



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS FEBRUARY 2022 255TH EDITION

From the Director . . .

Hello COF Families! Here's hoping February will be less eventful here at the center. We appreciate your understanding as we navigated last month and are looking forward to less disruption (fingers crossed). Valentine's Day is this month, and we are excited to celebrate. We will be doing a valentine exchange so the kiddos to bring in cards. Please note, different classes are celebrating on different dates this year so be sure to double check with your child's class section here for details.

During the week of 2/14-2/18, we are required to review your paperwork. I know with our recent rate change, you all just completed new agreements so there's low likelihood of changes, but we do ask that you double check your phone numbers, addresses, work info, health insurance info, and who is permitted to pick up your child. If all this has been updated as it changed then all you will have to do is sign your name and date the form. I will have a table set up just inside the gym doors. You can stop by when you enter, as you are waiting to go down the hallway, or on your way out.

I have started to receive inquiries about our S.U.M.mer camp program. We will be sending out enrollment info very soon for our returning families and kindergarteners, with open enrollment for new campers beginning on March 7th, 2022. This program is for children that have completed kindergarten through 6th grade. Please note, account balances must be in good standing with COF and S.U.M.mer Camp in order for enrollment to occur.

Additionally, we are looking to staff our S.U.M.mer camp program. It is a great opportunity for college students and school employees to have some set hours with nights and weekends still free for the summer. If you know of anyone who might be interested, please feel free to share my contact info with them.

Thank You,

Miss Courtney

MANNERS MATTER

01/31/22 - If you need to leave the table, ask to be excused.

02/07/22 - No matter the circumstances, always be honest

02/14/22 - Never cut in line.

02/21/22 - Do not smack your lips and chew noisily.

THEMES:

- Valentine's Day
- Transportation
- Art Week
- A Seuss Celebration

Staff Birthday

Feb. 15th - Miss Courtney

Feb 23rd - Miss Alyssa

Special Events: Mark your calendars!!

Valentine Exchanges:

Friday, February 11th: Older Toddlers, Pre-Kindergarten

Monday, February 14th: Infants, Young Toddlers, Pre-school

Monday, Feb 14- Friday, Feb 18: Paperwork Review in Gym

Monday, February 21st: CLOSED for President's Day

MISS KAREN AND MISS JILL'S INFANTS

Happy Valentine's day to all of you! It's wonderful to think about the ones we love and how to make them happy. While the infants don't worry about gifts, they do try hard to please the adults in their lives at a very early age. They can also recognize when those adults aren't happy. This is a good time to decide what your discipline plan is going to be so you can be consistent. Consistency is very important for every child. If the rules keep changing, or there are no rules, children never learn what acceptable behavior is, and what is expected of them. This leads to the "who is really in charge" syndrome!



We will be doing a Valentine exchange on Monday, February 14. Please send the Valentine's in that morning and we will pass them out for you. This is a cute way to remember all your child's first friends. You can even make them into a simple book by placing each on a piece of cardboard and covering it with clear contact paper. You can use yarn to bind it together. Also, please dress your child in red that day for a class picture.

Luna moved up to the young toddler room. We welcomed Lacey to our class. Mahina loves tummy time, and is doing some sitting practice. Georgia pulls to stand now, and she's very talkative. Peyton has started free standing, and she's doing great with self feeding. Levi loves talking to himself in the mirror, and he enjoys doing art. Cooper is walking all over now. He also likes books. Kayleigh loves doing art, and she's starting to enjoy more table food. Ronan is starting to walk, and he loves books.

MISS AMY'S YOUNG TODDLERS

Hello Young Toddler Families,

We are so happy to be out of dreary January!

Thank you to all the parents for the patients and understanding through the school's quarantine. No one was super excited about it but we were happy to give everyone a chance to feel better.

February may be a short month but we have it packed full of exciting themes and lesson plans such as a whole week focused on art, talking about transportation and of course Valentine's Day. We will be sending out a list of classmates names by the end of the week. Please look in your child's BLUE folder or backpack for the list. At the end of the month we get to spend a week being wubbulous with Dr. Seuss!

We welcomed a new member to our classroom from the infant room this Month. Luna joined our class Jan. 31st. We also had to say goodbye to our friend Isabella, who moved up to the Older Toddler Room. We will still get to see her and say hi during gym and playground times. Please help us make Luna feel welcome in our room. We are excited to have her join us.

Monthly Reminders:

1. Label EVERYTHING you bring in for your child... from forks and pouches to blankets and coats.
2. Please look in your child's blue folder or back pack AS WELL AS their daily sheet



EVERYDAY!!!!!! We send important information home that way. Any notes from our director and lists of things we need are all to be found there.

3. Your child needs to wear sneakers every day!

Our star of the month for February is Leah H. Leah is quite a ball of fun. She enjoys story time and music and can seriously wiggle to some music. She likes running around the gym with her friends and throwing balls around the room. Leah will be 2 in April. See if you can, try to catch that adorable smile with a wave and a hello if you see Leah in the class room this month.

Thank you, as always, for trusting us to take care of all your precious Angels on a daily basis!

Miss Amy

MISS DEBBIE AND MISS JENNIE'S OLDER TODDLERS

Focuses

Pink

Heart

Grouping similar objects together

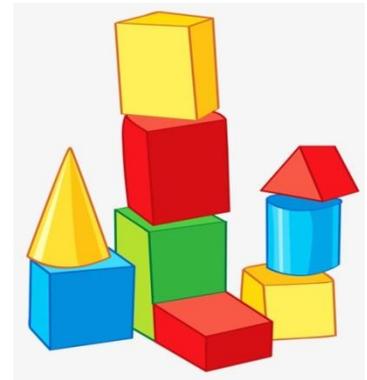
Kicking a ball

Rotation skills

How to show love to each other

Using words to talk to friends

Showing love towards God



Happy Valentine's Day!!! We can't believe its February already. We hope everyone's families are doing well and we are back into the swing of things after being off unexpectedly for a week. Our class is hoping for some snow this month so we can get outside to play in it. Thanks for bringing in snow items to be prepared, PLEASE be sure all items are LABELED!! We will have a small change in our room this month. Caleb Lloyd will be moving to Miss Shelli's class and Isabella will move up to our class. We are looking forward to her joining us.

During February we will be talking about love and how we can show love to each other. We will be having a Valentine's card exchange on Friday, February 11th. A list of all of ours friend's names will be sent home in your blue folder. Transportation will be our next theme this month. We will take our class out to sit on our big yellow school bus and of course we'll have to sing the wheels on the bus song! Our last two themes will be art week and Dr. Seuss celebration week.

Our friend of the month is Maddie. Maddie told us that her favorite color is yellow and her favorite animal is a tiger. Maddie told us that her favorite foods to eat are powdered donuts, noodles and peanut butter sandwiches. When Maddie is at home she likes to play with her Elsa doll, watch Christmas TV shows and Paw Patrol.

As always if you have any question or concerns please feel free to leave us a note in your child's blue folder. We pray everyone stays healthy!! Have a blessed month and Happy Valentine's Day to you all!

MISS SHELLI'S PRESCHOOL

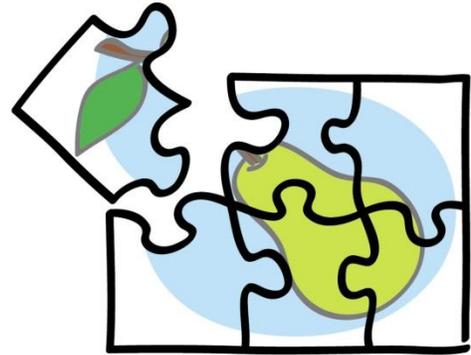
Focuses

Mental – Letters M, N, and O / color pink / number 6 / heart shape

Physical- Jumping over low objects / cutting without lines to follow

Emotional- Dealing with things that make us sad

Social-Sharing with our friends



Spiritual- Jesus' helpers / Jesus stills the storm / Jesus feeds the thousands /Miracle at the Sea of Galilee

Hello and happy February!

I hope that everyone is looking forward to Valentine's Day. I know that the children are getting excited for their classroom valentine exchange. I'm sure that all of you have received the classroom valentine list, which I sent out a few weeks ago. If your child decides to bring in valentines to exchange, please make sure that they include each of the children on the list. Since we are still going through COVID procedures, I would appreciate if everyone could please bring in their cards by Monday, February 7th. This way the cards can sit a week, before our exchange on Monday, February 14th.

I know that several of the children, each year, like to attach an extra toy or treat to their valentine cards, and this is still O.K. to do. Please remember that any food that is attached to the cards, must be store bought. We still cannot pass out home -made items.

Along with Valentine's Day, we will also be having some fun with groundhogs and shadows this month. We will be celebrating Groundhog Day with some special stories, along with a special dramatic activity, that has been very popular each year that we do it. There will also be a day when everyone is invited to bring in a flashlight to help search for shadows!

Thank you, as always, to everyone who has been helping their child bring in their show and tell items each week. I would like to remind everyone to please help their child choose a show and tell item

in which the child knows what the item is. Everyone who brings show and tell in should be able to tell the class what the item is, and talk a bit about the item. Thank you for your help and cooperation.

In looking forward to the very beginning of March, we will be celebrating with our annual Preschool Mardi Gras party! It is a fun day to make crowns and masks! Please keep an eye out for more information!

This month's star is Cason! Cason's favorite color is yellow, and he enjoys eating peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. He enjoys super hero books. His favorite song is "Take Me Out to the Ballgame"! Cason's favorite activity is playing in the basement, with his brother Gradyn!

Have a great month and a happy Valentine's Day!

MISS CATHY'S PRE-KINDERGARTEN



Hello from PreK! What a chilly, chilly winter we're having! Due to very low temperatures, we have been unable to go outside for quite some time. We have been making up for our lack of playground time with gym time in the morning and extra enrichment activities in the classroom in the afternoon. This has been fun, but it will be great to go out again!

Speaking of outdoors...we do go out when there's snow on the ground (temperature permitting). Your child should be prepared on these days by bringing a bag with snow pants, hat, gloves or mittens, scarf if wanted, and of course a jacket and boots. Your child will still need to have sneakers to wear inside the building.

Winter isn't just about the weather – Valentine's Day is coming! The classroom valentine list has already been sent home. We will be exchanging valentines and having a party on Friday, February 11th. Due to COVID restrictions, party goodies will be provided by the Center rather than sent in by our families.

Another COVID reminder: PLEASE be sure your child has a clean mask each day, and that it fits properly, covering the nose and mouth snugly. Children don't like having to constantly pull their masks up all day and teachers don't enjoy having to constantly remind them! We would all appreciate your attention to this matter.

As far as other self-help skills go, everyone is doing a great job with their food containers and packaging. Some containers/packaging are still tricky, but everyone is trying and there have been a lot of successes recently! Good job, friends!

If a child tries but still can't complete a self-help skill, then of course the next step is that he or she asks for help. Having the confidence to ask for help when needed is

an important life skill and a Pennsylvania Learning Standard for Early Childhood. For these reasons, asking for help is a skill we work on at school, and you can at home, as well. For example, instead of automatically reaching out to tie your child's shoe, wait until he or she asks for help! I know this is hard – we are “wired”, as parents, to want to make everything good for our kids! Recently, I had to restrain myself from handing my daughter her sweater as we headed out on a cool day; by the way, my daughter is 30!!

Enjoy your February, in spite of the weather, and happy Valentine's Day! (By the way, if there are any COVID protocols that we must take regarding valentine cards, as we had to take last year, we will let you know.)

Until next time, Miss Cathy