

# ★ Bunnell House News ★

UAF Community and Technical College Early Childhood Lab School  
~ We nurture children and support families in a university lab setting.

## Lab School Calendar

**March 9-13: Closed**

Spring Break

**April 13-16**

Parent-Teacher  
Conferences

**April 24**

Spring Concert

**May 25: Closed**

Memorial Day

**June 1**

Summer Program Begins

**July 2 & 3: Closed**

Independence Day

**August 17-21: Closed**

Fall Semester Prep

**August 24**

Fall Program Begins

## From Paige

My earliest memory is aged three,  
seeing sunlight on water and  
feeling it was really magical.  
~Miranda July

I'm ready for some warmer temperatures! I've been enjoying the increased daylight and I'm hopeful that March will bring us more beautiful sunshine and warmer days. Hopefully, by the end of the month we'll be splashing through slush and puddles. This is a good time to start thinking about water repellent gear for your little one—make sure they have it and that what they have still fits them so the melt doesn't catch you unprepared.

Bunnell House will be closed for Spring Break March 9-13. During this time we'll be working, but the program will be closed for children. See page 3 for what we'll be up to.

Finally, please remember to turn in your enrollment update form by March 6 *even if your child will not be here for summer or fall 2020.*

Here's to a sunny, warm, healthy,  
fun, productive month!

~Paige 

## Need to Reach Us?

Call 907-474-6393

♥ **Director**

Paige McLaughlin  
[pmclaughlin@alaska.edu](mailto:pmclaughlin@alaska.edu)

♥ **Upstairs Teachers**

Lead: Chasity Evano  
[cevano@alaska.edu](mailto:cevano@alaska.edu)  
Assist: Jenny Taylor  
[jmtaylor6@alaska.edu](mailto:jmtaylor6@alaska.edu)

♥ **Downstairs Teachers**

Lead: Pammmy Fowler  
[pdfowler@alaska.edu](mailto:pdfowler@alaska.edu)  
Assist: Alecia Finley  
[afinley5@alaska.edu](mailto:afinley5@alaska.edu)

♥ **Floating Assistant Teachers**

Connie Slater  
Emily Soen



## Enrollment Updates Due By March 6

Forms were emailed on February 24. Please read and complete the form carefully.

The information you provide is necessary to plan for summer and fall enrollment.

Thank you! ♦



## Preventing Illness

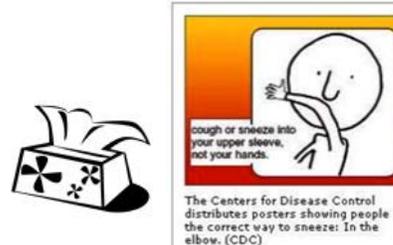
While COVID-19 virus is dominating the news, there are several preventative practices that can help you and your family avoid illness.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water; if not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you're sick, stay home, avoid close contact with others and cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.
- Regularly clean and sanitize surfaces subject to frequent contact, such as door knobs, telephone handsets and handles.

We follow these practices at Bunnell House and we'd like to remind you to please keep children home when they are sick. Help keep Bunnell House healthier for everyone! ♦

## Cold & Flu Season Health Tip:

Direct your coughs into the crook of your arm to inhibit germs from flying through the air or being transferred from your hand to other surfaces.



## It was an exciting day at Lab School...

- ★ We shoveled snow!
- ★ We baked cookies!
- ★ We played music!
- ★ We hosted a Valentine's Day Tea!
- ★ We welcomed new friends!
- ★ We navigated an obstacle course!
- ★ We met a musher!
- ★ We mushed our dogs in dramatic play!
- ★ We painted!

## Air Quality

We monitor both temperature and air quality and adjust or eliminate the children's outdoor time accordingly. ♦

## Phone In Absences: 474-6393

You may leave a voice message at any time. ♦



## Questions or Concerns?

About your child or the classroom, contact **your child's teacher**.  
About the program, billing, or vacation notification, contact **Paige**.  
Thank you! ♦



## Why Does the Lab School Close During Spring Break?

We close during the week of spring break in order to learn, clean, plan, arrange, and rejuvenate. Each area is important whether to keep us current with licensing, increase our knowledge and understanding of young children, improve our program, or to help us work better as a team. We are continually striving to provide not only high quality care for your children, but a rich learning environment for the university students who complete course requirements here.

Learning: We renew or complete required certifications (First Aid, CPR, Safety, and/or Food Handler) and participate in professional development that targets areas we want to strengthen.

Cleaning: We do seasonal, heavy duty cleaning such as scouring and scrubbing and sanitizing furniture, walls and equipment.

Planning: We meet to discuss future activities of Bunnell House as well as strategies to improve what we're doing.

Arranging: Teachers prepare their classrooms for the spring curriculum.

Rejuvenating: We spend time in group activities that help us relax, share a laugh and support one another.

During our spring break closure we'll be working to continue the high quality you expect from us. ♦



### Quote to Note

The prime purpose of being four is to enjoy being four - of secondary importance is to prepare for being five.

Jim Trelease,  
*The Read-Aloud Handbook*, 1985



### Cell Phones

Please end cell phone use before entering the building/playground.

Your child deserves your undivided attention and teachers may need to speak with you. ♦

## How to Ruin Children's Play

Reprinted from *ExchangeEveryDay*  
December 12, 2019

Peter Gray, PhD, in *Psychology Today* writes about how beautiful children's authentic play can be if adults don't ruin it by intervening too much. He provides detailed examples of when play works, explaining that "my words are poor substitutes for the actual scenes... There is nothing special about these examples; they are like play everywhere. What made them special to me is that I took the time just to watch and enjoy them, to look at them as some people listen to concerts or admire great paintings. I report on them here partly in an attempt to convey their beauty, but also to point out how adults might well have ruined them by supervising, praising, or in other ways intervening, as all too often happens today."

Karen Stephens included a similar message in her article, "Imaginative Play During Childhood: Required for Reaching Full Potential,"...She writes: "Pressures to get children ready for academic, intellectually-focused learning and standardized testing has caused many early childhood programs to abandon scheduling adequate time for free, imaginative play. Play has been squeezed out for an array of reasons... Sometimes it's due to insufficient or outdated staff training and lack of staff's continued education to keep up on current knowledge."

But make no mistake. Abundant research has shown that play during early childhood is necessary if humans are to reach their full potential. For children, and in fact, for society's well-being, true play is a critical need, not a fanciful frill."

Source: "[How to Ruin Children's Play: Supervise, Praise, Intervene](#)," by Peter Gray, PhD., *Psychology Today*, January 14, 2009



### Fee Payment

Fees may be paid by credit card, check, or money order. A new credit card authorization form must be completed each month. Forms are located at the check-in station at the back of the gray payment box. Payments go into the locked box which is checked daily until all payments for the month are received. ♦

### Late Pick Up Fees

Bunnell House hours:7:30-5:30

Late pick up fees are \$5 per minute. Fees will be added to your account based on the time recorded when you check out your child on Procare. ♦

### Monthly Fees

MTWRF \$985  
MWF \$615 (summer only)  
TR \$410 (summer only)  
Late Pick up—\$5/minute

Fees are due by the 10th of each month. A late fee of 10% of the account balance will be added after the 10th. ♦

**Note: Your balance due will appear at the bottom of your Procure check-in screen.**

### Tax Time

**Our EIN (Tax ID Number):  
92-6000-147**

