



BECC October 2026 NEWSLETTER



BERKSHIRE
EARLY
CHILDHOOD
CENTER

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WHAT WE'RE LEARNING

Wrapping Up Our Beginning-of-the-Year Study

We have been busy learning classroom routines, building friendships, practicing independence, and learning how to be part of our classroom community. The children have worked hard exploring their new environment, getting to know their teachers and friends, and becoming more comfortable with our daily routines. We are so proud of how much they have grown already!

Creative Curriculum: Tree Study

Next, we are beginning our Tree Study! Over the next several weeks, the children will become little scientists as we explore trees and the important role they play in our world.

Through hands-on investigations, stories, songs, art, movement, and play, we will learn about the parts of a tree, different kinds of trees, leaves, bark, roots, how trees change, what lives in trees, and how trees help people and animals. We will also practice important preschool skills such as observing, comparing, counting, describing, asking questions, and sharing our ideas with others.

You can continue the learning at home by noticing trees together! Ask your child questions such as, "What do you notice about this tree?" "How are these two leaves different?" or "What do you think might live in this tree?" If you find an interesting leaf, pinecone, twig, or other tree-related treasure, your child is welcome to bring it in to share with our class!

UPDATES/REMINDERS:

Parent Volunteer Form:

If you would like to volunteer at the BECC you are required to complete the Volunteer Form. This form is required annually in order to be eligible for assisting with school activities. We thank you for offering your time to enhance the education of our students. The form is open until October 16th, 2026. <https://www.berkshireschools.org/students-and-families/resources-for-families-students/ps-registration-information>

Parent Café:

There's still time to register for our upcoming Parent Café! We understand that busy family schedules may make it difficult to attend all four sessions, so please don't let that stop you from signing up. We would love to have you join us for whichever sessions work for your family! Our next Parent Café will be Friday, October 16th. We hope you can join us for an evening of conversation, connection, and community!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gOlp7jVsxu9Ms8d2zcve31bFxp61hzt/view?usp=sharing>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 8

Lock Down Drill

October 9

NEOE Day
No School

October
12 & 13

School Picture Day

October 16

Parent Café

October 23

No School - Staff
Professional Development

October 30

Halloween Party

VOCABULARY

Our Tree Study Vocabulary

During our Tree Study, your child will be learning about trees, their parts, how trees grow, and the many ways trees are important to people and animals. You can help your child practice these words at home!

tree • trunk • bark • branches • leaves • roots • twig • flower • fruit • seeds • forest • nest • shelter • soil • sunlight • wood • strong • flexible • buds • stem • squirrel • bird

Explore Trees Together at Home!

Trees are all around us! Families can help children build their Tree Study vocabulary through simple conversations and hands-on exploring. You don't need special materials—just step outside and take a closer look!

Go on a Tree Hunt

Take a walk around your neighborhood, park, or yard. Look closely at a tree and see if your child can find the trunk, bark, branches, leaves, roots, and twigs. Talk about how each part helps the tree.

Look Closely at Leaves

Collect a few fallen leaves. Compare their size, shape, color, veins, lobes, and tips. Ask, "How are these leaves alike? How are they different?"

Who Lives in Trees?

Look and listen for birds, squirrels, or other animals. Can you find a nest? Talk about how a tree can provide shelter and food for animals.

Dear BECC Families,

A Wonderful Start!

Thank you for all your support! Our school year is off to an amazing start, and we appreciate your partnership. Thank you also for staying close to the right during arrival and dismissal so our vans can get through safely.

Parent Café: Finding Our Calm

Please join us for our next Parent Café on October 16, 2026, from 2:00–3:00 p.m. We will explore finding our calm and the Zones of Regulation, including ways to help your child recognize feelings, practice calming strategies, and move toward a calmer, more positive place.

Parent Café is a welcoming time to connect with other parents, share experiences, and learn together. We hope to see you there!

Trick-or-Treat Fun: October 30

Our 8th grade student leaders are planning fun Halloween activities for the morning as part of their Sources of Strength community leadership. Plans are still underway, and we look forward to sharing more details!

We would love to welcome all our families for trick-or-treating here at the center on October 30, beginning at 2:00 p.m. Join us for a safe, fun celebration with your children. You're welcome to dress up, too, and bring candy to share as well as other treats and small toys. All candy will be sent home for parents to review—children will not eat candy at the center.

Holiday Support

As we enter the holiday season, please reach out to me privately if your family needs support. We are here to help connect you with available resources. Thank you for being part of our BECC community!

Warmly,
Dr. Vanessa Povozahev
BECC Director

