



Director's News

By Lesley Belanger

You Know they're special, so do we!

Greetings,

Happy February! We have really been lucky with warm days this season, but remember it's New England and we never know when we'll get snow! Please remember to bring in warm winter gear so you child can truly enjoy their outdoor time. While inside the children have been very busy experimenting with snow, ice, and water.

Below are some important reminders and updates that should help everyone stay aware of important information.

Love is in the Air ~ The month of February is sure to bring lots of fun and exciting activities! The children will celebrate Valentine's Day with their friends. The parties will take place on February 13th & 14th. Each classroom will have specific sign-up sheets posted on their classroom doors for those interested in donating supplies or snacks. Please remember to coordinate with the classroom teachers if you would like to sign up, so they can provide you with any special information regarding classroom allergies. Thank you in advance!

Community Helpers ~ Also, throughout the month of February, the classrooms will explore and discuss all the special people that work in our community. We are hoping to have visits from our local police department (in May), a postman, an EMT and a dental hygienist. We would also like to welcome any parents that would like to volunteer in sharing their profession with their child's classroom. Please setup a date and time that works best for all involved. The children love having their parents volunteer in their classrooms.

Home Toy Donations

First, we'd like to take a moment to say thank you to all the families that have made donations to the Center over the last several months and years. Your kindness in thinking of us first has not gone unnoticed. At this time we are unable to accept any additional toys/materials. Two wonderful foundations that accept donations and even schedule pickups at your house are Big Brother, Big Sister and Epilepsy Foundation. You can also find many, many more charities that offer pickup at www.donationtown.org.

February

2020

The Parent Connection

Important Dates

- * Valentine's Day parties – Sign-up sheets on classroom doors.
- * Our Center will be closed on Monday, 2/17 for President's Day.

Tax Information and Year End Totals are available in the front office. Feel free to stop by, call or email to request your information.

For all families that enrolled prior to September 2019 please see the information below.

Children's Files - Please stop by the office to review/update your child's file. Each year the Dept. of Early Education and Care (DEEC) requires our Center to have families review their child's information. Even if there are no changes we are required to have families initial off that the file has been reviewed. Please plan to take a minimum of 10 minutes to look everything over.

OFFICE REMINDERS:

When dropping off and/or picking up please do not leave vehicles running. This is for everyone's safety.

We love hearing from our families!

Infant 1

By Debbie S., Debbie G., and Angela S.

Hello February! Some of our old friends have moved on and we miss them already! We are happy to welcome our new friends Archer, Deaglan, and Roosevelt. We are very excited to get to know them better as they join our class.

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY MILESTONES

Devin – Enjoys practicing sitting up and using the musical toys. He has been excited to watch bubbles float around and tries to catch the balls on the mat. He loves “pat-a-cake” & “peek-a-boo” too.

Addison – Enjoys looking in the mirror and reaching for the jumping beans on the mat. She is trying hard to move around on the floor; going backwards too! She is doing better practicing sitting up as well.

Rachel – Enjoys relaxing in the swing playing with Scout the puppy or snuggling with the baby dolls. She also likes using the baby gym to hit and grab the hanging toys. She is moving herself around the floor too.

Archer – Enjoys using the baby gym! He is full of smiles while talking with his new caregivers as we get to know each other.

Deaglan – Enjoys reading stories with his caregivers and watching his new friends in the room!



Infant 2

By Courtney D., Tania C., & Marissa P.

Wow is time going by so quickly! We just celebrated the New Year and it's already February! The month of love! So far we had a fairly good winter with just enough snowstorms to come and go! How many more days until spring? This month we will be making Valentines for our families and sticky collages with hearts. We will also paint red paper to make into lanterns for Chinese New Year.

Our Monthly Milestones

Hadley ~ Hadley is crawling all over the room! She can pull herself up to stand and loves to babble to herself in the mirror!

Dante ~ Dante has lots of fun crawling through the tunnel and playing "peek-a-boo" with his friends!

Chloe ~ Chloe gets all giggly and gives big smiles when playing with her friends. She has been practicing to walk with her caregivers too!

Julian ~ Julian is one fun, busy little boy! He is always moving all around the classroom with a big smile on his face! He can now pull himself up and stand alone, which makes all of his caregivers smile!

Reminders

Our Center will be closed on Monday, February 17th for President's Day

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Chloe on the 15th and Hadley on the 25th! We hope you both have magical days.



Toddler 1A

By Michelle M. & Ashley B.

January was full of snow and cold weather! It was a fun month that went by very fast! The children loved being able to gear up in their snowsuits and play in the snow. We started the New Year by welcoming new friends in the classroom and everyone is having a blast so far! The children spent one week learning all about arctic animals. They made polar bear tracks in the snow with a toy animal. They made their own life size polar bear foot prints with their fist. We painted whale cut-outs and some of the new children found it interesting holding onto a paint brush to paint with, but soon got a hang of it.

The next week, we experimented with snow and ice in our classroom, even though our snow melted outside. We also painted with frozen paint. The children were laughing thinking they were pops. We painted with snowflakes since we missed the snow so much. This gave us the idea to have our very own snowball fight using cotton balls. We then learned about night time since it has been so dark outside of our windows by the end of the day. Then we made our starry night by gluing all different stars on black paper. The children got to explore bubble wrap to help us make a full moon prints. They also enjoyed coloring with chalk on black boots for snow. All of these fun new things to do art with! Lastly, but not least this month we learned all about Chinese New Year.

February is going to be another very busy month. We will learn all about the groundhog and his shadow, hearts and Valentine's Day, as well as learn about Jan Brett books. Our classroom parties will be 2/13/20 and 2/14/20. Every year we ask parents to bring in Valentine cards so that the children can exchange them with their friends. Keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets that will be posted on our classroom door to contribute to our parties.

Classroom Reminders:

- * Please make sure to send in appropriate winter gear for cold and snowy days. Everyone needs a warm coat, snow pants/snow suit, gloves/mittens, a hat, and boots!
- * We are closed February 17th for Presidents day



Toddler 1

By Beth S. and Sue R.

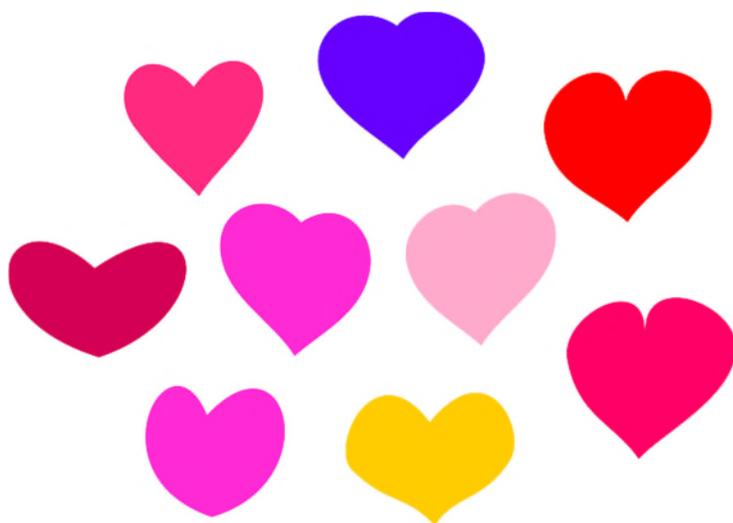
January brought more snow! The children are still exploring the snow indoors in our sensory table when we are unable to go outdoors because of the cold weather. We have been able to do lots of fun indoor gross motor activities to get our energy out when we stay indoors. Our favorite book was "The Mitten". All of our new friends are doing fabulous; they have all adjusted so very well.

This month is community helper's month! We ask that you keep an eye out for any visits with our friendly community helper's this month. With that we would like to invite any parent to come in and take with our class about your job and maybe read a book. Please let us know if you are interested in coming in. Our Valentine Day parties will be held on 2/13 and 2/14. Please help us make our parties a huge success by signing up once we have out sheets posted on our classroom door. During our party days we ask that you have your child wear Red or Pink to add to the fun!

Apart from all of this fun, we exchange Valentine cards with our friends. Please send the cards in with your child's name signed so we know who they are from. This way the children can pass out their own valentines! We will also celebrate Chinese New Year this month with a special parade!

Reminders:

✚ ***As a reminder we will be closed on February 17th for Presidents day!***



Toddler 2

By Jen T. and Canisha B.

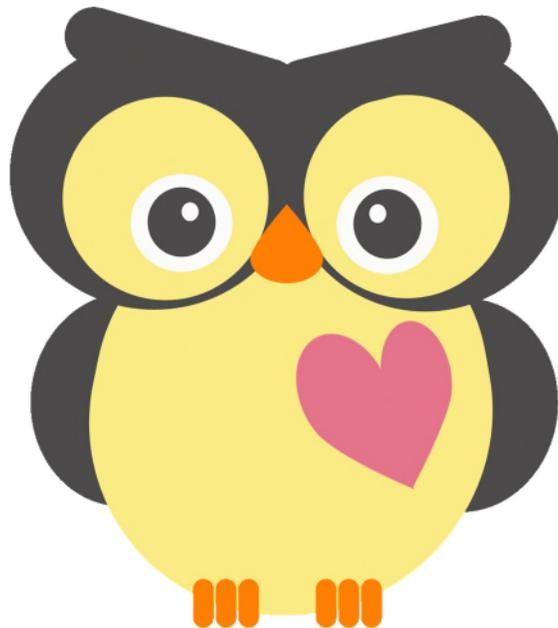
Happy February everyone! The New Year has started off great in our Toddler 2 classroom! Our new friends are all doing an amazing job. January was a busy month. We learned about helping others and being a good friend on observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day! We hope you all enjoyed our friendship quilt! This cold weather is giving everyone cabin fever; we kept things interesting and fun. The children enjoyed making snowflakes and snow angels. We tried a few different ways to melt the ice to free the toys that were frozen inside.

February has a lot in store for us! To help the children understand the importance of our community, we will be discussing community helpers. We plan to learn about police officers, doctors, dentists, and postal workers to name a few. We will also celebrate Valentine's Day this month. We will exchange valentines within the classroom and "mail" them to our friends. We will send home a class list of everyone's name soon. Also please keep an eye out for our part sign-up sheets. Any and all participation is greatly appreciated. Our parties will be held on 2/13 & 2/14! Please dress your child in red, pink, or purple on those days in honor of Valentine's Day to make it more festive.

Reminders:

Please make sure your child has the appropriate gear to play in the snow. They are not able to enjoy the snow without it!

 We are closed on February 17th for President's day!



Toddler 3

By Allison F. and Kathy M.

January has been an exciting month. All of our friends have seemed to adjust well after transition and are getting used to our schedule. This past month seems to have gone by so fast; it's crazy to think February is already here! We enjoyed celebrating our themes "Baby its Cold Outside", and "Winter Animals". We created many fun projects such as: winter hats, snowmen, snow covered trees, Chinese lanterns, penguins, and snowy owls. We certainly enjoyed this month.

February is "Community Helpers" month. We will learn all about the people that help our community thrive. Some of our themes this month will be "Working in our Community", and "Love is in the Air", "Dentists and Doctors", "Teachers and Coaches". We will learn about what makes these jobs so important. The second week in February we will focus on Valentine's Day. On February 13th and 14th we will have our Valentine's Day parties with our classmates! Please dress your child in red, white, or pink to help us celebrate. We will also be exchanging valentine cards with our classmates. Please provide your child with cards if you would like them to participate. We will be sending home a class list in advance! We are looking forward to a fun month ahead!

Reminders:

📅 Our Valentine's Day parties are on the 13th and 14th. Please dress your child in some fun colors and send in cards if you wish!

📅 Our Center is closed on 2/17 for President's day!



Preschool 1

By Karen F. and Janet J.

Finally February! Hello Preschool One families! January has come and gone, everyone seems to have settled into our Preschool routine. The children are making connections, staying busy, and active within our learning centers.

Last month, we created lots of icy and winter themed art, such as, melted snowmen, icicles, igloos, and even painting with frozen ice cube paint! Our class love to be creative with art. February is a short, but favorite month for Miss Karen. Some of our themes will include "Groundhogs & Hibernation", "I Heart You", and "Community Helpers". Valentine's Day is on a Friday this month. Keep an eye out for party sign-up sheets on our classroom door.

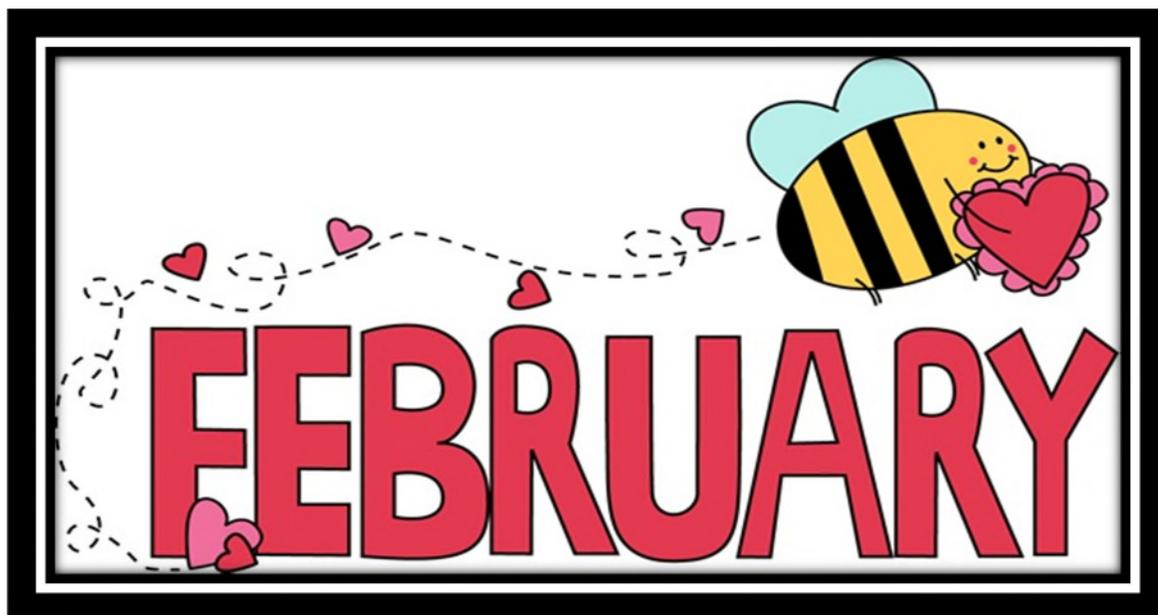
This month the skills we will continue to work on are sharing, cooperative play, sorting in different ways, fine and gross motor, as well as, general letter and number recognition. Everyone is eager and ready to learn; it's so exciting to see!

We want to wish Avir a very happy 3rd birthday on February 1st! You are getting so big!

Reminders:

- ✚ Our Center will be closed on Monday, February 17th for President's Day.
- ✚ Please send in a hat and gloves, plus extra if you are able too. They get wet in the snow and having extra helps us keep them warm!

Thank you and have a February February!



Preschool 2

By Sara A. and Lesley B.

January came and went in a wink of an eye. Our new year began in space - we made rockets that spelled our names, used shaving cream, and glue too. The end of the week landed us on a pile of books. We read many different stories, wrote a journal, made a colorful caterpillar, and practiced writing our names with markers.

Next, we learned a lot about life in the Arctic. We found out that walrus are the loudest arctic animals. All of our activities helped reinforce how to follow directions, use our listening skills, and how to solve problems. We also practiced holding the pencil, printing letters, and manipulating scissors.

We are sure to love the month of February! This month we will provide more opportunities to improve and practice our skills. We will also be learning new ones! We will be discussing Groundhog Day and what the holiday is all about. We will be working on learning opposites and exploring the world of shadows. This will bring us to the special week of Valentine's Day. Our parties will be on the 13th and 14th. Please watch the door for our party sign-up sheets. We will also have 2 weeks of discussing community helpers.

A special birthday shout out to – Jerry on 2/4, Jiagiao on 2/20, Nolan on 2/21, and Dylan on 2/25. We hope your day is extra special.

Reminders:

-  ***Please remember to label all of your child's belongings. This is especially important for snowsuits, coats, gloves/mittens and any other clothing item that may come in.***
-  ***Please remember to not only check your parent folder, but your child's folder too. They can fill up quickly!***
-  ***Our cubby baskets are shared – it is important that your child only have 1 of each hat, gloves/mitten, 1 set of clothes and a small sized stuffed animal.***
-  ***Our Valentine's Day parties are on the 13th and 14th. Feel free to wear your favorite V-day color or two!***
 -  ***Our Center is closed on Monday, February 17th for President's Day.***



Preschool 3

By Merilee D. & Lori X.

This was a month full of surprises! We said hello and welcome to some of our new friends who transitioned in from Preschool 2. We've been having a blast getting to know one another. This past month we learned about the Arctic and Antarctic. We discussed what animals live in each location, what the climates are like and so much more! We also went on a trip through the solar system; we were shooting on the moon, but landed on mars. Wrapped up the month discussing how cold it can get outside, locations of some of the coldest places on earth are, and how to dress during the winter.

Next month, we will be talking about community helpers, doctors, dentists, and even lawyers too. We will be learning all about the interesting and special jobs people have in our community. We will be wrapping up the month, not only celebrating Valentine's Day, but also learning about healthy habits, and Groundhogs Day!

General Reminders:

- ✚ Our Center will be closed on Monday, February 17th for President's Day.
- ✚ Please remember we go outside 3 times a day and all children need proper winter gear. Please also make sure the all clothing items have the child's name labelled on them.
- ✚ Winter is a tough season for sharing cubbies, as our items are quite large and take up so much space. We ask that backpacks either stay home or in your car. Your child is welcome to bring in a book or small sleepy toy each day.



Preschool 4

By Sucharita S.

Hello and welcome to February! We hope spring is right around the corner, but just in case please remember to bring in warm clothes.

During the month of January we have been working very hard with practicing writing our names in proper formation. We have also been practicing writing our letters and numbers, as well as, having important discussions on the themes for the month, like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The children really enjoyed talking about the winter season and the ever changing weather! We decorated snowflakes, created our very own snowmen, excavated polar animals and learned about the Arctic Zones. For Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. we discussed his ideas, dreams, and what he worked so hard to change. We even spoke about our own dreams and thoughts of wanting to become our own leaders.

This month we will be taking the time to learn about Groundhog Day and whether or not he will see his shadow. We will also be learning the themes “The Five Senses”, “Friendships and Feelings”, “President Awareness”, and “Dr. Seuss is on the Loose”. Please take a look out Parent Board each week as we post a snap shot of the curriculum planned, as well as, the Skill Builders for the season.

For Valentine’s Day we will be having our own classroom celebrations, which will take place on the 13th and 14th of the month. The week prior we will be sending home a list of all of our children’s names so that your child can address their very own valentine to each one. Our sign-up sheets are also available on our classroom door. The children and I greatly appreciate the donations for each event. The items really help make our party even more enjoyable.

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Cooper on February 27th!

We hope you have a wonderful birthday!

Dates to Remember

Our Center will be closed on January 17th for President’s Day.

✚ Please send your child in with their winter attire all labelled. We do our best to go outside 3 times a day.

✚ Please keep an eye on our classroom as we will post new information.



Kindergarten

By: Mrs. Casey

It's amazing that we are already entering February and are mid-way through winter. January kicked off our 2020 with some challenges, but we learned so much! We mastered the letters Ee, Hh, Uu, and Bb. We each were challenged in our letterbooks with new stories to read. We also began our Scholastic Sight Word program. This program will not only introduce us to 50 high frequency sight words, but also how to write words and sentences on a line. So far, we are doing great! We took time to learn all about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his message of love. We pledged to continue his dream of kindness in our classroom! We welcomed the year of the rat during Chinese New Year! We loved learning all about this special holiday – especially the dragons!

We were so lucky to end the month with a celebration of the 100th day of school! We were so excited to put a dollar on our Penny the Pig, make crowns, and certificates among other fun activities! It was a special day we shared together.

February this year is special as well because it has 29 days instead of the normal 28. We call this a leap year! Our attention will be on the groundhog to see if he sees his shadow to predict more winter. What do you think will happen? Our letters this month will be Nn, Mm, and Pp. February is dental health month so throughout the month we will learn how to keep our smiles shining bright! President's Day also happens this month and we will learn all about the job of our country's leader. Specifically we will remember George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Of course we cannot forget Valentine's Day. We will be celebrating the day by exchanging Valentine Cards (list of names will be sent home for addressing the cards) and enjoying some special treats. A sign-up sheet is on our door – all party donations are greatly appreciated! February will whoosh by with all of this fun!

Happy birthday to Shivaan on February 1st! I hope all your wishes come true!

Important Dates

2/14 – Valentine's Day Party

2/17 – SCC is closed for President's Day

Wishing you all a month filled with love!



SCC Delays or Cancellations Information

Weather Announcements

WSRS 96.1 FM (www.wsrs.com) WTAG 580 AM (www.wtag.com)

CHANNEL 7 (NBC) - Website Only: <http://www.whdh.com>

CHANNEL 5 (WCVB) - Website Only: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/>

We are also on Facebook!

Every effort is made to remain open during inclement weather. Bad weather at morning commute time is likely to result in a delayed opening. Bad weather predicted for afternoon commuting time may result in an early closing. If bad or severe weather is predicted to continue throughout the day we may choose to close the center.

The decision to delay, close early, or cancel is made based on our ability to open the center and to have staff arrive safely. If we believe that weather conditions make it unsafe for staff to be on the roads or if we are unable to open the school (power outage) we will close. We have a good track record on closures and make every attempt to open.

Announcements are made on WSRS - 96.1 FM and WTAG 580 AM (including websites); as well as on the websites of Channel 7 (NBC) and Channel 5 (WCVB). When possible we will be trying to post on our Facebook page too. We will continue to post our decision on the main page of our website. We generally try to have all announcements on the radio stations and news channels no later than 6:30 A.M. There are times when the radio stations do not update their announcements frequently enough so please go to their websites as well.

***We strongly recommend signing up for text and/or email notifications offered by both TV stations.**

For **Channel 7News** please go to their website and click on "Snow Day Alert". You will need to input your cell phone number, the name of your carrier and can then choose the schools you are interested in hearing about. You can easily add or remove schools from your profile at any time.

For **Channel 5** please go to this website: <http://www.wcvb.com/weather/closingssignup> and follow the steps.

Please DO NOT call the school as we are busy getting the building ready to open and will not be able to answer phone calls.