

# Friendship Social Skills Group

**A Class for Building Language, Play Skills, and Connection with Peers**

**Does your child need more structured positive social experiences?**

We are excited to offer something new at Mandala for our students who need some extra coaching in socialization and communication. Many children in our program would benefit from more individualized support in these areas.

Our new Friendship Social Skills Groups will work on fostering positive relationships and building these skills:

- Interacting confidently with peers
- Conversational language  
(entering into conversation, turn-taking, staying on topic)
- Social play
- Self-regulation
- Flexible thinking
- Personal space awareness
- Problem-solving
- Motor and sensory development



**This fall, we will begin offering two one-hour classes in 8-week sessions. Classes will be from 1:00-2:00 p.m. on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons.**

**SOCIAL SKILLS**  
*refers to the skills needed to engage with a peer in reciprocal social interactions and interpret social situations using both verbal and nonverbal language.*

*-Laurie Leventhal-Belfer  
Creator of The Friends' Program at CHC*

Ms. Penny and Ms. Veronica will be the two teacher-facilitators in the class. The class will also be supported by a mental health and an occupational therapy consultant. Every session will have a play-based theme with activities to enhance social and language skills. We will also include a parent education component to the class so that parents can work on building the same skills at home.

The cost will be \$280 for 8-weeks. Payments may be made monthly. Parents may enroll their child in continuing sessions throughout the year or choose just one session. Class size is limited to 4-6 children per class. If you have a child you think could benefit from this specialized friendship class, call the office

(251-8633) or come in to register. Space is very limited, and we know that spots will fill quickly.

**Friendship Class Schedule - 8 week sessions - \$280 per session - Register in the Office**

Session I: Sept. 14 - Nov. 4, 2010

Session II: Nov. 9 - Dec. 9, 2010 (Thanksgiving week and Christmas break) and Jan.4-27, 2011.

Session III: Feb. 1 - March 24, 2011

Session IV: March 29 - May 26, 2011 (one week Spring break)

**Want to know more? Call 251-8633**

Talk to Anne Kangas, our licensed clinical social worker, or Ms. Penny or Ms. Veronica if you have any questions. You may also want to ask your child's teacher if she thinks your child could benefit from this extra support.

**Mandala continues its commitment to find new and better ways of supporting our children and families.**