

# March & April 2024

Executive Director's Corner by  
Theresa Marshall



JANESVILLE  
COMMUNITY DAY CARE  
CENTER, INC.  
A UNITED WAY AGENCY

United Way Blackhawk Region Funded Partner

Janesville Community Day Care Center Inc. is pleased to receive a community investment award of \$83,000 for United Way Blackhawk Region Funded Scholarships. This is a 24-month grant cycle from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. The funds we receive will be used to provide scholarships for families who show a documented need for assistance.

Not only do these funds provide direct support to struggling families, but provide funds so all children can attend field trips. Special events and field trips are an essential component in learning. All children will be given the same opportunity to attend a trip regardless of their family's ability to pay the trip fee.

Thank you, United Way Blackhawk Region!



United Way  
Blackhawk Region  
Funded Partner

## Tuition Rates 2024

The Board is very sensitive to each family's financial situation; however, the Center's own day-to-day costs and operating expenses continue to increase. This year there will be a \$2.00 tuition increase per day. The Absenteeism Policy will remain the same with 5 free days per child per year to use at your discretion. When your 5 free days are used, you will be charged your daily rate for absent days.

Effective: March 4, 2024

<u>Hours of</u> <u>Child Care</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Tuition</u>	<u>Hours of</u> <u>Child Care</u>	<u>Daily</u> <u>Tuition</u>
2	19.00	7	44.00
3	22.00	8	45.00
4	34.00	9	46.00
5	38.00	10	47.00
6	39.00	11/12	48.00

The Annual fee will increase to \$40.00 per year per child. This fee will be charged to your account on your anniversary date of enrollment and can be included in your tuition payment. The transportation fee will increase to \$15.00 per week per child for busing between the Center and Schools via Van Galder Bus Company.

If the fees and tuition costs are difficult for your family budget to absorb, we encourage you to inquire about our Scholarship Program. The United Way Blackhawk Region has made funds available for families needing help meeting our fees and tuition payments. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (608) 752-8035 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other matter.

Janesville Community Day Care Center, Inc., now in its 55<sup>th</sup> year, continues to provide quality programs for our community and children. I'm sure that I speak for everyone at Janesville Community Day Care Center, Inc. when I say how much we continue to appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your family. We remain dedicated to the children for whom we care and the community we serve.

Theresa Marshall  
Executive Director

Director

Julie Hertel

Summer Enrollment forms will be going out in March. These will need to be returned by the due date to hold a spot for your child this summer. Note if your child will be off for the summer and returning in the fall. If your child will be returning in the fall, then I will plan September 1<sup>st</sup> as their return date.

Week of the Young Child April 8-12: Look out for some fun activities we will be doing during the Week of the Young Child. We will be celebrating children, parents, and staff throughout the week! We will be hosting a parent breakfast and a grandparent ice cream social. There will be fun dress-up days every day. We will be asking for donations for our prize basket raffle fundraiser. Raffle tickets will be on sale for .50 cents each throughout the week and the drawing will be on Friday. There will be lots of chances to win. We are looking forward to a fun week!

Household Size Income forms: In April keep a lookout for new USDA forms. It's that time of year again to update them. They will be due in early May. It is a USDA regulation that each child has a form turned in. If you have any questions regarding the form please call or come see me.

#### Reminders:

1. Per our center policy, if your child is going to be absent for the day or running late, you must notify the center before their scheduled time. The Dojo is a great way to send messages, however, if your child is scheduled in before 9:00 am, then please CALL the center to let us know they are going to be out or running late. I do not come in until 8:30 and I can't always check Dojo before then. If we don't receive notification within 30 minutes of their scheduled time, then we will call or Dojo you to make sure everything is OK. Thank you for keeping us informed! We greatly appreciate it!
2. It is also your responsibility as a parent to be sure that you bring your child all the way into their classroom when you drop them off and always keep them with you when you pick them up. It is unsafe for your child to be unattended. Please keep your children with you at all times when not in our care. Thank you for helping keep your children safe!

Have a great Spring!!

Julie Hertel ☺

Office Assistant

Megan Worthing

Upcoming Events: March / April

MARCH:

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> NO P4J  
Caterpillar Conferences

Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> NO P4J / NO SDJ  
Grasshopper Conferences

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> NO P4J / NO SDJ  
Butterfly Conferences

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Bumble Bee Conferences  
Dist. P4J Library Event

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Ladybug & Jitterbug Conferences

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> CLOSE 530pm – Staff Mtg.

Mon 18<sup>th</sup> - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> NO P4J / NO SDJ

Spring Break  
CENTER CLOSED – GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL:

Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> P4J Block Party  
CP/BF 1000-1130 GH 100-230

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> NO P4J / NO SDJ

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – Fri 12<sup>th</sup>



Mon 8<sup>th</sup> NO P4J  
Team Spirit Day Staff Appreciation Day

Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Costume Day

Wed 10<sup>th</sup> PJ's & Slippers Day  
815-845 Parent Breakfast Parent Appreciation Day

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Moustache Day  
Grandparent Appreciation Ice Cream Social  
1000-1030 Ladybugs / Jitterbugs  
1100-1130 Caterpillars / Butterflies  
230-300 Bumble Bees / Grasshoppers

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Excessive Accessories Day Child Appreciation Day

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Close 530pm – Staff Mtg.

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Library Visit Here

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Board Mtg. 530pm

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> P4J Spring Sings  
CP 930  
BF 1030  
GH 200

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> NO P4J / NO SDJ

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Library Visit – GH 100

<p>Ladybug</p> <p>Ms. Paula / Ms. Sara</p>
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We are so excited that spring is slowly on its way. We have some exciting things planned for March. We will be learning all about Dr. Seuss and all of his fun friends. We will also be



trying to catch a leprechaun in our very own classroom.

Fine motor skills will be our focus for the next couple of months. The themes of Wild & Crazy Fun Week, Bubble & Balloons, Science, and Spring will take us through these months.

Happy Birthday to all of our March and April friends. A special Thank You to the families who have donated various items to our classroom. It is extremely appreciated.

Bumble Bee

Ms. Cora / Ms. Jess

We are looking forward to spring and warmer weather! We will start the month of March by being scientists and doing all kinds of fun Science experiments as we learn about our physical world, life, health, and technology. Then we will explore Rabbits & Rainbows. March 19<sup>th</sup> is the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Spring so we will learn about how the weather changes in spring. At the end of March, we will do some planting as we learn about Flowers & Seeds.

April starts with a roar as we start Dinosaurs!! Can you pronounce those crazy names? Do you have a favorite dinosaur? The Week of the Young Child will be a Wild & Crazy Fun Week with lots of fun things happening. We will learn about the Life Cycles of plants, animals, and humans. Next, we will rocket into space as we become astronauts and explore the Solar System. We end March with a Bubbles & Unicorns theme. We all love unicorns.



Jitterbug

Ms. Rose

Our Winter Season is slowly coming to an end, and I know we are all excited for warmer weather!! We will all be sending home the cold weather gear, but, it is nice to have boots for the spring to wear on the playground. I want to thank everyone for labeling their child's outdoor gear this winter!

Our Jitterbugs are working every day on their classroom manners, social skills, beginner writing, reading, and math skills. To encourage these skills, we keep a record of positive behavior and progress with our dojo points! The children all enjoy earning points to reach a prize. The prize is usually a slime-making party, this is their top choice!!

As we move from winter to spring our topics to cover in the classroom move from polar animals to warmer thoughts of Valentine's Day. We will be creating festive cards to exchange with friends and families, as well as decorating colorful cookies for the occasion.

Dr. Suess's birthday is March 2<sup>nd</sup>, and to celebrate the famous children's book author we will be reading many of his books and making crafts to complement them. I especially love the way he used rhyming words; rhyming will be a big focal point for that week's unit plan.

I am so excited for Spring; we will be focusing on our outdoor garden as well as growing sprouts in our indoor garden. If anyone has extra seeds, potting soil, small pots, or garden gloves for small hands we would always welcome the donations!

Walking Sticks

Ms. Rose

Remember to check your child's cubby daily, or as often as you can, for important notices and paperwork.

Please remember to check the lost and found bin for any lost items. Writing your child's name on the tag of their coats, hats, mittens, and boots is The best way to make sure you get your items back. As always, we are very pleased with the Walking Sticks' creativity and teamwork in the classroom and on the playground. The children love playing soccer, basketball, and gymnastics outside. They also love board games, using our many assorted building supplies, Legos, and reading and writing in the classroom.

Dragonfly

Ms. Abby

We are glad to have winter in our rearview mirrors and welcome spring. With the warmer weather coming in it is a good time to check your child's cubby and make sure they have the proper clothing for the season and the correct sizes. With springtime, we have a lot of fluctuating temperatures and dressing in layers works best as it is colder for morning recess and warmer by the afternoon.

We are kicking off March with Science Week. We will have fun being Jr. Scientists and conducting different experiments in class. We then move on to St. Patrick's Day. We may have to hunt around the building to see if we can capture the leprechaun. Hopefully, we will find some gold. Next up is a full week about spring and spring break. We'll learn about the changes and the reasons for them. March ends with a week of being paleontologists. This will include exploring to find fossils and learning all about the giant creatures of the past.

Starting off April we will continue learning about the many changes of spring. Next up, Flowers & Seeds, Crazy Fun Week. Week of the Young Child (Crazy Fun Week) will have lots of fun-themed days and fun activities. After we settle down from all the crazy fun we will focus on Life Cycles: Frogs, Plants, and Butterflies. During the week of Earth Day, we will learn about the different elements that make up the planet around us = Water, Wind, Fire, and Ice. Finishing up will be our week of Bubbles & Balloons. Fun experiments and art projects will be fun.

Our class is looking for donations of toothpaste & Kleenex. If you can provide any please bring them in.

Upcoming Dress Up Days:

3/17	Green Day	4/8	Spirit Day	4-11	Mustache Day
3/20	PJ Day	4/9	Costume Day	4-12	Excessive Accessories
3/26	Crazy Sock Day	4/10	PJ & Slippers		Day

P4J – Caterpillar/Butterfly/Grasshopper

Ms. Kailey / Ms. Alexia  
Ms. Wanda / Ms. Helen

For March we are finishing our unit on Restaurants. We will continue to talk about who works in a restaurant and different types of restaurants. During this time we are still going through the alphabet and spending a week learning each letter. March 6-8 we are holding our 2<sup>nd</sup> conference for the school year. We will be using SignUP Genius again so be sure to check your dojo, email, and cubbies for the code to sign up.

After we come back from Spring Break we are turning our attention to the Zoo. The centers include insects, farms, woodland, safari, desert, and ocean. April 8-12 we will celebrate Week of the Young Child. Be on the lookout for some fun dress-up days and family invite dates. Each P4J class is performing a Spring Sing on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Come in to listen to our beautiful voices.



Please keep checking cubbies, folders, Dojo, and email daily!  
Important Kindergarten letters, Conference Information, Family Food Invites, and Spring Sing information will ALL be sent out.

The Kitchen

Mr. John / Ms. Gabby

Goulash





2 TBSP Extra Virgin Olive Oil  
1 medium yellow onion, chopped  
2 cloves Garlic, finely chopped  
1 lb. Ground beef  
Kosher salt  
Freshly ground Black Pepper  
1 TBSP tomato paste  
1 -15oz. can diced tomatoes  
1 – 15oz. can tomato sauce  
1 ¼ cup low-sodium beef broth  
1 Tsp Italian seasoning  
1 Tsp Paprika  
1 ½ cups elbow macaroni  
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese  
Fresh chopped Parsley – for serving

#### Step 1

In a large skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion, and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened. About 7 minutes. Add garlic and cook, stirring about 1 minute more.

#### Step 2

Add ground beef, season with salt and pepper, and cook, breaking up with a spoon, until no longer pink. About 6 minutes. Drain fat.

#### Step 3

Add tomato paste and stir to coat, then pour in diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, and broth. Add Italian seasoning and paprika. Stir in macaroni. Bring to a simmer and cook, stirring occasionally, until pasta is tender. About 10-15 minutes.

#### Step 4

Stir in cheese until melted, season with salt and pepper if needed. Remove from heat and top with parsley.

Kitchen Short-Cuts

\*\*Keep counters clean with a baking sheet: Place all ingredients on an empty baking sheet before cooking as this will help you catch spills and avoid wasting time hunting for them.

\*\*use a countertop bowl for easy garbage. As you cook, toss scraps, egg shells, and other garbage in the large bowl. This will contain messes and save time if a trash can is not readily available.

\*\*Clean a blender without a sponge: fill it ½ full with warm water and a few drops of dishwashing liquid. Run for 10 seconds, rinse then dry.

\*\*Leftover Doritos? Smash a handful of chips, stuff them into a clean pepper mill, and grind away them on top of everything, from mac-n-cheese to broccoli.

Go Badgers!!

