

Celebrate the Children

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Denville's Holiday Parade

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Denville's Holiday Parade
- Classrooms
- Upcoming Events

Celebrate the Children was invited to participate in the Denville Holiday Parade on Sunday, November 26th! With support from CTC Leadership and Families the CTC Parade "Float" Committee designed an "outfit" for one of our school buses around the parade theme of "Holiday Cartoons". Our "Frosty the Snowman" float proudly navigated the parade route with staff and student families in tow! One of our students was even interviewed when we reached the main viewing stage! Denville is a great community that has welcomed us with open arms and we were very proud to represent CTC as a member of that community! Check out more pictures and videos on CTC's Facebook page!

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A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM PAULA'S CLASS

Paula's classes read the historical short story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* during the end of October-into November in US History 2. The classes had fun learning about the culture and how people lived during that time. The story kept us on edge because of the headless horseman and Major Andre's tree, which was a spooky tree that people thought the horseman came from. The story took place in the fall when the Harvest moon is very bright. Our classes did a culminating project after we finished the story in which we made a spooky, twisted tree silhouette in front of the harvest moon painting. The students had to follow directions for each step. The first step was to paint the canvas blue. They then made the Harvest moon out of poster board and yellow and orange tissue paper. The classes then drew the ground on black paper (they chose if it was bumpy or flat or hilly) and then they drew their tree. They drew the trunk first and then the branches and chose to do it in one piece or in pieces and then glued it in front of the moon. Some students chose to add a pumpkin because there was a pumpkin mentioned in the story. The best part of the project is that each tree is SO different because each student came up with their own ideas.

Our classes also went on a field trip to see the movie "Wonder", which we all really enjoyed. When we were leaving the theater there was a big 3-D cardboard cutout for the Justice League movie. Many of our students were very interested in standing in with the characters and we took pictures. After we got back to school, we did some typing with the students who told us they were very interested in superheroes. We decided to do a "SuperHero" group. We asked an older student who is very knowledgeable and passionate about superheroes and his paraprofessional to help us run the group. The students ask a lot of questions and give their opinions and we watch clips of movies and trailers and discuss the different characters and comics. It is really a lot of fun for everyone - even the students who don't really like superheroes.



A PEEK INTO THE CLASSROOM JAMIE'S CLASS

Steps To Growing Our Classroom Garden

Ms. Jamie's class has been busy prepping, taking care of and picking delicious vegetables from our little class garden. In September, our class decided to be adventurous and plant a garden. The students researched some vegetation that was safe to plant in September, lettuce, collared greens, spring mix and white carrots. We voted as a class that we should try lettuce, collared greens and carrots. As a class we placed an order on Amazon and patiently awaited their arrival to our classroom. After our seeds arrived the students walked out to the garden bed that we were in charge of caring for. The bed had weeds in it so the students independently needed to weed and rake out the bed and prep it for our seeds. The students prepped the area and dug little holes and began pouring the seeds in before covering up the seeds. The students marked the seeds using popsicle sticks and watered them. We waited and waited and would check on the garden. No signs of life were showing so after 3 weeks I told the students we tried our best but it was unsuccessful for our first attempt so we will try again in the Spring. We kept positive and a few days later it was brought to my attention that it does appear some greenery is growing in our garden.

In amazement our class went outside and we did indeed observe some growth in our garden. Since that day we have been working hard to maintain our garden. Our class has been taking turns watering and raking out the leaves and weeds. The class collected lettuce leaves and white carrots and took them into the classroom where we learned and discussed how to clean them and sent them home to share with their families. My class and students love to work in the garden, and it can be a hands on and fun way to teach concepts from early literacy to math. All of the details that have been put into our growing garden have been a success in our classroom community!



A PEEK INTO THE PROGRAM PHYSICAL EDUCATION WENDY'S CLASS

We've been working on a kickball unit in PE for the past few weeks. Some students are learning the basics of the kicking motion, running the bases in order, as well as catching and throwing. Others are learning fielding, rules and strategies and playing competitive games. These skills will carry over into baseball which will be our next unit. Having fun, displaying good sportsmanship and teamwork are emphasized regardless of the level of play.

The visual/spatial skills of eye-foot/eye-hand coordination, and body balance are all developed by this simple, fun game!



PARENT TRAINING AT CTC

The Arc of New Jersey, Planning for Adult Life presented a valuable and important workshop on SSI/Medicaid for families and staff on Wednesday, November 29 at CTC. Jerisa Maseko presented information on this subject and increased families understanding of the process as they navigate the transition from school and entitlements to adult life and eligibility. The subject matter can be difficult and overwhelming but it is necessary to understand. We encourage families to attend workshops and webinars on this topic multiple times in order to become knowledgeable and comfortable with the subject matter.

Visit CTC Connections Resource website on the CTC School website for more information on this subject and a vast collection of information that we curate. Also, watch for upcoming workshops including a presentation by DDD (Division of Developmental Disabilities) on Thursday Dec 7 at CTC!



NAVIGATION NOWHERE TINY HOUSE VISIT!



Michael Fuehrer and the "NavigationNowhere" Skoolie were onsite this past Wednesday, November 29 for another visit with CTC Students & Staff! Michael is a CTC employee alumnus who has embarked on a fantastical journey across the country in his converted school bus! In the following excerpt he shares the impact of his travels;

"During this time, I've also experienced a growing passion for creating community, building a simpler, more meaningful life, and exploring the world. Who I am seems to be a compilation of all the projects I pursue and the relationships and community that form because of them. The more I learn and explore new people, places, and projects, the more I find a freedom in navigating my life. I'm seeing that being "nowhere" allows me to be more present, or "now here", for the people and projects I engage with, and that is worthwhile to me."



Some of our CTC classes have been and will continue to follow along on Michael's journeys. Students will explore all subject areas through the experience-based connection with Michael in subjects that include; Geography, Math, Science, Life Skills, History, Social Studies, Technology, etc. Mike will be back to visit us whenever he is in his home state of New Jersey. He will also partner with CTC helping to raise awareness of our school and the students we serve and to help fundraise!

Check out his website at <https://navigationnowhere.com>, and follow his Instagram at navigationnowhere as Michael travels around the country!



CTC CONNECTIONS - RESOURCE WEBSITE

...everything you need to navigate the journey!!

On this site you will find access to a vast array of Local, State, & National Resources and Organizations dedicated to supporting children, families, and professionals. You can sign up for newsletters & publications, locate workshops, seminars and conferences, access webinars, and find publishers, connect to other families, get homework help, and the list goes on!

We encourage you to explore, connect, and utilize the vast resources available to you through these organizations. The knowledge you will gain, the confidence it will afford you in your journey, and the community connections you will secure are invaluable!

Look for "CTC Connections" on the home page of the CTC School website
Go to the "MORE" tab, click on "RESOURCES", then "CTC CONNECTIONS"

<http://www.celebratethechildren.org/ctc-connections.html>

Parent & Professional Workshop on

Division of Developmental Disabilities DDD

Thursday, December 7, 2017

6:30pm

at Celebrate the Children

Services & Supports

Topics Covered: Timeline for Graduates, Eligibility, Application Process, Budgets, and Services Descriptions

RSVP REQUIRED

Jen, jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

CTC Connections Highlight "Homework Help"

<https://sites.google.com/a/celebratethechildren.org/national-and-state-organizations/home/homework-help>

The Homework Help Tab is located on the CTC Connections Resource website. **Instructions above...**

The Homework Help page as many amazing and fun resources for students and families. This is a great way to keep students engaged over holiday breaks along with supporting homework, independence and engagement.

Learning for ALL!

December 13, 2017 - 12:30

Parent Healing Group, Meditation & Tonglen

RSVP REQUIRED

Jen, jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

UPCOMING PARENT TRAINING

"HOW" Hands On Workshop Series Monday

Feb 12, 10-11:30am

"How" is a five-part workshop series to help families navigate the transition from school to adult life and entitlements vs. eligibility.

RSVP REQUIRED

Jen, jmandato@celebratethechildren.org



CTC Haircut Day, Wednesday, December 6th

Is it hard to find a hairdresser who understands your child with special needs?

Is it hard for your child to tolerate getting their haircut?

Would you like to get your child's haircut by a licensed hairdresser who has personal experience with special needs children who will provide this service in the comfort of Celebrate the Children?

If you answered "YES" to one or more of these questions, Celebrate the Children is happy to announce we are offering haircutting services 1x a month to our students during the school day.



Maureen Long, a member of our CTC family and a licensed hairdresser with 30 years of experience, is pleased to DONATE her time by providing your child with a developmentally sensitive haircutting experience.

100% of the proceeds raised goes directly back to Celebrate the Children. Maureen's late son Patrick, who passed away in November, 2016, loved attending the After-school Program (ASP). In his memory, Maureen will be using the money raised to offer CTC students scholarships to attend the ASP.

If you would like your child to be scheduled for a haircut on Wednesday, November 1st, please complete the attached form and return to school by Monday, December 4th. There are LIMITED slots available. Students will be serviced in the order that forms are received.

Questions: Email Joanne Keilty at Jkeilty@celebratethechildren.org or call 973-989-4033 ext. 141

--Welcome to Wonderful Wednesdays--



Dear CTC Parents,



Please join our team of Wonderful Wednesday parents. Our mission is to show our thoughtful appreciation to CTC teachers, aides and staff who do so much to help our children discover inner strengths and become the best they can be. Once a month we treat these amazing people to continental breakfast delights including such goodies as coffee, yogurt, bagels, fruits, danish, quiche etc. Wonderful Wednesdays are the second Wednesday morning* of each month. In order to do this, we need your support. It would be helpful if you could donate at least \$50 during the school year or make/bake something delicious and send it with your child on Wonderful Wednesday. **Please contact Carole McBride (Jordan and Isaiah's mom) by email at carolemcbride@comcast.net or at 908-798-0094 as soon as possible. If writing a check make payable to Carole McBride and please put Wonderful Wednesday in the memo.**

It is so important to show our CTC folks that parents appreciate their efforts. And breakfast is a simple way.

Thank you for your anticipated support,
Carole & Lori

*12/13, 1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11, 5/9 and 6/13

If there is a weather delay or closing we will have Wonderful Wednesday on the following Thursday and if Thursday is delayed or closed it will be on Friday.

Please note this is not a PTO effort

Celebrate the Children

Dear Parents,

It's that time of year again! **Did you know you can support Celebrate the Children and the amazing work that we do WHILE you do your holiday shopping this year?!?**

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization **every time you shop, at no cost to you**. When you shop at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0804200>, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to Celebrate the Children School.

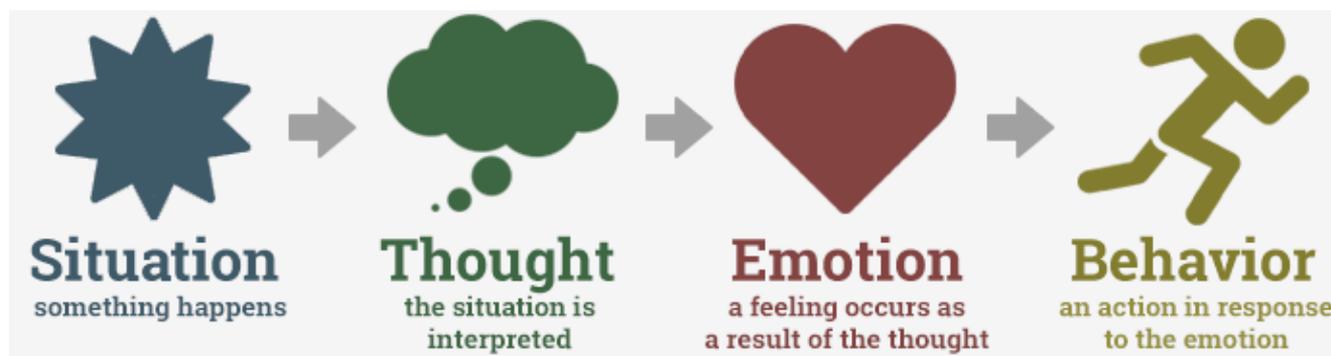
It's that easy! To shop at Amazon Smile simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0804200> from the web browser on your computer or mobile device!

You shop. Amazon gives. It's that simple.

Thanks for your continued support and dedication!
Jenna

*CTC Small Group
Parent Series
ANNOUNCING OUR
2018 WINTER SESSION!*

*“CBT:
Cognitive Behavior Therapy”*



*Meets on Fridays from 11:15 AM -12:45 PM
January 5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th, 2018*

*The group will be held in the CTC lobby conference
room*

*To sign up you must RSVP: Please contact Mady
Kaplan or Stefanie D'Amore at the SFSS Dept.
(973) 989 4033 - EXT.421 or 420*

Celebrate the Children Presents

BOWL-A-THON



Saturday, December 2nd
11am-1pm

GLOW PARTY

Supporting

THE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM, PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND &
PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAM



- BOWLING
- MUSIC
- COSTUME CONTEST
- PRIZES FOR MOST RAISED MONEY
- AND MORE!

FAMILY
"FUN" DRAISER!

SUPPORT

Help us raise money for a new Preschool Playground, After School and Performing Arts Programs! Our past Bowl-A-Thons have raised enough money to purchase a NEW CTC SCHOOL BUS and offer dozens of After School Program scholarships to our students. Our new bus has enabled our students to take advantage of an array of new opportunities within the community as well as transport them to their numerous job sites.

RECRUITING BOWLERS

Represent your school or company by joining an existing team or assembling a team of bowlers to fill your lane and call on your family and friends to secure pledges and donations.

ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY BENEFIT CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN SCHOOL

Each bowler is encouraged to raise at least \$100. Donation forms and crowdfunding pages will be provided to each bowler. Checks should be made payable to Celebrate the Children. All donations are tax-deductible and can be sent to 230 Diamond Spring Road, Denville, NJ 07834, Attn. Bowl-A-Thon.



CTC a non-profit, state-approved private school, which serves a diverse range of students ages 3-21 with autism and other challenges in relating and communicating.

CIRCLE BOWL & ENTERTAINMENT LEDGEWOOD, NEW JERSEY
973.989.4033, ext. 199 OR 973.989.4033, ext. 415
WWW.CELEBRATETHECHILDREN.ORG/BOWL-A-THON
PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

We hope you all are as excited about the Bowl-a-Thon as we are! The Bowl-a-Thon is CTC's favorite family "FUN" draiser!

This years **GLOW THEMED BOWL-A-THON** will be held on Saturday, December 2 at 11 am at Circle Bowl and Entertainment in Ledgewood, NJ.

The Event Will Include:

bowling, a costume contest, 50/50, door prizes, music by 105.5 WDHA and a few sneak peeks into this years Spring Concert!

NEW AND EXCITING THIS YEAR!

We are now offering ONLINE fundraising! Registered bowlers can sign-up to be an online fundraiser on our website celebratethechildren.org. You can then send your personal fundraising page to family and friends and share on social media so your supporters can make a secure online donation that will be counted towards your fundraising total!

Prizes will be awarded for most money raised!

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER!

CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN

BOWL-A-THON

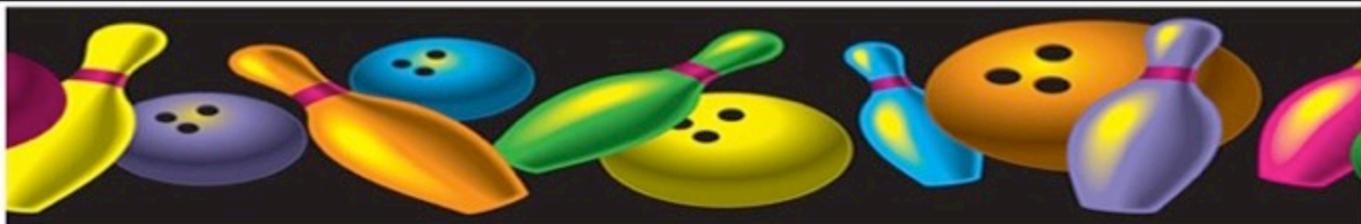
GLOW PARTY!

Saturday, December 2

11am-1pm

Circle Entertainment

Ledgewood, NJ



Celebrate the Children

School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles
Developmental Individual Relationship-Based Intervention®

www.celebratethechildren.org

230 Diamond Spring Road Denville, NJ 07834

Phone: 973-989-4033 Fax: 862-244-4969

Parent Training Group

Topic: *Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) Services & Supports*

State of New Jersey



December 7, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Presenting:

Claudia Aboky-Djanty, Coordinator, Employment and Transition Services

This will be an overview of DDD Services and Supports. Topics to be covered:

- + Timeline for new graduates
- + Eligibility
- + Application Process
- + Budgets
- + Service descriptions

CTC is very fortunate to have Claudia presenting and we want to allow our parents to attend without worry of child care needs. **We will be providing child care for CTC students only. RSVP is required so we can make arrangements for your child.** Please see contact information below if you should have any questions.

Location:

CTC's Music Room

RSVP required by November 30 to:

Student & Family Support Services

Jennifer Mandato

(973) 989-4033 x 413 or jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

**PLEASE COME TO SEE MY “IMAGINE VAN
GOGH RESTAURANT” AT THE GINGERBREAD
WONDERLAND**

**At the Morris County Park Commission
The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
353 East Hanover Avenue, Morris Township
12/1-12/10 10am to 4:30 daily (open till 7:30pm
on Fridays)**

THANK YOU! Ben Do



UPCOMING EVENTS

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BOWL-A-THON

December 2 from 11-1
Circle Entertainment
Ledgewood, NJ

View **Ben Do's "Imagine
Van Gogh Restaurant"** at the
Gingerbread Wonderland at the
Morris County Park Commission
The Frelinghuysen Arboretum
353 E Hanover Ave, Morris
12/1-12/10 10am to 4:30 pm
And on Fridays open till 7:30pm

Next Haircut Day December 6

Questions: email Joanne Keilty
at
jkeilty@celebratethechildren.org

Wonderful Wednesdays for CTC Staff 12/13,
1/10, 2/14 3/14, 4/11, 5/9 & 6/13
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Division of Developmental Disabilities Services &
Supports
December 7 @ 6:30pm
RSVP required by November 30 to
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jmandato@celebratethechildren.org

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CTC Small Group Parent Series

2018 Winter Session

"CBT: Cognitive Behavior Therapy"
Meets Fridays 11:15am – 12:45pm
Jan 5, 12, 19 & 26th, 2018
RSVP: Mady Kaplan or Stefanie
D'Amore @ the SFSS Dept.
973-989-4033 ext 421 or 420

Mark your Calendar!
Special Olympics Track & Field
Competition
Saturday, May 5, 2018
Hackettstown High School
Look for more information this winter

Celebrate the Children

A School for Children with Alternative Learning Styles

Phone: 973.989.4033
www.celebratethechildren.org