# Premier Child Care Newsletter

<u>P</u>reparing <u>C</u>ollege-Bound <u>C</u>herubs



### **Highlights**

June is traditionally the month in which many school graduations are held. Premier Child Care Centers hold true to that tradition. Graduation is defined as an academic exercise in which diplomas are conferred. In addition, it signifies the successful completion of a program of study.

Premier Child Care graduates are experiencing their very first successful commencement exercise. Teachers and staff are extremely proud of the graduates' accomplishments. Soon they will embark upon the world of public or private formal education. They leave behind the very sheltered world of preschool to experience a broader outside academic life. Indeed, they have been given a proper (head start.) Many former students have returned to thank the staff at Premier Child Care for navigating them through those formative years.

Congratulations to all 2017 Premier Child Care Graduates!

#### Song of the Month

Land of Hope and Glory by Sir Edward Elgar

Land of hope and glory, mother of the free How shall we extol thee, who are born of thee? Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet Land of hope and glory, mother of the free How shall we extol thee, who are born of thee? Wider still and wider shall thy bounds be set God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet God, who made thee mighty, make thee mightier yet

(song to the music of Pomp and Circumstances)

## Front and Center

This month's Front and Center section is devoted entirely to a specific staff member, Ms. Latonja Brown from West Austin Center:

My name is LaTonja Brown. I am the mother of four children Wayne (24), Wade (22), and twins Danielle and Daniel (12). For the past twelve years, I have worked for Premier Child Care Centers. During that time, I have served in many capacities: from receptionist, computer teacher, classroom teacher and for the past nine and a half years as Director. Caring for and educating children is a passion that I have embraced. I remember being in high school and taking my little sister to and from Pill Hill when she was a child, who also later became a staff member at Premier Child Care, I started working for Premier Child Care Centers after returning from Bradley University and further studying at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

One of the many things that I appreciate about Premier Child Care, is that I have learned so much more than I had ever expected to learn. My evolvement in politics shifted because of the budget crisis in Illinois. Over the past few years, I have fought in Springfield, conducted press conferences, called out the Governor to answer our pleas, and even lain on the city streets of Chicago in order to be heard and respected.

Being a single mom challenges me in many ways, and trying to play the dual role of mother and father is indeed an arduous task. I am proud to say that my oldest, a graduate of Pill Hill, graduated from high school and one week later graduated from college, receiving his Associates degree in Network Engineering. My second son, a graduate of Near the Pier, has a blossoming career in the music industry. Finally my twins, also graduates of Near the Pier, are about to enter the eighth grade.

I am truly grateful for all that Premier Child Care has done for me and my family by allowing me to become the leader that I am today.

## Moments

**Pill Hill** - 2017 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Friday June 23, 2017 at 7:30pm at Robert A. Black Elementary School. Also Pill Hill is preparing for the start of Summer Camp and other summer programs.

Near the Pier – Did you know June was National Safety Month? We will use this month to raise awareness about important safety issues in preparation for an AWESOME summer. Also the 2017 Graduation Ceremony will be held on Friday June 9, 2017 at 1:30pm at Skinner West Classical School.

West Austin – has received a \$12,000 grant from Northside Community Church to fund each student a unique field trip experience, each week, to Chicago's iconic tourist attractions. Students will also have lunch with the donors to thank them personally for their contribution. The 2017 Graduation will be held on Saturday June 24, 2017 at 12:30pm at The Chicago High School of the Arts.

#### East Side - *Chicka, Chicka Boom Boom* -Showcase our Toddlers Room!

Dur toddlers are identifying their alphabets, shapes and colors! Also, we are super excited that Summer Fun is just days ahead! We will enjoy our summer to the max with wet and wild days, along with fun and adventurous field trips. Please stop by to register now. Furthermore, keep in mind that our Head Start Program operates during the summer as well and registration is still in progress. Now full speed ahead... destination summer fun!



#### Symbols of June

- Birthstone: Pearl
- Flower: Rose
- Zodiac signs: Gemini and Cancer