



# News From the DCCCC Office

January 2014

Jeff Robbins, Director  
Sunnie McPhetres, Assistant Director

Terry Chase, Administrative Assistant  
Dawn Cote, Administrative Assistant

## Staff

### Teddy One

Debbie Burnham  
Wendy Irwin  
April Buchanan

### Teddy Too

Ray Garcia  
Lori Higgins  
Denise Ayers

### Pandas

Jennifer Sprague  
Jenn Boudro  
Teresa Hahn

### Koalas

Susan Quimby Young  
Joel King  
Valerie Stefani

### Woollies

Jo Brambles  
Barb Merchand  
Liz Harrington

### Polars

Terri Hollis  
Miranda Arruda  
Kelly Bosma

### Grizzlies

Brenda Metzler  
Kristin Ball Cole  
Rosalind Myles-Watkins

### Floating Assistant Teachers

Eileen Ruml  
Terri Crane  
Anna Fuller  
Moya Stevens  
Melissa Horrigan  
Audrey Stout

## DCCCC Will Be Closed

**March 17, 2014** – staff in-service

**May 26, 2014** – Memorial Day

**July 4, 2014** – Independence Day

## Snow Days

Whenever Hanover schools close or open late due to inclement weather, DCCCC will have a late opening time of 9:00 a.m. A late opening at DCCCC will be announced on:

- WMUR TV Channel 9 and  
www.WMUR.com  
- WCAX TV Channel 3 and  
www.WCAX.com, (go to weather,  
select school closings)

During school vacations, late openings will be decided by the Director in consultation with local authorities and will be announced in the same media as above.

Grizzlies may arrive at 9 a.m. too and pay the full day rate.

## Here Comes Tax Time

Dartmouth College's EIN  
#02-0222111

You'll want that to claim a  
dependent  
care deduction.

## Working Mom's Group:

Winter is upon us – but the cold, ice, and snow shouldn't stop us from getting out. Below are the dates for the winter lunches for the Working Mom's group so mark your calendars now and join us if you can:

*Wednesday, January 15*

*Thursday, February 13*

*Friday, March 14*

**All lunches will take place at 12:00 at Ramunto's in Hanover**

*Those of you that have never come or not come in a while, please join us as you might just make a new friend, learn something, or at least get out of the office!*

For those new, here is a synopsis of what the Working Mom's group is about:

We are a very casual group that gets together once a month for lunch to talk about whatever is on our minds. We all know how challenging it is to balance a career and a family and it's really nice to have others to talk with and get ideas or just vent. We discuss all types of things ranging from pregnancy, potty training, allowances, child care options, bedtime routines, food, summer camps, etc. Any topic is open for discussion and people have been so helpful in offering advice and assistance when needed. Mom's in the group have all age ranges of kids and everyone is welcome. Typically we have anywhere from 6-12 women at each lunch. It would be great to have more so tell your friends or bring a friend and mark your calendars for upcoming lunches!

Megan Sobel

### **Family Dance Events**

Muskeg Music has Family Dances three times a year (Fourth Saturdays - Jan, March, October) - and one is coming right up at Tracy Hall in Norwich, VT.

Saturday, January 25th - live music by Sheesham and Lotus, calling by Adina Gordon

Potluck supper - 5:15-6:00 pm  
Family Dance (all ages) - 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Contradance (better-suited to middle-school age kids and up) - 8:00-11:15 pm

Please bring a clean change of shoes to protect the wooden dance floor. All dances taught and called. Beginners and singles always welcome. Children should be accompanied for the Family Dance event.

For the Family Dance kids are free, and adults only \$5.

These are simple traditional dances that have been taught and called for generations in New England, Keep the traditions alive, all ages welcome.

### **HOPSTOP FAMILY SERIES: UPPER VALLEY MUSIC CENTER**

#### ***SUZUKI STRINGS OF UVMC!***

At the Upper Valley Music Center, students ages three to 18 learn violin, viola and cello using the Suzuki method, an international music approach to teaching music. This interactive concert gets everyone clapping and singing along to musical favorites, from nursery rhymes to Vivaldi and Bach. Witness the amazing talents of these hard-working students.

*HopStops are for ages 3 and up with accompanying adult. Doors open at 10:30; seating is limited.*

Questions? Contact Hop Outreach at [hop.outreach@dartmouth.edu](mailto:hop.outreach@dartmouth.edu) or call 603.646.2010.

Sat Feb 1 - 11:00 AM  
Alumni Hall

**FREE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

### **Parenting Information**

If you are looking for parenting advice in a specific area, your child's teacher is the best place to start. But if you are looking for something to read, you can check out the archived issues of The Daily Parent (no longer published) on the Child Care Aware Website. There is a broad array of topics discussed specifically about young children.

<http://childcareaware.org/parents-and-guardians/newsletters/daily-parent-archives>

## ***From Big Jeff***

Dear Big Jeff,

What's the rush? I see you prowling the halls when it gets late, but honestly I was in the door at 5:30.

Signed,  
Never Late

Dear You May Be Late,

Ah, well, let's look at the DCCCC policy. I'll paste it in below. The drift is that DCCCC *closes* at 5:30 – the doors lock and the teachers go off duty. You have to be IN and OUT by 5:30. If you arrive after 5:30, we're glad to see you and certainly aren't going to lecture. Late happens. If the door was locked when you arrived, you'll get a late pick-up charge on your next bill. If you arrive before 5:30, but leave after 5:30 the teacher should be giving you some gentle guidance. That's where I come in with my inimitably helpful remarks like, "We close in only three minutes. Amaze me with how quickly you can get ready!" We close on Dartmouth College time by the way. The clocks are notoriously unreliable.

Best,

Big Jeff

[http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dcccc/docs/familyhandbookcomplete\\_9\\_2013.pdf](http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dcccc/docs/familyhandbookcomplete_9_2013.pdf)

DCCCC closes promptly at 5:30. Parents leaving the building after 5:30 are subject to a late pick-up charge. Once you have checked your child out for the day please keep him/her with you. Siblings must stay with their parents and may not be left to play independently in the building or on the grounds. If you are visiting with your child and his/her teacher in the classroom or on the playground, your child may be confused about which behavioral guidelines apply: home rules or Center rules. Testing behavior is not uncommon. You can help by reassuring your child that Center rules still apply. To make it easier for parents to encourage their children out of the building in the afternoon, the multi closes at 5:00. Please do not stop to play or visit in the multi after 5:00.

Dear Big Jeff,

What's the best way to help a child who is too shy to say hi? I'm thinking, in particular, of those times when a grown-up acquaintance approaches to say hello to my four-year old and asks friendly questions like, "What did you do this summer?" I can tell my child wants to shrink away and avoid the interaction. Often the grown-up doesn't notice (or tries to be helpful) and continues to try to engage the child. Should I prompt my child to reply to the grown-up (for the sake of learning good manners) or should I speak for my child and let him off the hook? Is it time for a pep talk with my child to teach basic greetings and ways to reply?

Thanks!

He Gets It From His Father

Dear Un-shy,

Like most child development questions, the answer depends! When it comes to relationships and social customs, every situation really is different. Good communication requires recognizing the social factors at play and the ability to respond accordingly. That's a pretty big job for someone who has only been talking in recent years.

Ask yourself, "What works?" If a gentle reminder to say hello helps draw your child out – Right on! If such a reminder makes your child more reticent – Move on! A good rule of thumb is how YOU would feel if your mother reminded you to behave in a certain way. There's a pretty good chance that a "Say hello" prompt would make you embarrassed and LESS likely to perform on cue. You might even be mad!

Actually your child may not know how to respond. Even if he knows that returning a greeting is a social expectation, he may not be able to access the language when he feels uncomfortable or unsure. Seen this way, the scene provides an opportunity to learn. You might bring up the issue with your child at a quiet moment. You might begin by saying, "I noticed that it was hard for you to answer Mr. Williams' question about your summer vacation. What was that like for you?" If your child is able to answer that question, you'll get some good insights about how to help. Try practicing some scenarios with your child. The less pedantic the better. You might role play with his stuffed animals or you might have some funny "What would you say if..." conversations at the dinner table.

And, you know what? Your child has years in which to work on this skill. Don't be too hard on him or on yourself.

What did YOU do on your summer vacation?  
Big Jeff

# Goldilocks and the Three Bears

## - DCCCCC Style



**Sharing Talents**