

Learning + Fun!



The curriculum of MCC's new kindergarten will mirror many of the aspects of area school systems.

Full-Day Kindergarten Program Opening in the Fall

Middlesex County College will begin offering a kindergarten class this fall. The program, which will run from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., will supplement MCC's existing child care program for those 2 ½ to 6 years old.

"Many of our parents expressed a desire for us to open a kindergarten class," said Mary Jo Tivenan-Mackintosh, the Child Care director. "The area public schools offer half-day kindergarten, so this is a real need for working parents."

The curriculum of MCC's program will align with New Jersey's kindergarten standards

and mirror many of the aspects of the local systems, which will make the transition to first grade easier. MCC's kindergarten will use the enVisionMATH program and the Creative Curriculum, which is currently taught in the Child Care Center.

"It will be a balanced kindergarten classroom, with hands-on learning in areas such as literacy and math," she said. "Being on a college campus, we can offer a unique perspective. The kids visit the College Bookstore, MCC's dental students do presentations on oral hygiene, the Sign Language Club reads stories and explains how to sign

certain words, and we have student groups who read to the kids."

Ms. Tivenan-Mackintosh said the class will consist of 15 to 17 children.

"A certified teacher and aide will be in the classroom at all times," she said.

The cost is \$975 per month, with lunch and a snack included. Before and after care will be available for an additional fee. For more information, please call 732-906-2542.

"I'm really looking forward to starting this program," Ms. Tivenan-Mackintosh said. "It'll be a wonderful, creative atmosphere in which to learn and grow."

Camp Middlesex Open House Set for March 6 from 1-4 p.m.

MCC will hold an Open House for parents and children interested in attending Camp Middlesex this summer. The camp, located on campus, is for kids 6 to 18 years old. It runs from June 27-August 19.

The Open House, at which prospective campers and their parents can meet camp instructors, learn about all the programs and register, will be Sunday, March 6 from 1-4 p.m. in Crabiell Hall. A raffle will be held for a

\$100 gift certificate toward camp. Bring the kids to enjoy demonstrations and light refreshments.

Camp Middlesex is actually many special interest camps. Campers can pick their activity from a list of dozens, including theater, robotics, chess, magic, sports, video game creation, art, cooking, fashion, computers, and many more.

Each session runs for one week, mornings or afternoons, from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. Most kids pick two camps for a full-day experience. There is also a pre-camp option starting at 7:30 a.m. and an after-camp program that runs until 6 p.m. to accommodate working parents.

Most programs are \$175 per half-day camp.

“Parents love the variety of programs,” said Elaine Berlin, the Camp Middlesex coordinator. “They tell me ‘Who else offers theater, painting, sports, science and cooking, all in one place?’ This is a great option for working parents who want their children to be doing something fun and fulfilling. It’s affordable, and all our instructors are certified classroom teachers who care about each child. We have a full-time nurse should the need arise. Plus, the classrooms are air-conditioned and the campus is beautiful. It’s a wonderful experience.”

For a brochure that details all the camps, or for more information, call 732-906-2556 or visit www.middlesexcc.edu/camp.



Professor Emanuel di Pasquale signed copies and read passages from his new book, “Natural Love and the Unnatural Attacks Against It” in February at the Bookstore.

THIS MONTH AT MIDDLESEX

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Notables

Phalguni Ghosh, associate chairperson of Natural Sciences, will be a presenter at the NJEDge.net yearly conference of best practices at Stevens Institute of Technology on March 23.

He will present the topic “Chemical Research Program in the Development of Second Year STEM Students.”

His proposal was chosen from nearly 70 applications.

Hoops Star Named MCC Sportswoman of the Year

Kaitlyn Johnsen was one of 14 female student-athletes honored as Women of the Year at the National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration. One woman from 14 of New Jersey's community colleges was honored at the ceremony February 7 at Seton Hall University.

Along with the New Jersey Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women and "The Star Ledger," the 30th annual, statewide celebration of "National Girls and Women in Sports Day" celebration theme was Leading the Way! The recipients were honored in a room full of hundreds of



The women's basketball coach, Michel Powell, left, with MCC's Woman of the Year, Kaitlyn Johnsen.

athletic administrators, coaches, athletes, parents and supporters. The collegiate athletes were also recognized at halftime of the Seton Hall Women's Basketball game. The event also honored women from high schools and four-year colleges and universities.

"Kaitlyn is a wonderful student-athlete," said Carey Monkowski, MCC's assistant athletic director. "She's an outstanding student, as well as a great teammate and a team leader."

Ms. Johnsen plays soccer, basketball and softball; she was named All Region and All Conference in soccer.

Professor Shirley Watchtel signed copies of her novel, "The Music Makers," following a reading at the Bookstore in February. "The Music Makers" follows the lives of two families in upstate New York, examining their relationships and exploring the struggles of life. She signs a copy of the book for her colleague, Professor Daniel Zimmerman.



Students, faculty and staff in the Nursing Program participated in the "National Wear Red Day" campaign on Friday, February 26, promoted by the American Heart Association and the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute. They were asked to wear red on that day, since red is a color that stands out. Everyone was given a Heart Health Information Packet and asked to share it with someone they knew who could benefit from it. This was a wonderful community outreach activity.

Pink Night Scores Big Win for Cancer Charity

“Pink Night,” a program in which the Middlesex County College and Ocean County College basketball teams supported Breast Cancer Awareness, was held at Middlesex on February 2. The men’s and women’s teams from

both schools wore special warm-up t-shirts and members of the women’s team organized a bake sale and collected donations for cancer research. The program was part of “Pink Zone,” a national effort to raise awareness

and funds, organized by the Women’s Basketball Coaches Association. The effort raised \$524, which was donated to Peppermints & Ginger, an organization that provides comfort kits to chemotherapy patients. The Middlesex women won the first contest 82-73 and the Middlesex men took the nightcap 67-52. The women are now 24-3 overall, 19-2 in Region 19. They won the first round of the Region 19 Tournament and are now in the Final Four. The men’s team finished 15-14 overall and 15-11 in the Region.



Before the women’s game, two-time cancer survivor Diane Edmonds officiated at a ceremonial tipoff. She is tossing the ball, and is flanked by Middlesex forward Caitlin Norek, left, and Ocean County College’s April Szymczyk. In background, from left: Middlesex Assistant Coach Jo-Ann Zwiebel, Head Coach Michel Powell, President Joann La Perla-Morales, Ocean Assistant Coach Thomas Westen and Ocean Athletic Director Ilene Cohen.



Ziykara Hicks



Brian Gay