

DECEMBER 2025

HCPC CONNECTIONS

HARNETT COUNTY PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN



MERRY CHRISTMAS, FRIENDS!

The holiday season is here, and we're excited to provide more ways families can learn, play, and make special memories together. December is a wonderful time to see how much our little ones have grown and enjoy moments with the people who help them thrive.

Our Family Support programs, Ready to Grow Playgroups, Circle of Parents, and Zumbini, are ready for more fun, connection, and smiles. We're also looking forward to Little Lights, our annual celebration of the children and families who make our community shine. It's one of our favorite traditions, and we can't bear to imagine the year without it!

We hope this season brings cozy moments, giggles, and warm, fuzzy feelings. Thanks for being part of our HCPC family—we can't wait for all the fun ahead!



HCPC MISSION:

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for young children and families in Harnett County through community based programs focusing on health, education, and family support.

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@HarnettCountyPartnershipForChildren



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on YouTube @harnettcountypartnershipfo9443

A SEASON OF LIGHT & HOPE

Grateful for all who champion early learning and lift our community.

Warmest wishes for a season filled with joy.

-HCPC



HCPC STAFF:

Tara Fish, Executive Director

Janine Bogwicz, Community Outreach Coordinator

Jordan Ellis, Family Support Specialist

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Ashleigh Goss, Early Childhood Program Specialist

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Melanie Jacobson, Early Childhood Program Specialist

Carmen Martell, Lead Family Support Specialist

Kim Polinski, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Lynda Turlington, Early Childhood Program Coordinator

Lena West, NC Pre-K Program Support Specialist

Katie Willoughby, Family Support Specialist



170 Pine State St, Lillington, NC 27546 / 910-893-2344 / www.harnettsmartstart.org

December

 - Cameron Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

 - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

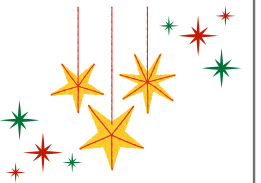
 - Erwin Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

 - Open Play  - Zumbini

 - Lillington Ready to Grow Playgroup (RTG)

 - Circle of Parents (COP)

SUN. MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SAT.

	1 9am - 10:30am: RTG (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: RTG (Lillington) 10am - 11:30am: RTG (Erwin)	2	3	4 LITTLE LIGHTS 5-6pm & 6:30-7:30pm 	5 	6
7	8 9am - 10:30am: RTG (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: RTG (Lillington) 10am - 11:30am: RTG (Erwin)	9 9:30am: COP (Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (YMCA)	10 9:30am: COP (Erwin) 10am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	11 9:30am: COP (Lillington)	12 9am -10:30am: Open Play (Lillington) 11am -12:30pm: Open Play (Lillington)	13
14	15 9am - 10:30am: RTG (Lillington) 11am - 12:30pm: RTG (Lillington) 10am - 11:30am: RTG w/ Zumbini (Erwin) 	16 9:30am: COP (Lillington) 1:30pm - 3pm: RTG (YMCA)	17 9:30am: COP (Erwin) 10am - 11:30am: RTG (Lillington)	18 	19	20
21 	22	23	24	25 Merry Christmas 	26	27
	29 	30	31 New Year's Eve 			



Cameron RTG Group:
107 Carletta Cagle Dr,
Cameron

Erwin COP & RTG Groups:
494 Antioch Church Rd,
Dunn

Lillington COP & RTG Groups:
170 Pine State St,
Lillington



Gift of Giving Event

THANKS

Tuesday thru Sunday
December 2-7, 2025

Gift of Giving Ornament

This beautifully designed exclusive metal art ornament is the first to commemorate a tradition of giving at Jernigan's.



Buy

Our Annual Gift of Giving ornament

Only \$5.99

(Reg. \$12.99)

Save

20% OFF

storewide with purchase of ornament*

Give!

Proceeds from your ornament purchase will be

donated to our local **charity!**



Proceeds from the sale of our Gift of Giving ornament will be donated to charity! Our benefactor will be Harnett County Partnership for Children.

*Percent discount taken off regular prices and cannot be combined with any other offer, discount or promotion. The annual gift of giving ornament is excluded. Other restrictions may apply, see store for details. Offer valid December 2-7, 2025.



Circle of Parents

Círculo de Padres



Parenting is joyful, but can also present difficulties and challenges.

Es una dicha ser padres, pero también presenta dificultades y desafíos.

Feel empowered, supported, and strengthened as you attend weekly Circle of Parents meetings. Join other Harnett County parents/caregivers at our Circle of Parents group.

Siéntase empoderado, apoyado y fortalecido mientras asiste a las reuniones semanales del Círculo de Padres. Únase a otros padres/proveedor de cuidados del Condado de Harnett en nuestro grupo de Círculo de Padres.

circle of parents®
Sharing Ideas. Sharing Support.



- TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS @ 9:30AM - 11AM
LOCATION: 170 PINE STATE ST, LILLINGTON
- WEDNESDAYS @ 9:30AM - 11AM
LOCATION: 494 ANTIOCH CHURCH RD, ERWIN

To register, email familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org or call 910-893-2344.

Para registrarse, envíe un correo electrónico a familysupport@harnettsmartstart.org o llame al 910-893-2344.

GROW ON THE GO

PLAY, LEARN, AND GROW TOGETHER



Grow on the Go is a mobile play unit offering play and learn opportunities for Harnett County families with children between the ages of birth to five years old. Registration is not required - simply find us at our designated location for Pop Up & Play fun!

DECEMBER SCHEDULE:

The Grow on the Go Playmobile is getting a much needed rest during the month of December. Stay tuned for January dates and locations!





READY TO GROW

GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

Ready to Grow Playgroup facilitates developmentally appropriate playgroups for children and caregivers who reside in Harnett County. Eligible children must be between the ages of birth through 5 years old. Playgroup facilitators use Kaleidoscope Play & Learn Curriculum to provide hands on activities that focus on early literacy and social emotional competency. Caregivers learn about the purpose of play and will connect with other parents during group time. Children and caregivers will participate in coordinated group activities to prepare the children for success in school.

El Grupo de Juegos Listo para Crecer tendrán sus reuniones en persona en Lillington. Las familias del condado de Harnett, que tengan niños recién nacidos hasta 5 años de edad, son bienvenidos a participar. Las familias tendrán la oportunidad de aprender y jugar con otras familias en persona.

Cameron Playgroup: Tuesdays @ 1:30pm - 3pm

Cameron Grupo: Todos los martes de 1:30pm - 3pm

Erwin Playgroup: Mondays @ 10am - 11:30am

Erwin Grupo: Todos los lunes a las 10am - 11:30am

Lillington Playgroup: Mondays @ 9am - 10:30am OR 11am - 12:30pm; Wednesdays @ 10am - 11:30am

Lillington Grupo: Lunes de 9am a 10:30 o de 11am a 12:30pm; miércoles de 10am a 11:30pm



zumbini®

with Ms. Katie!

Registration
NOT Required!

- **December 15th / 10am - 10:30**
494 Antioch Church Rd, Dunn



GRUPO DE JUEGOS LISTO PARA CRECER

TEMA DEL MES:

Elegir Alimentos Saludables



LOS CUIDADORES APRENDERÁN:

- Acerca de MyPlate, una guía de nutrición publicada por el gobierno de EE. UU. (y que reemplaza a la Pirámide Alimenticia).
- Cómo utilizar MyPlate para hacer elecciones alimenticias más saludables para niños pequeños, para ellos mismos y el resto de sus familias.



MENSAJES CLAVE:

Durante la visita de bienestar del niño:

- MyPlate es una guía útil para planificar comidas saludables tanto para adultos como para niños.
- MyPlate nos anima a:
 - Comer una variedad de alimentos, con énfasis en aquellos que nos mantienen saludables.
 - Disfrutar nuestras comidas y comer porciones razonables.

LIBROS RECOMENDADOS:



- Chicka Chicka, 1,2,3 by Bill Martin Jr., Michael Sampson, Lois Ehlert
- Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christelow
- Let's Go Visiting by Sue William

READY TO GROW PLAYGROUP

THEME OF THE MONTH:

Choosing Healthy Foods



CAREGIVERS WILL LEARN:

- About MyPlate, a nutrition guide put out by the US government (and which replaces the Food Pyramid).
- How to use MyPlate to make healthier food choices for young children, themselves and the rest of their families.

KEY MESSAGES:

During a well child's visit:



- MyPlate is a helpful guide to plan healthy meals for both adults and children.
- MyPlate encourages us to:
 - Eat a variety of foods, with an emphasis on food that keeps us healthy.
 - Enjoy our meals and eat reasonable portions.



BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Chicka Chicka, 1,2,3 by Bill Martin Jr., Michael Sampson, Lois Ehlert
- Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christelow
- Let's Go Visiting by Sue William

THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT MEMORIES, 2025! ♥



HAPPY NEW YEAR! ✨