



January Newsletter

From the Director.....

We welcome Miss Katie to Mrs. Gillis' Toddler Time Classes, Miss Aly to the Parent's Day Out Class and Mrs. Clinger's Monday & Wednesday PM Class. We also welcome Miss Kasey to Mrs. Howard's afternoon Class!
We are so blessed to have such a great staff !

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas parties and the Polar Express! Thank you so much to our amazing board members. These women helped with the planning and executing of Polar Express, book orders to scholastic, the t-shirt/sweatshirt order and so much more.

*Pre-School
Office
751-7960*

*Director
Tammy
Varner*

*Teachers
Kathy
Pretzsch*

*Tracy
Clinger*

Karen Howard

Niki Gillis

Leanne Fouch

We have accumulated a nice pile of hats and gloves, mittens and scarves with no names on them! If you are missing something please ask your teacher! Also...please put names on your child's things so we know who to return them to when they get left behind!



Happy New Year!

PRESCHOOL WISH LIST

Coffee Filters
3oz or 5oz cups

Dates to Remember:

Teddy Bear/Pajama Day — January 27th & 28th
(Mrs. Clinger's and Mrs. Pretzsch's Class)

Valentine's Day Parties—February 10th, 11th & 12th

No School—February 15th—Presidents Day

February 22nd Enrollment Begins for 2010-2011

March 4th—Chuck E Cheese Family Night
(more information to come)

Can you believe that it's January already?
It's time to start thinking about enrollment for next fall. Enrollment will start in February. We have many different options for your students! Talk to your teachers if you have any questions!

News From Mrs. Clinger's Class

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are kicking the New Year off with the following themes: snow and mittens, snowmen and bears. Our water table will transform into a table of snow, our kitchen is an Ice Cream and Sweet Shoppe and our dress up area is now a baby area complete with blankets, clothes, wash cloths and baby necessities.

During the month of January we will learn the letters and sounds for M, N and O. The children will orally spell their names when they are the leader or helper for the day and continued opportunities will be provided at the free art table to strengthen fine motor skills for writing. Valentine's Day is approaching and provides each child is the perfect opportunity to practice writing their name as they sign their valentines (Valentines do not have to be addressed to friends only signed by your child). I will be reading the story The Mitten by Jan Brett. Mittens will be laced and picture cards colored to retell the story. Snowflakes will be decorated, snowmen assembled with the children identifying small, medium and large circles and snow sculptures will be made for you to enjoy (marshmallows and toothpicks will allow the children the opportunity to be creative). The last week of the month will be bear week! We will learn about bears and hibernation and make a yummy bear treat. Be listening for new songs this month as we begin with our January song!

**WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, JANUARY 27 AND 28 WILL BE PAJAMA DAY!
PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILD WEAR THEIR JAMMIES TO SCHOOL (NO SLIPPERS PLEASE)
AND BRING THEIR FAVORITE STUFFED BEAR FOR A FUN-FILLED DAY!**

Wednesday, February 10
Thursday, February 11
Friday, February 12
Monday, February 15

Valentine's Party MW PM Class Only
Valentine's Party T/TH Class
Valentine's Party MWF Am Class
President's Day - NO SCHOOL

Special Days:
Devin Kidd,
Jacob Bilby,
Gregory Gaydos
and Aiden Rjegie

Enrichment News



Welcome back and maybe I should say "G-day mates!" (Good-day friends) as we begin our unit on Australia. We will continue to learn about ocean life as we travel to various islands in the next couple of months. We have begun our ocean mural in the hall and you will find colorful seahorses swimming and more creatures to come! The children will locate Australia on the globe as well as a map and learn that Australia is both a country and a continent. Ask your children what two oceans surround Australia and what can be found in the waters? (Answers: Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean and sharks). The children will learn about the Great Barrier Reef, the abundance of wildlife, Ayers Rock and some everyday expressions used by the people of Australia. They speak English as we do but also have their own Aussie slang. Climate, sports and schooling will be discussed as well. And we will culminate our unit with an Australian recipe! "Ta" (Good-bye) for now.

News from Mrs. Gillis' Class

I hope everyone had fun during the holidays! I had a great Christmas break, but I was excited to see the kids again and hear some of their stories. They all seemed to be excited to be back at school! We will be talking about artic animals this month and our nursery rhyme is "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star." Have fun practicing this fun nursery rhyme at home!!

We will have Valentine's parties on the 9th and 10th of February. The children may bring Valentines for their friends and we will share treats at our regular snack time. Just put your child's name on the valentines. We will make sure that each friend gets one. There are 8 children in the Tuesday class and 11 in our Wednesday class. Feel free to stop by the room if you want to! We usually have a snack around 10:30 to 10:40. I will send home notes to the parents that volunteered to send in items for this party in a couple of weeks.

If you have any questions about registration for next year, please feel free to contact me at school or at home (396-9000). For those of you that are fairly new to the program, it is important to note that the morning classes usually fill up pretty quickly, so you should register quickly if it is important that you get a spot in that time slot.

**Special days for
January!**

**Jaxon Harter and
Jenna Brand**



News from Mrs. Pretzsch's Class

Winter fun and activities are happening in our preschool room! We all were glad to be back. We painted our feet white and stepped on blue paper to make our footprint. The next school day, we added accessories and turned our footprint into a snowman. Look for our cool creations on the bulletin board outside our room! We put snow in our play table and played in the snow inside our classroom. It was a favorite activity for everyone. Our letters for the month are M (monkey, mittens and muffins), N (nose, nickel and nest), O (orange, oval and octagon), and P (pizza, pajama and party)! For letter M, we read "If You Give a Moose a Muffin" and enjoyed cinnamon muffins for snack. We are looking forward to our pajama party on Wednesday, January 27th. We will wear our pajamas to school and bring our favorite stuffed bear. We will join Mrs. Clinger's class for the fun. We will be making pizza for snack that day! I will send a more detailed note home next week!

I will continue to send home the letter of the week handwriting worksheet. Some of the children are ready to practice handwriting and I love when these come back and I can see what they have done. I am just using these as a practice tool and also to get them used to taking something home for "homework" and returning it back to school. If your child is not ready, please don't force them and make this a negative experience. We are working on letter sounds and letter identification in class. I encourage them to practice at home so they are getting ready for kindergarten.

In our all day class, we are continuing with our letter books. We are now starting to write the words that are in our stories. Listen to your child read the story to you when they bring their books home on Fridays! Our scissor skills are awesome and I am so impressed with their attention to detail in our projects! Story time continues to be a favorite activity after lunch. We read all 5 stories of 5 Little Monkeys and are getting really good at rhyming words! We are happy that Elias Bailey and Aaron Fine have joined our all day class!



January Song: (I'm A Little Teapot)

I'm a little snowman, short and fat,
Here is my broomstick, here is my hat!
When the sun comes out, I melt away.

Down, down, down, down....Oops! I'm a puddle!

Special Days for January:

Kadence Aikin, Elias Bailey

Zachary Cooper + Rylee Webb

News From Mrs. Howard's Class

Welcome back and Happy 2010! We were so excited to see everyone after a long holiday break. The children have "warmed up" to each other again and are ready to learn and play! Our month of January is filled with lots of activities. We are beginning our month with a bear theme. We will learn about the panda bear, polar bear, and the grizzly bear. We'll also talk about Pooh and Corduroy; two of our most favorite bears who come alive in stories! We will learn several bear songs, cook some porridge (oatmeal), and have a teddy bear picnic! The remainder of the month will focus on Winter/Snow. Some skills that we will work on are opposites, the small, medium, and large concept, and cutting & lacing. We're set for another terrific month!

Special Days for January:

Carter Mahaffey, Nate Tyler and

Logan Jewett



**A BIG WELCOME TO OUR
NEW AFTERNOON
HELPER, KASSEY!!**