



Our Classroom News

February 2010

Dear Parents,

We hit the New Year running! The children seemed excited about being back at school and ready to work. Our daily routine provides a framework for your child to be independent and inter-dependent at the same time. Working on puzzles has become a team effort. All it takes is for one child to announce they need help with a puzzle, and a classmate steps right in. If a child forgets to sign-in or get their job sticker, there's always another child there to either get the tag, or remind the child to sign in. "Enforcing" a rule for another child is a step on the road to self-regulation, which is essential for a child's emotional and cognitive growth. We're working on delivering those reminders "in a kind way".

Speaking of teamwork: Thank you for making time for our Parent-Teacher Conferences. By putting our heads together we've formed a strong support for your child in these early growing and learning years. Thanks for all your input and valuable insights. I hope you also came away with a better understanding of your child and their skills and strengths.

Dr. Rebecca Sinclair (one of our day school moms) visited our class with her daughter Catherine. She gave Catherine a routine physical check-up and demonstrated all those doctor tools in her black bag. This demonstration gave the children much detail to add to their dramatic play. Role-choosing plans now include the question "Are you a doctor or a patient"? Applying Band-Aids to imaginary hurts became serious business as well as a great small-motor activity. Not only did some of the children require Band-Aids, many of our animals in the block center sported a Band aid or two. We had to explain to Mrs. Parente (the teacher who shares our room) why the animals suddenly had band aids all over them. We hope we didn't alarm any of you as your child headed to the car at carpool wearing a band aid on their forehead or arm.

Now onto Friendly February!

We hope to see all the dads and children on **February 16th for Dad's Night**. Please bring a flashlight. Weather permitting; we're hoping to go out to the playground at night. We'll need the flashlights to find our way. How will our playground look in the dark? Moms, please reserve Thursday, May 6th for a mother's morning. We'll send home more details as the time nears.

We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday, February 11th. We'll exchange valentine greeting cards with our classmates. On that day please send in 18 valentines for your child to pass on to their classmates. Have them sign their name on the card. **DO NOT WRITE ANY NAMES ON THE OUTSIDE ENVELOPE.** We'll line up the valentine bags (with each child's name card clipped on the front as the address) and have the children deliver their greetings one to a bag. Please do not send in candy or goody bags. We're going to assemble a Friendly Fruit Salad for our special snack that day. The children will wash and slice a variety of fruits. We'll be polling the children ahead of time to make sure we include fruits they enjoy. Our friendly activities will extend throughout the month. We'll be drawing pictures of each other and making a book about what friends do and don't do.

Happy February!
Kathy and Stephanie



February Calendar of Events

Fruit of the Spirit: Goodness

Date:	Name of the Day	Parent Volunteer	Special
Feb. 2	Henry	Cherish Reale Bridget Higgins	Wear your T-shirt Day
Feb. 4	Jaelyn	Alicia Castaneda	
Feb. 9	Jamie	Beatta Errigo. Gary Haulmark	
Feb. 11	Joshua	Melanie Roberts Nicole Flynn	Valentine Exchange
Feb. 16	Kathleen	Mary Kotarski, Amy Haulmark	Dad's Night, 7 – 8 PM
Feb. 18	Levi	Kimberly Symolon	
Feb. 23	Max		
Feb. 25	Maya	Kathleen Parrish	
March 2			Teacher Workday – no school
March 4	Paulina	Jessica Williams	Wear your T-shirt Day

New Songs:

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 one in the middle go find a friend and add to our circle that has no end.
Each friend that we bring will widen our ring and add to our circle of friends

The 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.

Skidamarink

Skidamarink a dink a dink. Skidamarink a doo.
I love you, I love you.
Skidamarink a dink a dink, Skidamarink a doo.
I love you.
I love you in the morning and in the afternoon,
I love you in the evening and underneath the moon.

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)

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