



Infants

Happy February, everyone! We have enjoyed meeting new friends this past month and are quickly falling into a routine with everyone. We thank you all for your patience with us while we met each new friend and learned their routines and needs. We are already noticing a nice rhythm in our classroom.

We welcomed four new friends in our last newsletter, but as the month went on, we also gained one more – We’d like to officially extend a warm welcome to Oliver, Marcella’s (Todd II) brother! We would also like to wish our friend Owen a very happy first birthday on February 15th! We will miss his contagious smile but look forward to watching him thrive next door in the Wobbler Room.

Our theme this month is “Infant Love Bugs”, which is quite fitting not only for the month of Valentine’s Day, but also because we have such sweethearts in our room! We look forward to adding some hearts around the room, reading the children books that fall into the theme, and singing with them.

As mentioned, each month, we will be using several signs with the infants throughout the year to increase their communication skills, but will be focusing on one in particular each month. Our sign of the month this month is “eat.” We already use this one quite a bit with the children and they are clearly catching on quickly! We will tell the child it is time to eat or ask if they want to eat by signing and it is so fun to see their faces light up when they understand what we are communicating. If you are not aware of how to sign “eat,” please ask, and then use it at home with your child. They will pick up on these signs even faster when seeing them both at home and at school.

Please remember to label **the side of all** your child’s **bottles** with their **first and last name** and the **date**. Since we have so many new friends in our room, we want to get each of you started with a handful of new bottle labels. Please use these to get started on labeling your bottles. Simple masking tape tends to fall off, especially after the bottle has been warmed. These new labels also work well on tubes of diaper cream, food containers, and so on. They are dishwasher safe, freezer

safe, and microwave safe. We ordered them through Amazon, so if you find you need more, you can easily find them there. We will keep a copy of the label instructions posted in our room for your convenience.

As always, thank you for your support! We love having your beautiful children in class – they are such a joy.

Ms. Amy, Ms. Carol, and Hoa Hoa



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February Menu:
Lotsoftlc.org



Notes from Tina and Nancy

The short month of February is here. We have a lot of exciting things going on this month. The most exciting is that Ms. Tina is at the center and everyone is very happy to have her back. After all, it was hard to wait for those Alabama gummies!

Center Reminders:

- The center is closed Monday, February 18, 2019 for President's Day.
- Inclement Weather – the center follows the Olympia School District's closure policies. If in doubt listen to the radio – if the schools are closed, the center is closed. If the schools start 2 hours late, the center will start/open at 8:45 am, and breakfast is NOT served.
- Mark your calendars – on Friday, March 15, 2019, the center will be closed for Staff In-Service Training.

The ASQ questionnaire scores have been returned in a letter for each child. Please feel free to ask for a

conference if you have any questions or concerns you would like to have resolved. We can set a date and time that is convenient for you and your work schedule.

The center is going to be making staff changes during February. We have been looking at staff education, staff skill sets, staff requests and staff who are leaving employment. We found that this is a good time to look at, evaluate and make changes in classrooms. We know change can be unsettling for children. We will keep this in mind and prepare the children in order to make it as easy as possible for them as well as for you.

The first change involves Ms. Maddy Brown (support staff in Pre-K) having given notice to leave employment on February 1. We will move Ms. Sam from Pre-K to co-lead teacher with Ms. Stefany in Wobblers. Ms. Dung will shift from Wobblers to a Support Staff position. Ms. Shilpa will move to Pre-K and will be co-lead teacher with Shannon and run the afternoon program. We have hired a new employee, Kasondra Mancill, to be assistant teacher in the Todd II classroom.

We want to wish Ms. Maddy Brown the very best on her

new adventure in Germany. She has been dependable and has enjoyed working with all the children in the center.

Please welcome Ms. Kasondra Mancill to the 5C's team. Kasondra has been working in the child care field and she brings sunshine and enthusiasm to her work. She is completing the 30 Hour Basic Child Care training and is excited to start college classes in the spring. Kasondra's start date will be Monday, February 11, 2019.

We are wishing each of you a very Happy Valentine's Day. Thank you for your trust and kindness. We truly enjoy having your child(ren) at the center.

Ms. Tina and Ms. Nancy

Wobblers

Dear Parents,

Here is to the upcoming month of February, a time when we are given the opportunity to show the children how much we care and appreciate them! This month we will learn about the themes of forest animals, transportation, and Valentine's Day.

February is great month to work with the wobblers on their social and emotional development. We are going

to specifically be working on listening with our ears, using gentle touches with our hands, and using our mouth for words and food only. The wobblers will be exploring the heart shape and the color red. For each of our themes; forest animals, transportation, and Valentine's day, we will also be working on identifying, manipulating, and practicing new sounds and words, and introducing new materials to the wobblers.

We are welcoming Owen from the infant room this February. We are very excited to celebrate this valentine's month with everyone!



Ms. Stefany and Ms. Dung

Todd I

It is February, the month of love and all those Ooey-gooney feelings. Along with Love and Kindness, Valentine's Day and Transportation, another weekly theme will be Ooey-gooney fun (sense of touch.) Before Valentine's, we want to talk about who we love and how we show that we care about someone. We

may be working on a big project, but it'll be a surprise. On Friday the 15th, we will be having a party and we invite any family members that would like to come; there will be yummy snacks, dancing, and a photo booth! We will put reminders on the door that week. For our ooey-gooney week, we plan to get messy with art, play time and perhaps even snack time. (We will use smocks to the best of our ability.) We will finish the month looking at different types of transportation through books, art, toys and props.

Our shape of focus is the heart and our colors to explore are pink, purple and red.

We have 3 birthdays this month, Ellis on the 4th, and both Michael and Justin on the 7th; all friends will be turning 2 years old.

Hope you can make it to our party!

Ms. Cassey and Ms. Thol!



Todd II

BOUNCY TIGGERS

January has blown by! Literally! We haven't had many opportunities to play outside, but the children have quite enjoyed the times we did make it out. We always try to get them out every chance we get. Children had a blast playing with dinosaurs in January. They like to make the dinosaurs "ROAR" and pretend they are eating different things in the room, or chase the other dinosaurs and have a dinosaur picnic. We have added more dinosaurs to the room to allow for more dinosaur pretend play. We have also added some dinosaur puzzles and books. The children have really enjoyed digging dinosaur's fossils out of sand in the sensory table and playing with new kinetic play sand with dinosaurs and castle molds which they use for pretend play. The colors of last month were blue, white, and silver with exploring snowflakes. We learned all about snow and snowflakes. Children loved playing with cotton balls in sensory bin pretending to be snow and made lots of different projects.

Hello February! Love is in the air. This month we have a lot of celebrating to do! Will spring come sooner or later? We are excited to find out! The unanimous classroom vote was for spring to come early.

The first thing we are going to discuss this month is Groundhog's Day and we will create some fun shadow art. Then we celebrate Chinese New Year. After that comes our unit on Love to celebrate Valentine's Day. We will discuss all of things that we love and how they are special to us. Then we celebrate President's Day. We will also explore some ideas around "Caring and Sharing." We will be encouraging the children to communicate with their friends by using their words during their play interactions. We are also going to work on manners such as saying "please" and "thank-you." We will have Valentine's Day party on February 14 @ 3p.m. in our classroom; we will be posting a treat request sheet prior to the festivities, so stay tuned for more information. The colors of this month are red, pink, and purple with exploring heart shapes.

Please remember to always have proper outdoor clothing

and extra indoor clothing for your child every day.

Thursday, Feb 14th – Valentine's Day Party (stay tuned for more info) Parents are invited to join in.
Friday, Feb 15th- Pajama Day

February Birthday

- Sebastian (Bass) Feb 28, 2016

Ms. Shilpa & Ms. Mandy



Staff Birthdays:

Charis 2-05
Hoa 2-09
Shilpa 2-19
Sam 2-28

Preschool

Welcome to February! We have one birthday this month: Lawson will be 4 on the 6th. Happy birthday Lawson!

This month there are several exciting things going on in preschool, but first, we'd like to highlight a few reminders.

We have a child in our class with a nut allergy. Please do not bring in or send with your child any products that contain nuts (peanuts or

peanut butter, cookies or candy w/ peanut butter, granola bars w/ nuts, etc.). Birthday treats are fine, but please make sure they are store bought and contain no nuts. Please let us, Tina or Nancy know if you have any questions.

Please take a moment to assess your child's extra clothes. We try to keep up letting you know what's needed, but many clothes are now out of season or too small. We do keep daycare clothes here at school for emergencies, but please take a look and restock if needed.

Please remember that toys from home need to stay at home. We have had a few issues with bringing toys and as much as the children want to show off their toys, it only causes them more stress when others think it is a classroom toy. We have a show and tell coming up this month; please see below for more details.

February is an exciting month in preschool! We will be learning about friendship, pets, and celebrating Valentine's Day. For friendship, Miss Steph and Miss Angela will be giving each child a heart every day with an encouraging message. Each child will receive 14 hearts. Please watch for these to come home and find a place to display them. We are

expecting these to be very important to children and would like to carry on the message of friendship at home. We will also be talking a lot about what it means to be a good friend to all.

During the week of February 11-15, we will be highlighting Valentine's Day. On Thursday the 14th, we will have a party during afternoon snack time (3:00 pm). It's not required, but you may choose to bring Valentines in for each child in class. Everyone will have a bag to take Valentines home.

We will also be discussing pets during this month. Our housekeeping area will be turned into a veterinarian's office and we will be learning how to take care of our pets, what kinds of pets there are, and our favorite kinds of pets. For show and tell, children can bring in a picture (photo or drawn) of their pet on Monday and/or Tuesday, Feb 4 & 5. If you do not have pets at home, feel free to ask a friend or relative for a picture. We love all pets! A reminder note will be sent home the previous week.

Finally, I, Ms. Angela will be gone for the first week of February for vacation. I will make sure the children know I will be gone, and I will look forward to seeing them on Monday, February 11.

We sure are looking forward to this exciting month! As always, please let us know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Ms. Angela, Ms. Stephanie, and Ms. Taylor



Center Closures:

Monday, February 18, 2019

President's Day



Pre-k

Winter Reflections

Hello everyone,

It was a month of growth in more ways than one in the Big Bear room as many of the children have sprouted a good half inch since we measured in September and most are now writing their first names if not their last. Your children have been playing and working hard and it shows. We used the overhead lights and our lantern to teach about

shadows, exploring their lengths and positions. We enjoyed a few games of shadow tag when the sun came out and rebuilt our sundial from last year using a compass to mark the north point and a bisected block to set the gnomon to 45 degrees. Our ultimate goal is to create a large shadow-casting space on the porch and see if our sundial will work there.

Last month the class also measured their heart rates by feeling the pulse in their carotid artery. Take a look outside our door to see your child's pulse... at choice time. This was not during outside play! I was surprised at how high they were, although kids' hearts tend to beat fast. The favorite theme of the month was hibernation, where we discussed which animals sleep as well as which ones migrate or estivate. We built a variety of burrows and dens from paper bag construction to large stacks of blocks. We also played a version of "Big Bear Tag" where all the little salmon swam past the big sleepy bear and tried not to wake her, but they DID wake her and that's when the fun began.

Please schedule your parent/child conference for the week of 11th – 13th

We also have ONE Big Bear birthday in February, Miss **Helen Smith** will turn five on the 27th. We allow our birthday stars to choose a movie for rest time or a special book that we can all share.

Just a reminder that we are working our way through the Alphabet Box and the Buddy Bear Book. Our Show and Tell (always a big hit) for February will be on the 21st and 22nd and we will post it on the door that week as well. Our themes are going to be dental health, valentines, famous people and Dr. Seuss. The state pursuit for the month is **SOCIAL STUDIES** so our puppet friends (from Second Step) will be working overtime. Friendship and inclusion will be points of emphasis, as they always seem to be.

We want to tell you what a joy it is teaching your children. They are SO SMART and curious and full of every good thing there is in the world. They have hearts of gold and spirits that shine like crystal disco balls hung from the sun. They are loyal to each other (and to you) and they are protective of each other in ways we could all learn from.

Thanks again for updating your child's EXTRA CLOTHING

supplies. The weather is warming up, but that doesn't mean the children will stop finding the wet spots outside. We like to keep them as comfortable as possible throughout the day and the spare items come in handy.

Please take a moment to say good-bye to Maddy as she will be moving to Germany this month. We will miss her patience and especially the MELTY BEADS! The kids loved making those with her.

Let's hope that glorified ground hog does NOT see his shadow,

Ms. Lori, Mrs. Sam, and

Ms. Shannon

