Me Family Music Program



See if you're eligible

Do you have a baby who loves to wiggle? We're looking for 9–24-month-olds and their parents to join our research study! You will answer questions, participate in a music-enrichment program, and complete research activities at our lab and in your home. You can earn up to \$475.


## Sweet Baby Milk Study



See if you're eligible

We're looking for parents & 1- to 3-month-old newborns to join our study to understand how feeding choices impact child development. Participants can earn up to \$825 by wearing a device that tracks blood glucose for 4 days.



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