

August 2025

# Sandbox News



## Building Blocks Learning Academy's Newsletter

### Celebrating National Single Working Women's Day

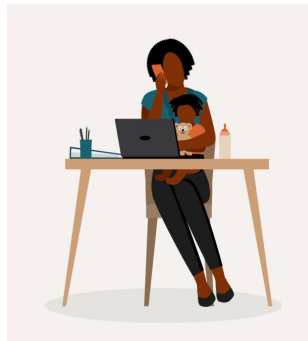
August 4th is a day dedicated to honoring single working women for their strength, independence, and hard work.

This August, Please join us in celebrating the dedicated, hard-working women of Chicago at the Black Women's Expo. The Black Women's Expo is the ideal event for all things that matter to the African American woman, and all working women, all weekend long!

Let's all celebrate **National Single Working Women's Day** by recognizing the amazing women who prove that strength and love come in many forms.

**August 1st & 2nd: 10AM-7PM**

**August 3rd: 11AM-6PM**



### Celebrating 20 Years of Love, Learning, and Laughter!

This year marks a very special milestone for our daycare — **20 wonderful years** of nurturing young minds and supporting families in our community. What began as a small dream has grown into a vibrant place where children learn, grow, and thrive every single day.

Over the past two decades, we've had the joy of watching countless little ones take their first steps, make their first friends, and build



the foundation for a lifelong love of learning. We are beyond grateful for the families who have trusted us along the way and the amazing staff who have poured their hearts into our mission.

We invite you to join us in celebrating this exciting milestone at our **20-Year Anniversary Open House and Picnic Celebration**. It's our way of saying thank you for being part of our journey — past, present, and future!

## ~ WELCOMING THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR ~



### Welcome and Farewell: Passing the Torch to Our New Kindergarten Class

As one exciting chapter closes, another wonderful one begins here at **Building Blocks Learning Academy**! We are thrilled to welcome our new kindergarten students and their families to our school community. At the same time, we celebrate the graduating kindergarteners who are now ready to take their next big step into first grade at their new schools.

#### To our new kindergarten families:

Welcome! We are honored to partner with you as your child begins this important journey. Together, we will nurture their curiosity, celebrate their unique talents, and build a foundation for a lifelong love of learning.

#### To our graduating kindergarteners and their families:

Congratulations on a year full of achievements, growth, and wonderful memories! We are so proud of how far your children have come. We celebrate your journey and cheer you on as you embrace the adventures ahead.

As we pass the torch from one group of bright, eager learners to the next, we look forward to a year filled with joy, discovery, and community. Thank you for being part of our school family—past, present, and future.

With warmest wishes and excitement for the year ahead,

BBLA Staff & Teachers are glad to have you here!

# BACK TO SCHOOL, BACK TO FUN!

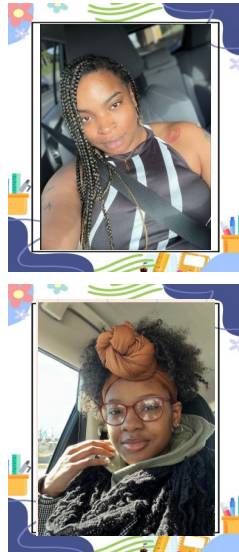
## REMINDER TO OUR PARENTS

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS INSIDE THE BUILDING BY **9AM.**

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT OUR CHILDREN ARE IN CLASS ON TIME EVERY DAY.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD BY NO LATER THAN **6 PM.**

FEES WILL APPLY TOWARDS LATE PICK UP.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Ms. Veronica leads our **Toddler Room**, where she's known for turning everyday moments into magical learning opportunities. Her favorite classroom activity is arts & crafts, and music & movement. With the help of her Teacher Assistant, Ms. Niajah, they create a wonderful safe space for their students to learn and play.

Both have a passion for helping and caring for children, and we appreciate the hard work they put into helping our students be the best version of themselves. Thank you, Ms. Veronica & Ms. Niajah. We appreciate your dedication in helping our students reach every milestone.

## What to Expect in Kindergarten This Year

Welcome to kindergarten—an exciting year full of growth, discovery, and first-time experiences! Our goal is to create a caring, engaging environment where your child can thrive socially, emotionally, and academically.

Here is what you can expect for your child this school year:

### Academic Foundations

- Learn letters, sounds, and sight words to begin reading
- Practice writing letters, names, and simple sentences
- Explore numbers, patterns, shapes, and basic math concepts
- Engage in hands-on activities that build problem-solving skills

### Social & Emotional Growth

- Make friends and work with others
- Express emotions in healthy ways
- Follow classroom routines and build independence
- Show kindness, empathy, and responsibility

### Creative Expression & Exploration

- Art, music, and movement activities
- Science and sensory exploration
- Storytelling and imaginative play

### Daily Routines & Structure

- Morning circle time and calendar activities
- Literacy and math centers
- Recess and snack/lunch time
- Specials (art, music, gym, etc.)
- Rest time

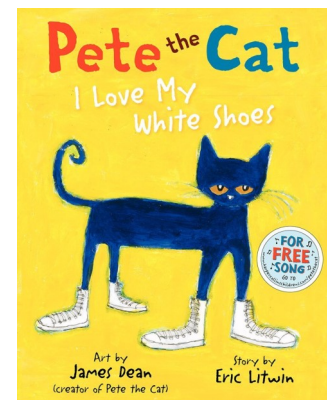
### Family Involvement

- Regular communication from teachers
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Opportunities to volunteer or participate in classroom events

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

PETE THE CAT: I LOVE MY WHITE SHOES

BY JAMES DEAN & ERIC LITWIN



## KINDERGARTEN KORNER

Our first day back to school is August 18th! We expect our little learners will be shining bright in their school colors — **yellow polo tops and navy blue bottoms!**



# BACK TO SCHOOL, BACK TO FUN!

## Important Dates

August 1st: Tuition is Due

August 1st-3rd: Black Women Expo

August 4th: Professional Development Day (**SCHOOL CLOSED**)

August 6th: Tuition is Late

August 8th: 20 Year Anniversary Celebration

August 15th: Field Trip—Kite Flying Picnic at Foster Ave Beach

August 16th: Back to School Bash

August 18th: First Day of School!

August 18th—22nd: SPIRIT WEEK

## SCHOOLHOUSE REMINDERS

Please ensure that your child//children have at least three pairs of clothing for accidents, diapers, wipes and formula (if it applies).

Also, please ensure that all phone numbers and addresses must be current so families can be contacted in the case of an emergency.

## WORD OF THE MONTH:

### GENTLE

**Definition:** Being soft or careful when you touch or do something.

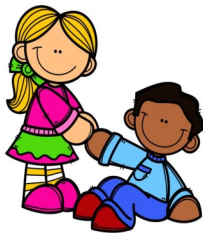
**Example:** “I was gentle when I held the baby chick.”

### **Why it's a great word:**

It teaches kids to think about *how* they act—not just what they do. “Gentle” encourages care, empathy, and self-control.

### **Try it this week:**

- Practice gentle hands during play-time.
- Use a gentle voice in the classroom.
- Notice when others are being gentle and give them a compliment!



## School Matters!

### Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

We want to remind you how important your role is in helping our future leaders succeed. Regular school attendance is one of the most critical factors in a student's academic success and overall development.

When students attend school consistently, they build strong routines, stay engaged with their learning, and form valuable relationships with their peers and teachers. Every day in the classroom is a step toward a brighter future.

Let's work together to make sure our children are present, prepared, and ready to grow.

Your support makes all the difference!

Thank you for being a vital part of our school community.



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**BUILDING BLOCKS  
LEARNING ACADEMY**

