



# COLE-HARRINGTON ELC'S



Cole-Harrington's  
Early Learning Center

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Issue 2

## Good News Gazette

### Dear Parents:

The Good News Gazette is brought to you by the staff of the Cole-Harrington Early Learning Center. In this issue we'd like to discuss staying healthy during this fall. *The following helpful hints and more is found on the center for Disease Control and prevention website: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/>*

- Regular cleaning (to remove dirt and food particles where microorganisms can grow) and then disinfecting (to kill germs) of household surfaces can dramatically reduce the spread of germs.
- Wash hands often with soap and water especially after a cough or sneeze.



*The CDC (Center for Disease Control) highly recommends vaccinating all children over 6 months of age!*

- Teach children to cover their nose and mouth with the crook of their arm in order to stop the spread of germs.
- Remind children not to touch their eyes, nose, or mouth to halt the spread of germs as well.
- Please keep your child at home if they are unwell so as to keep germs from spreading and to aid in restoring their own health.
- Please visit the following website for children under 6 month of age:  
[www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/infantcare.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/infantcare.htm)

### Teacher in the Spotlight: Craig Panock

Just in case you haven't met him yet, Mr. Craig is our lone, male staff member here at the Early Learning Center. Mr. Craig provides a positive male role model for children during the day at school. Craig's enthusiasm and creativity turns all outdoor activities into a new adventure!

Craig went to school at Alfred University in upstate New York and earned a degree in art and a minor in education. His goal was to become an art teacher and share his passion for the arts with a younger generation.

An opportunity arose for Craig to work in a Preschool classroom as a teaching assistant, and he took it. During this time he discovered that he really enjoyed working with children in the early years. They are almost always excited about school and learning. He could use art as a tool to reach them, and that is what he did. Craig became certified through the Department of Early Education & Care and uses his knowledge and background when planning lessons and activities.

Craig was hired by Cole-Harrington to teach the Preschool 2 class when the Early Learning Center opened, and helped to shape the rich atmosphere and structure that is present today. Craig has also taught an enrichment course on Photography at Cole-Harrington School Age Enrichment Program.

Craig cares about the children's interests, happiness and wellbeing. This is present in all his daily interactions, and we appreciate his dedication immensely!

### Comments from the children:

Maeve 4.10yrs: I love him because he plays memory with us.

Ruairi 4 yrs: I like Mr. Craig because he is strong.

Chloe 4.11 yrs.: I love it when he sits and eats lunch with us.

Leo 4.5 yrs.: I really like Mr. Craig, he is a nice teacher.

## Fun Songs to Sing in Autumn

- **Sung to:** "Farmer in the Dell"

The leaves are falling down  
The leaves are falling down  
Red, yellow, green, and brown  
The leaves are falling down

- **Sung to:** "Eensy Weensy Spider"

Once a little apple seed  
Was planted in the ground.  
Down came the raindrops  
Falling all around  
Out came the bright sun  
as bright as bright could be  
and the little apple seed  
Grew up to be an apple tree.



- **Sung to:** "I'm a little teapot"

I'm a silly scarecrow made of straw,  
Stand and waiting for the crows to caw.  
I stand in the field all day long  
Waiting and signing my song! head

- **Sung to:** "The Grand Old Duke of York"

Oh, the frisky little squirrel  
He gathers nuts and seeds.  
He hides them for the winter months  
So he'll have all he needs.  
Refrain:  
Oh, up-up-up he goes  
And down-down-down he comes.  
He runs around - goes up and down.  
His work is never done. (repeat refrain)

Source: [www.preschooleducation.com/sfall.shtml](http://www.preschooleducation.com/sfall.shtml)

## Check Out This Website

Children can learn about health and hygiene and become members of the Scrub Club(™) at [www.scrubclub.org](http://www.scrubclub.org). The site features a fun and educational animated Webisode with seven "soaper-heros" who battle nasty villains who represent germs and bacteria.



## Five Ways to Stimulate Brain Power in Your Child

Brain research demonstrates that there are definite effects parents and caregivers can have on a child's ability to learn. This brain research discovered that an infant is born with 100 billion nerve cells, or neurons. These neurons mature and join with others to control a variety of functions like hearing, seeing, and moving. When a child's brain lacks stimulation from birth, the neurons do not develop properly and may disappear. This can impair a child's ability to thrive and learn.

Leading child development experts including Angie Dorrell, Director of Curriculum for La Petite Academy discovered that there are five things parents and caregivers can do to stimulate children and aid in their healthy development. The following five things are related to what parents and caregivers probably already do instinctively:

1. Be warm, loving and responsive.

Children who are touched, rocked, talked to and smiled at, get along better with others and perform better in school than children who do not have a strong attachment.



2. Talk, read and sing with your child. When reading to older babies and toddlers get them to participate by pointing to what they see in a book or answering simple questions.

3. Encourage exploration and play in a safe way. Children learn through playing with blocks and puzzles. They gain experience participating in art activities and pretend play. These activities assist in the development of language, problem-solving skills, and mathematics skills.

4. The use of guidance and discipline is also an opportunity to educate. Parents and caregivers need to set limits that create learning opportunities rather than punishments. For example, tell your child what behavior is acceptable without harming their self esteem: "I like/love you, but I don't like/love what you're doing." Clear and positive communication is important: "feet on the floor please," not "Get off the chair."

5. Choose a quality child care environment and get involved whenever possible. Attend parent/teacher conferences and review progress reports and curriculum. Ensure all is in place to aid in children's curiosity, creativity and problem-solving skills.

Source: <http://www.kidsource.com>