

Quality Team Newsletter



April & May 2026

In our newsletters, the Quality Team is pleased to provide activities and ideas in the spirit of celebrating young learners and their families. We hope you will take some time to get to know us, and reach out with any questions about the services we provide to Mercer County child care providers and the families they serve.

Department Spotlight

In this issue, we're proud to introduce the Fiscal Unit. This unit oversees the Electronic Child Care (ECC) system for Mercer County and coordinates the reimbursement to providers for child care services to subsidy-eligible families.

Staff assists families and providers with the recording of attendance and resolving payment issues as they arise. The Fiscal Unit helps ensure that families receive uninterrupted child care assistance and that public funds are used appropriately and transparently.

Any questions? Call the Fiscal Unit at 609-989-9010.



Resources



May is National Bicycle Safety Month! Now that the weather is warmer, don't forget to check your family's helmets to ensure they are in good condition and fit properly. Nationwide Children's Hospital shares helpful reminders to make sure your child's helmet is ready for all their adventures!

A properly fitting helmet should:

- Have a snug fit and not move from side to side as your child moves
- Sit flat on top of the head, about two finger-widths above the eyebrows (with the forehead fully covered)
- Have straps that form a "V" below the ears and are not too loose
- Allow one or two fingers to fit under the chin strap

Tip: Your child should be able to open their mouth wide when the strap is buckled.

Additionally, helmets should be worn on any wheeled toy including scooters, skateboards, tricycles, and more.





Small Hands, Big Hearts



In communities across the country, the Week of the Young Child™ will be celebrated from April 11 to April 17, 2026. This week is made up of themed days like “Music Monday” and “Tasty Tuesday,” but the true purpose is to honor all things early childhood and the village it takes to raise a happy, healthy child.

We appreciate our children for reminding us how to be curious. When a child builds a skyscraper out of blocks or discovers a ladybug on the playground, adults are reminded that the world is an exciting place filled with possibilities. Every scribble, question, or shared toy is a milestone in the making. Here’s to the resilience, laughter, and spark children bring to our lives every day!

Behind every thriving child is a caregiver who shows up with patience, snacks, and endless encouragement. To our parents, teachers, and child care providers-- thank you for providing:

The safety that allows children to take risks.
The language that helps them express their feelings.
The love that builds their confidence.

The work of a caregiver is often physically exhausting and emotionally demanding, yet it is perhaps the most important work there is.

A simple "thank you" to a teacher or a distraction-free moment of play with a child can make a world of difference. Let’s continue to invest in the youngest members of our community and the people who care for them.

Happy Week of the Young Child™!

thank you



Recipe

Rice Cake Flowers

INGREDIENTS:

- Rice cakes
- Cream cheese or yogurt
- A variety of sliced fruits

DIRECTIONS:

Spread cream cheese or yogurt on the rice cake. Place fruit on top in flower shapes. (Example: kiwi in the middle with strawberry petals.)

Another option: Use hummus with sliced veggies for flowers.

Holidays/Special Celebrations

April



April 1-9: Passover

April 5: Easter

April 11-17: Week of the Young Child

April 22: Earth Day

May

thank you

May 4-8: Teacher Appreciation Week

May 5: Cinco de Mayo

May 8: Provider Appreciation Day

May 10: Mother’s Day

May 25: Memorial Day

Community Events



TRENTON Free Public Library

120 Academy Street, Trenton

April

Egg Decorating

Decorate an egg for Easter in the Children's Room.

5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

YOU'RE INVITED TO
HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP'S
CULTURAL FESTIVAL

Hopewell Township and Culture Connections invite you to the 3rd Annual Cultural Festival! Celebrate our community's rich diversity with an afternoon full of exciting performances, delicious food from local food trucks, and unique items from a variety of vendors.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026

When: 11am - 2pm
Where: Woolsey Park (221 Washington Crossing Pennington Rd., Titusville, NJ)

Want to get involved? Email us at recreation@hopewelltp.org!



Celebrate the arrival of spring at Terhune Orchards' Bunny Trail

25+ activities including a bubble show, farm animals, wagon rides, and more!

330 Cold Soil Road, Princeton

April 4 & 5

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.



May 16, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Main Street, Pennington, NJ

Puzzle Corner



Questions
or
comments?

Contact us at:
609-989-7940

or

training@ccc-nj.org

