



February 2009

Dear Parents,

January certainly brought us some winter weather. We re-created that frigid feeling by ice-skating during music and movement class today. Yes, I said “Ice-skated.” I gave each child two brown lunch bags. They placed them on the floor and then stepped on them. It requires quite a bit of concentration to put just enough pressure to keep the “skates” under your feet and still slide across the room. The children became quite adept in this new skill. Some children were able to skate backwards and forwards, from side to side, and some adventurous few were able to spin around on one foot and land on both skates. The lovely melody of “The Skater’s Waltz” propelled us across the floor. I highly recommend this activity to you. If you have hardwood floors, just use a pair of stockings. (There’s the added benefit of polishing your floor). Be sure to put on a pair of skates yourself, although you might need a larger bag. Your heart will be pumping as you give your legs and thighs a great workout. Another great “bad weather day” activity is to stage an indoor snow ball fight. Use wadded up pieces of paper or scarves and let them fly!

It was great to see so many of you at Parent Participation Music Days on January 12th and 26th. I strongly urge you to continue singing and dancing with your child. Singing and dancing with your child is such an intimate experience. It’s so important for them to hear “live” music and having your mom or dad sing to you forges a heart connection as well. Children learn to sing by hearing someone who loves them sing to them, just as children learn to read by being read to by someone who loves them. If you’re not comfortable singing with your child, choose recorded music that features simple vocals of children’s songs. I would recommend the Wee Sing series because the melodies are clearly identifiable and are sung in a pitch that young children can match. Singing to your child in the carpool line will make the time fly by.

On March 2nd and 4th the children will make Kazoos as part of our make-and-take-an instrument days. We’ll use those paper towel tubes you sent in earlier in the year. We’ll place a piece of waxed paper at one end of the tube and secure it with a rubber band. The children will cover the rest of the tube with colored masking tape. After that just place the open end on your lips and hum!! Singing a melody using “two” in lieu of the words produces enough air to make the waxed paper vibrate and create the unique “kazoo” sound. I’ll need parents to help staff these special music days. Please fill out the attached form if you are willing and able to help us out. These classes will make their kazoos on Monday, March 2nd: Mrs. Lorenz (AM), Mrs. Occhiuzzo, Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Dravvorn and Mrs. Ogden. These classes will make their kazoos on Wednesday, March 4th: Mrs. Victorson, Mrs. Parente, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Wyckoff and Mrs. Lorenz (PM).

Happy Valentine’s Day,
Kathy Lundgren
Resource Teacher

Parent Volunteer Form:

Name: _____ Teacher: _____

I am available to help:

___ Monday, March 2nd: 9:40 – 11:30

___ Monday, March 2nd: 1:25 – 2:30 PM

___ Wednesday, March 4th: 9:20 – 11:00

___ Wednesday, March 4th: 1:00 – 2:15 PM

Circle of Friends

Friends, friends, the more that we know.
The bigger and better our circle will grow.
Don't stop with just one, more friends are more fun.
Keep building our circle of friends.

Each girl and boy go find a friend
that adds to our circle that has no end.
Each friend that we bring will widen our ring
and add to our circle of friends, friends.

The game begins with two children forming a circle during the first verse. During the second verse, each child in the circle chooses another child to join them. The game continues until all the children are included in the circle of friends.

Magic Penny

Love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

It's just like a magic penny,
Hold it tight and you won't have any.
Lend it, spend it, and you'll have so many,
They'll roll all over the floor, for:

Love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You'll end up having more.

Playmate

Say, say oh playmate,
Come out and play with me.
And bring your dollies three
Climb up my apple tree.

Cry down my rain barrel,
Slide down my cellar door.
And we'll be jolly friends forever more,
More, more.
(Children can substitute other toys)

The Corner Grocery Store

There was cheese, cheese, walkin' on its knees,
at the store, at the store.
There was cheese, cheese, walkin' on its knees,
at the corner grocery store.

Refrain: My eyes are dim, I can not see,
I have not brought my specs with me.
I have not brought my specs with me.

There were plums, plums, twiddling their thumbs...

There was corn, corn, blowin' on a horn. . .

There were beans, beans, tryin' on some jeans . . .

Five Brown Buns

Five brown buns in the bakery shop.
Five brown buns with the sugar on top.
Along came (child's name) with a penny to pay.
He/she took one bun and ran away.

Four brown buns in the bakery shop.
Four brown buns with the sugar on top.
Along came (child's name) with a penny to pay.
He/she took one bun and ran away.

Continue until there are:
No brown buns in the bakery shop.
No brown buns with the sugar on top.
Along came (child's name) with a penny to pay.
He/she took one look and ran away.

A Tisket A Tasket

A tisket, a tasket, a green and yellow basket,
I wrote a letter to my love and on the way I
dropped it. I dropped it, I dropped it, yes, on the
way I dropped it.
A little girl (boy) picked it up and put in her
(his) pocket.

Motions: The groups sit in a circle. One child walks around the outside of the circle with a "letter." At the end of the second phrase, that child drops the "letter" behind some other child who picks up the letter and chases the first child around the circle. The first child tries to reach the gap in the circle before being caught. The second child carries the letter around as the game is repeated.