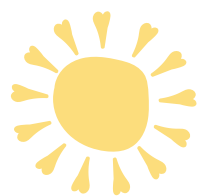


Newsletter

Monthly News Letter
Issue No. 9 (April 2026)



April Highlight: Welcoming Spring at the Belle Center!



"Spring adds new life and new beauty to all that is." — Jessica Harrelson

As the season shifts, we want to take a moment to wish all of our Belle Center families a wonderful and vibrant spring. Whether your family is looking forward to more time at the park, starting a backyard garden, or simply enjoying the extra hour of evening sunlight, we hope this season brings you plenty of opportunities for rest and connection. Our community is at its best when our families are thriving, and we are so grateful to be part of your journey this year.



RESOURCES AND UPDATES

April Closures

Apr 3 - Good Friday

Pantry Open

Apr 3, 10, 17, and 24



Must Bring ID and ID for everyone in your household

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Childcare Lead Teachers **Scan to apply!**
CDA or Certification
- Childcare Assistant Teachers
- Youth Counselors
- Lifeguards



SAVE THE DATE: BELLE CENTER BLOCK PARTY

Get your sunglasses ready and mark your calendars!

We're taking over the street for a day of music, food, and neighborhood magic. Whether you've have been apart of The Belle Center for decades or just recently, this party is for you.

More details will be coming soon! We can't wait to celebrate our vibrant community with all of you.

Saturday, August 1, 2026
The Belle Center
104 Maryland Street Buffalo, NY 14201

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DAY CARE

April Adventures!

Spring has officially sprung, and our classrooms are buzzing with the energy of a new season. April is going to be a month of growth, discovery, and maybe just a little bit of mud. Here is what we have blooming this month:

April Activities

2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt (April 2)

- We will be hosting our annual Easter Egg Hunt. We've heard rumors that a certain bunny might be leaving some treats behind. We can't wait to see the kids' faces!

STEAM Spotlight: Little Gardeners

- This month, our Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) focus is all about Gardening and Planting.
- The children will become "Junior Botanists" as we explore the life cycle of a flower.

Fun Fact: Did you know plants "eat" sunlight? We'll be explaining the basics of photosynthesis in a way our little learners can understand!

Spring Arts & Crafts: Wonders & New Beginnings

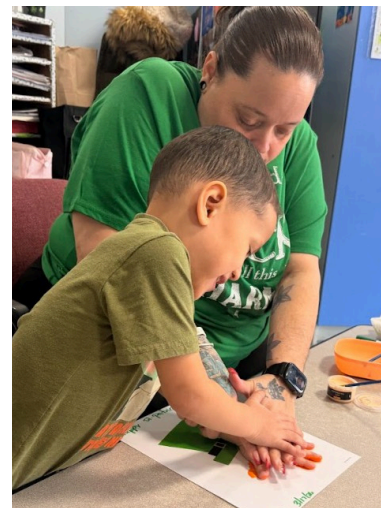
- As the season shifts, we will move toward the wonders of nature and new beginnings. We are focusing on the transition from the quiet of winter to the vibrant "awakening" of the world outside. Our walls will be a hub of transformation this month!

NOTE TO FAMILIES

A Note on Spring Weather

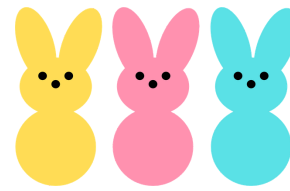
As the old saying goes: "April showers bring May flowers." It also brings a lot of puddles! The weather this month can be unpredictable. Please ensure your child has:

- **Layers:** A light jacket or sweater for chilly mornings.
- **Rain Gear:** Waterproof boots and a raincoat for outdoor play.
- **Extra Clothes:** Please check your child's cubby to ensure they have a full change of spring-appropriate clothes (including socks!) in case they get a bit too enthusiastic about a mud puddle.



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OUT OF SCHOOL TIME PROGRAM

April at the Belle Center Afterschool Program

Spring is in full bloom at the Belle Center, and April is packed with exciting, hands-on experiences that bring learning to life! Our youth will continue exploring themes of growth, change, and discovery through engaging STEM challenges, active games, and memorable seasonal celebrations.

April Activities

Butterfly Release Celebration

We're excited to kick off the month by celebrating the completion of our Caterpillar Adoption Project! During the first week of April, our youth will release the butterflies they have carefully observed and cared for throughout their life cycle journey. Students will reflect on what they've learned, share their observations, and take part in a special release moment as the butterflies take flight. This meaningful experience highlights patience, responsibility, and the beauty of transformation.

Easter Egg Hunt – Easter Monday Fun!

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Monday, bringing lots of excitement and energy to the program! Youth will participate in a structured, interactive hunt filled with surprises, movement challenges, and teamwork-based fun. It's a festive way to celebrate the season while keeping all children engaged and included.

Daily Fun: Structured Activity Fillers

Throughout the month, we'll keep the energy high with quick, structured activities that are perfect for transitions and group engagement, including:

- Bunny hop relays
- Spring freeze dance
- Egg spoon races
- Find the hidden chick game

These activities help build teamwork, coordination, and positive social interactions while keeping kids active and having fun.

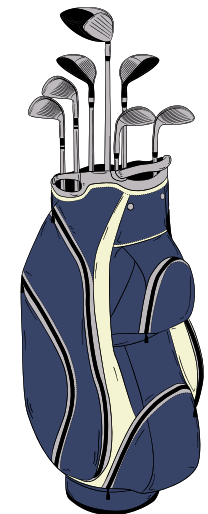
Pool Reopening – Get Ready to Swim!

We are happy to share that our pool renovations are complete, and the pool will officially be reopening this month!

Youth will have the opportunity to participate in supervised swim time as part of our programming. Please remember to pack

- Swimsuits/Goggles
- Towels
- Change of clothes
- Plastic bag for wet items

We appreciate your help in making sure your child is prepared to safely enjoy this exciting addition to our program!



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Program Updates



SENIORS

A Daily Dose of Joy: Where Friendship and Fellowship Meet

A Week of Connection and Creativity

From Monday through Friday, our participants (aged 58+) gather for meaningful socialization and fellowship. We believe every moment is an opportunity for connection, and our daily schedule reflects that:

- Amazing Makers: Our seniors are truly talented artists! From intricate crafts to collaborative projects, their creativity is a highlight of our program.
- Active Exploration: Whether it's a friendly round of Bingo, local field trips, or engaging recreational activities, we stay moving and motivated.
- Lifelong Fellowship: Our daily gatherings provide a consistent space for neighbors to become family.
- A central cornerstone of our program is the Erie County Congregate Dining Program. Each day, our group enjoys a delicious and nutritious lunch together. This shared meal ensures that every participant leaves feeling nourished, valued, and deeply connected to their community.

Interested in joining? We have applications available at our front desk.

DONATE TO THE BELLE CENTER

The Belle Center is dedicated to providing innovative educational, social, and community-building services for children, seniors, and families across Western New York.

To continue this vital work, we rely on the generosity of community-minded individuals and businesses. Your support is the engine behind our impact, without you, we could not serve our neighbors each year.

Every donation makes a difference, regardless of size. We thank you for your kindness and for investing in the future of our community.

A SMALL
DONATION
MAKES A
DIFFERENCE



EVENING PROGRAM

Looking for a place to stay fit, build skills, and hang out? Our free Evening Program is open to all young adults. Join us Monday through Friday, 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM, for sports and fitness!

Weekly Sports Schedule (Ages 13 - 24)

- Mondays & Fridays: Volleyball (Ages 13–24)
- Tuesdays & Wednesdays: Basketball (Ages 13–17)
- Thursdays: Basketball (Ages 18 - 24)

Fitness & Training (Ages 17 - 24)

Our Weight Room and Cardio Room are open every night, Monday through Friday, for those looking to focus on personal fitness and strength.

Ready to join? Stop by the front desk to pick up and submit your application today!

