



LCNS Newsletter

February 2015

Lincolnshire Community Nursery School

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www.lcns.org

Letter From the Director

Dates to Remember

Feb. 4:

Dad's Day
Pre-k and 3's

Feb. 5:

Dad's Day
OMO

Feb 10:

No School
Teacher Meeting

Feb 16:

No School
Presidents Day

Dear Parents,

As we embark on the rest of the school year, the teachers want to stay connected with you and check in with a phone call during the first couple of weeks in February. This is just a chance for both you and the teachers to stay informed on the children's progress and development.

We are looking forward to hosting our dads this month. On Wednesday, February 4, our 3's and pre-k will have Dad's Day and on Thursday, February 5, our On My Own class will have Dad's Day. Dads will come to school during the beginning of their child's normal class time and plan to spend around 45 minutes enjoying a special project and snack together. The children will continue their day as usual after dad leaves. If dad cannot make it and a grandpa, uncle, or close male family friend wants to come instead, they are more than welcome. Please **no** moms. We promise to have a mom's celebration in May.

Valentine's Day is another celebration in February that we like to experience with the children. Our classrooms use this holiday to reinforce the topics of love, friendship, and caring. We encourage the students to write letters to each other and to their family members. Some of our letters have marks, scribbles, drawings, alphabet letters, or words on them. Everything and anything is considered writing and the teachers encourage all writing behaviors. We also have classroom parties and an exchange of valentine cards. Please help your child write his/her name on the card but do not label the envelopes with classmates names. This will make delivering the cards much easier. We ask that you just prepare valentine cards and not valentine candy, gifts or treat bags. Our teachers will post valentine party sign up sheets for the chance to bring in healthy and fun treats for the class parties.

A reminder that there will be no school on February 10th for a teacher meeting and again on February 16th for Presidents Day.

Looking ahead to the spring, I have a couple of dates for fun family events I want to share with you. Mark your calendar for Monday, April 13th, for our annual Pajama Night at LCNS. Also, pre-k parents, please save Thursday, April 23rd, for Art Appreciation Night.

Please take a moment to read the events in your child's class and look at the February calendar. Thank you and as always if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Warmest regards,
Amy Morrissey
Director, LCNS



On My Own

February News

The teachers will be making our winter phone calls to parents the first week of February.

February is going to be filled with friends, fathers and fun with dinosaurs! Students will learn about friendship through play, books and Valentine's Day. We end February by discovering dinosaurs through a variety of books, songs and activities.

Dad's Day

Thursday, February 5th
9-9:45

The children will come with Dad to school in the morning. They will make a small project and enjoy treats together.

Valentine's Day Party **Thursday, February** **12th**

11-11:30

Please send your child with signed Valentine cards, but NOT labeled with the names of their classmates. We have 12 students.

Looking Back

Our Favorite January Activities

- Working on early math by matching different size circles to make a snowman picture.
- 3 Bears unit: marble painting Baby Bear, color sorting bears and watching the Pre K perform *Goldilocks and the 3 Bears*.
- Winter Animals: Learning science by making 'insta-snow' for our sensory table.
- Big Room: Developing our gross motor skills by playing Duck, Duck, Goose, stations and parachute.



Literacy

A Splendid Friend Indeed, Daddies Are For Catching Fireflies, Biscuit's Valentines Day, Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs and Clifford Digs a Dinosaur.





3's February Happenings

Parent News

Teachers will be making calls home to touch base in the first few weeks of February. February starts out with a focus on someone special in our kid's lives- Dad! Then we move on to Valentine's Day and friendship! February will round out with a unit on dinosaurs. *We will be making a dinosaur diorama at the end of the month that requires a shoebox for each child. We welcome any extras you may have!*

NO SCHOOL

Mon, Feb 16-
President's Day

Student News

February begins with a focus on Dad's, friends and Valentine's Day! We will prepare a special surprise for our visiting dads and work on some special Valentine's Day focused projects. The second half of the month will be our unit on dinosaurs! We will talk about different kinds of dinos and explore our dinosaur friends through various projects!

Monthly Themes

Feb. 2-6 Dad's
Day/Valentines
Feb 9-13
Friends/Valentines
Feb 16-27 Dinosaurs

3's February

Fine Motor

Our class will be working on cutting, painting and gluing with our various projects throughout the month. We will practice correct pencil grip utilizing various Handwriting Without Tears worksheets.

Math Skills

Counting and patterning will be our February math focus. We will count hearts and find the corresponding numbers on the number line. Creating a two and three color pattern will be another math focus for February!

Literature

A Sick Day For Amos

McGee

I Love You Daddy

Fox Makes Friends

Mousepaint

Secret Valentine

How Do Dinosaurs Eat
Their Food?

Bumposaurus

Table Top

Our table top will feature color sorting, patterning games, Lincoln Logs, Duplos and ABC magnets.

Science

The light table will come to our room in February. The children can build structures and see how the light impacts different colors and blocks.

Our sensory table will be filled with colored water to begin the month and then move to sand full of dinosaurs, trees and mountains the children can use to build a dinosaur habitat..



3's February

Special Events!

Dad's Day!!

Wednesday, Feb 4

We invite all of our dad's to come to class to spend some time with your child.

9:00 for am class and

12:45 for pm class.

Valentine's Day Party!!

Friday, Feb. 13. Children are encouraged to bring a Valentine for each child in the class! (no names on outside envelope and no candy please) Party times: 11 am and 2:45 pm

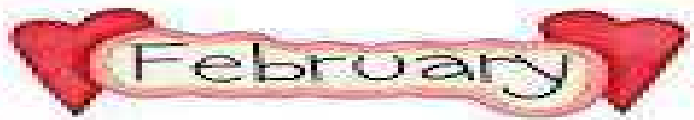


Questions/Concerns??

Feel free to call, email or simply pull us aside. We are always here to help!



Pre-K



February Themes

- * * Dad's Day**
- ** Valentine's Day**
- ** Numbers**
- ** Chinese New Year/Space**

Parent News

February already? Our month starts out with our Dad's Day celebration on the 4th. Dads are welcome to bring their child to class to do a quick project in the classroom and then go to the big room for a quick breakfast/snack before heading out. Our Valentine's Day parties will be at 11:00 & 2:45 for p.m. class. Please have your child prepare one card/child and sign their name to each card. It's not necessary to put who the card will go to or attach candy. Our 3rd week will be spent on number review and assessments. Parent volunteers are needed on the 17th-20th.

Student News

Get ready for a fun filled month! We will start out with our Dad's Day celebration. Your dad will bring you to school and you can build a sculpture with him and have a quick snack. Our Valentine's Post Office will be open so you can make Valentine's cards for your friends and family. Make sure you are counting at home to 20 so you can have fun with our number activities! We will finish out the month with celebrating the Chinese New Year and make our very own class dragon! Get ready to blast off into space at the very end of February while we will be pretending to visit the planets and take a trip to the moon!

Dates to Remember

- * Feb. 4th: Dad's Day**
- * Feb. 10th: No School- Staff Meeting**
- * Feb. 13th: Valentine's Day Party**
- * Feb. 16th: No School- President's Day**
- Feb. 17-20th: Assessments**



Pre-K



Literature

My Dad Makes the

Best Spaghetti

Clifford's

Valentine

Franklin's

Valentine

Valentine Bears

The Biggest

Valentine Ever

I Love You with All

My Heart

M&M Counting

Book

I Can Count to 100

10 Black Dots

Mouse Count

Dragon Dance

Dimitri the

Astronaut

Math/Science

This month we will focus on recognition and ordering of the numbers 11-20. The children will play Valentine number bingo, use tweezers to count beans in cups and make a graph after counting, and quite possibly eating, Skittles! As a large group we will order numbers as we line up. We also review our numbers daily through the use of our attendance chart and calendar!

Fine Motor

Our pincer grasps will be strengthened by using the tweezers during our math activities and by using chopsticks while we learn about the Chinese New Year. We continue to use small crayons to color in our Skittle graphs and to create a dragon mural. The children will also color space helmets for our moon walk.

Reading/Writing

There will be lots of writing this month! The students will write a story describing their dad for our Dad's Day celebration and then follow up with a story about their experience on Dad's Day. Everyone will have the chance to write Valentine's Day cards to their classmates and family while our class post office is open. We will practice writing our numbers and learn the letters D, P & B.



Looking Back

The classes LOVED our Three Bears Unit. We compared and contrasted the differences between several versions of the story. It was fascinating to hear what the children observed about each of the books! Their minds were really thinking!



February EAGLES News

This month in EAGLES we have been learning about ice cream. From graphing our favorite kind to learning how it is made.

We also made ice cream play dough out of hair conditioner and corn starch and of course made real ice cream and tasted it!!

Our big hit was the pretend ice cream shop. Everyone got a chance to work behind the counter and be the customer.

Books We Read

From Milk to Ice Cream

Ice Cream Soup

Ice Cream, You Scream

Wemberly's Ice Cream Star

Should I Share My Ice Cream?

Centers

Students dictated how they would make their own ice cream sundae.

They also created colorful ice cream using tissue paper and paint.

They used their gross motor skills to balance a ball (ice cream) on a toilet paper roll (cone) and walk.



Our next unit will be The Human Body!

We will be learning about the heart, lungs, skeletal system and our muscles.

We will find out about the function of these systems and organs and how to keep them healthy

February Book Club News

This month in Book Club we read fairy tales. We learned about the characteristics of fairy tales such as good vs. evil, a Once Upon A Time beginning and a happily ever after ending. We compared and contrasted different fairy tales. Two of our favorites were *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and *Cinderella*. We planted magic beans, acted out the stories, and made crowns and jeweled necklaces. We also made magic wands and wrote our wishes.

Books We Read

The Three Billy Goats Gruff
The Great Fairytale Disaster
Cinderella and the Beanstalk
King Bidgood's in the Bathtub.

Centers

Character discrimination

Retelling and Sequencing of stories

Wall Word practice

Listening to books on CD

Journal writing about their favorite fairy tale



Coming up next is our unit on MONSTERS, based on the great book *Where the Wild Things Are*.

We will be cooking up a wild snack and using puppets for some monster drama.

Music Notes from Mrs. K

Music classes have been busy with songs about snow and snowmen, winter animals like penguins and bears, and dancing songs that keep us warm on cold winter days! February will bring some fun songs about valentines and love. Pre-K's and Threes will also be learning some songs from far-away lands and will hopefully enjoy the exposure to some different languages and cultures.

Rhythm Instruments

We try to incorporate a variety of rhythm instruments into the classroom, like shaker eggs, rhythm sticks and bells. You can replicate these instruments at home with things from around the house! Fill a small plastic container with dried beans or rice, add the top (and maybe some tape!) and you have a shaker.

Song of the Month

Mail Myself to You (verses 1&2)

I'm gonna wrap myself in paper
I'm gonna dab myself with glue
Stick some stamps on top of my
head
I'm gonna mail myself to you!

I'm gonna tie me up with red string
I'm gonna tie blue ribbons too
I'm gonna climb up in your mailbox
I'm gonna mail myself to you!

February 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 Dad's Day- Pre-K and 3's	5 Dad's Day- OMO	6	7
8	9	10 No School- Teacher's Meeting	11	12	13	14
15	16 No School- President's Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28