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# Uxbridge Extended Day

A program of the Uxbridge Public Schools  
Kindergarten Kid's Club, Taft Kid's Club and Whitin EXTRA  
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## Monthly Report –September 2007

Angeles Baldanza, Director

### Overview of Activities for September and Summer

- Summer Fun Program ran from June 18<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>
- Program was closed July 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> and August 13<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>
- Summer Field Trips June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>. Destinations included Breezy Acres, Higgins Armory, the Butterfly Place, Worcester Foothills Theatre, Acton Explore and Discover Museum and a whale watch on Captain John's Boats in Plymouth.
- All Before and After school programs started on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school.
- Program was open on September 31<sup>st</sup> (no school day) and closed on Labor Day
- Program was open on September 14<sup>th</sup> (PD day). Field trip apple-picking at the Stowe Orchards.
- Staff Meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup>.

### Program Activities

- At Taft Kid's Club the staff welcomed the new and rather large groups of children by orienting them to their school. During the first week of school the children did a playground treasure hunt to become familiar with the new equipment in the playground. The children are mapping out the layout of the school, including all the classrooms and work spaces so that they will be more at "home" in this setting. They have extended that activity to mapping out their homes and where they are located in Uxbridge. They took a walk to the canal and they have been cooking from recipes in the Taft School Cookbook. They continue to review the school "Golden Rules. This week is Positive Attitude week at Taft and we are compiling a list of positive actions taken by the children so we can load them on the "Brain Train" that's traveling on the right track on our board.
- At the Whitin EXTRA Program, Sue Sullivan has been working with the children on cooking and developing a community service project. The children are actually putting together a cookbook. The children are learning calligraphy and are acquiring some new music skills, thanks to a very talented student in the program. A strong emphasis is put on homework assignments. Although there is a lot of

homework this year, there is still room for a little outdoor activity and social skills building.

- The Kindergarten childcare staff is learning more about the new children in the classroom, working on integrating the few preschoolers that join them a few days a week and generally helping the children grow familiar with the transition from school to child care. Classroom rules and regulations are reviewed along with daily schedule and children are practicing the new procedures. The children are reviewing the changes in the fall season and are enjoying the hands-on work with leaves, acorns and varied seasonal flora.

**Professional Development:**

- All daycare staff participated in professional development days on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. We reviewed promising practices and established assignments and reviewed guidelines of quality care.
- Every Staff Meeting we will be working on a different area of appropriate practice so we can put together a new staff handbook..

**Upcoming Events:**

- October 18<sup>th</sup> is “Lights on Afterschool” day. We will be hosting a dinner for our families and local officials. There will be handouts related to afterschool time and also to the programs we offer at the Uxbridge Public Schools. There will be a slideshow presentation running and we all hope to have a good time.
- On Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 13 staff members will attend the annual NEDDS conference held in Wayland, MA. Charlie Applestein will be the keynote speaker. NEDDS is a Network of Extended Day Directors and all the workshops are germane to the kind of issues affecting Public School run childcare programs.
- On October 5<sup>th</sup> (PD day) the Extended Day Program will be open at the Taft School for all programs. We will be going on two field trips. The Kids Playground in Woburn for the younger children and the Monster mini golf center in Webster for the older children.