

COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY

Thank you parents for your support and understanding. The families have gotten many letters in the last few weeks. With so many letters going home it can be confusing about what it all means. I have taken the most important part of both of the Church letters and printed out the part that will pertain to how the school will be operated until June 15 and after June 15th and what terms would be required if the preschool would be sold before June 15th.

Here are some excerpt from the Church letters dated January 12, and January 14th.

"The church will continue to operate the Preschool, assuming there is sufficient enrollment and staffing, through August 31, 2010, at which time we will close the Preschool. During this time, we will continue to utilize a play based curriculum and, as long as there is sufficient enrollment and staffing, continue to maintain the staffing ratios and current room assignments.

If we are successful in finding a buyer who is able to take over the Preschool prior to June 15, 2010, we will require that the following terms be part of the sales agreement:

- 1. That the new buyer must offer employment to the current Preschool teachers. Moreover, as long as enrollment allows and unless there is good cause, the buyer will need to maintain the teachers' employment through June 15, 2010.*
- 2. Maintain room assignments until June 15, 2010, as enrollment and teacher staffing allow.*
- 3. Continue with the play based curriculum until August 31, 2010.*
- 4. Maintain current student to teacher ratios as long as enrollment and teacher staffing allow until August 31, 2010.*

As stated in the letter on January 14, the Church intends to operate Community Preschool with the same rooms, same teachers, same student to teacher ratios, and the play based

curriculum until June 15, 2010, as long as the teacher staffing and enrollment allow. After June 15, 2010 the teachers and the room assignments may change, but the play-based curriculum and the ratios will remain as long as enrollment and teacher staffing allow. "

If you have questions, please feel free to come into the office. I will answer your questions, or direct you to someone who would be able to answer your questions or concerns.

Thank you
Barbara Steinmetz (Director)

Music and Movement
Mrs. Judy

Fours: We will be continuing to explore music in its many forms this month. Last month we played music of "Peter and the Wolf" by Prokofiev and read and acted out the story. Music can add to or accent a story so well! We read Harriet and the Roller Coaster by Nancy Carlson, accompanied by a background of Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor. The music in this case emphasized the slightly scary ups and downs and drama of a roller coaster ride. I plan to also continue our learning about music instruments and people who make music by having the children watch and listen to small portions of the videos: "The Orchestra," and "Fantasia." We began to draw to various kinds of music. Like a conductor in a symphony, we will move our arms and hands to the music - only on paper with colored pens. Will the marks be different when listening to the very fast "Flight of the Bumblebee" as opposed to "Brahm's Lullaby?" We are also listening to selections of classical, opera, jazz and rock n'roll music and "voting" for which we like best. Also in February, the children will get a chance to perform in front of their classmates by singing their favorite songs into a real microphone!

Twos and Threes: Some of the songs we have been singing and dancing

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to include: "Jumping Josie," "Wimoweh, The Lion Sleeps Tonight," "Inky Dinky Doo," "Coconut Soap Song," "Freddy Bear The Teddy Bear," "Patalina-Madalina." These songs combine fun, movement, coordination and body awareness - all important aspects of learning for twos and threes. Jumping and climbing are favorite skills we enjoy practicing in our songs and in play with the equipment in Room 2. You might think that jumping comes naturally to children. Not necessarily! It takes practice and coordination like so many other physical skills! Some children excel at climbing and not jumping; some, just the opposite! Some children do not naturally like to participate and others can't get enough of being "on-stage." Each child is encouraged to learn what he/she needs.

We played some sound recognition games - matching up the sounds of 5 instruments without looking at them. During the first week in February we will play more sound and listening games also.

I will make another pitch now for any parent or friend of the family (?) who may have musical skills to come to visit our music and movement class at any time to sing, dance, play an instrument, etc., for our children. Don't think you're not good enough! We promise to love you!

Room 9 2/3 Yr. Old Full Time
Mrs. Masako, Mrs. Latha, Mrs. Sunita, Ms. Merry and Mrs. Eugenia

We would like to start by thanking all the parents for the continuous support that they have shown the school and the staff. Congratulations to all of us for keeping the school open for six more months.

In February, keeping with the themes, we will be learning about transportation, five senses, shapes and colors, love, family, community helpers and Chinese New Year. Most of our activities will focus on easing transition times for all of our

children. Some of the books we will be reading in class are:

Peek-a- Choo-Choo, The Littlest Owl
Pinkalicious Stop that Nose! Ten
Black Dots!, Kissing Hand .What comes
in 2's, 3's, and 4's? Bambi's
Fragrant Forest When the Earth Wakes
Dear Polar Bear , Lucy's Pictures

February 14 is Valentine's Day. Our classroom tradition is to collect Valentine cards in a paper bag and send it home. If you want your child to share cards with the rest of the children please send 24 Valentine cards with your child (with only their name on it) by **February 8**. Ms. Merry will also be talking about Chinese New Year with our children and doing some fun activities in observance of the New Year.

Room 8 3 Year Old Full Care
Ms. Franchesca, Mrs. Shaila,
Mrs. Thu and Mrs. Chitra

The teachers of room 8 would like to thank all the parents, for the patience and support they have given us during these very difficult times. We sincerely appreciate everything you have done. We would like to invite you to have breakfast with us on February 5th or just stop in and grab a snack. There will be information about this event posted in the classroom. Hope you can join us!

January was a very wet month. We were subjected to many rainy days, however, we were able to still have a great time in the classroom. We talked about the winter season, had fun making penguins, elephant puppets and painting with water colored ice cubes.

In the month of February, we will continue with our alphabet theme. During the first week, we will talk about the letters G and H. Some of our art activities will include making and painting grapes and houses. We will sing a silly song about gumdrops and pretend to ride a horse. February 4th will be designated as Hat Day. There will be information posted as we get closer to this day.

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The second week of February, letters I and J will be discussed. We will have the opportunity to enjoy tasty ice cream treats and have jam toast. Some of our art activities will include making jelly bean jars and insect stamping. Our Valentine's Day party will be on February 12th. Parents may send treats with their children to be shared with the class.

The third week of February, we will talk about the letters K and L. Our art activities will include making koosh ball paintings and lion masks. We will have fun using our taste buds to achieve the right balance of sweet and sour when making lemonade for snack.

We will conclude the last week of February with the letters M and N. Some of our art activities will include marble paintings and noodle collages. We will conduct a science experiment to see what items are attracted to magnets.

We will be working on our student evaluation during the month of February. There will be a sign-up sheet for parents wanting to meet for a conference when evaluations are done. We'd love to have you over for coffee and bagels on February 5, Friday from 8:30-9:30. It's our way to thank you for the awesome support, patience you have displayed in the last 2 months of uncertainty.

Rm 7 Full Time Classes
Hung Siou, Supraanee Chammapun,
Karen Golosman, Gail Cavanaugh,
Maxine Au

February is a blessing and a spectacular month in which we celebrate both Valentine's Day and Chinese New Year. This year, both holidays fall on February 14th. During that week the children will get a chance to learn new things about how the Chinese culture celebrates the New Year. Activities during that week include: tasting

Chinese red bean rice cake and coloring red envelopes with a special treat inside. The red envelopes mean that it is our hope that the children will continue to be healthy and happy in 2010. That same week, the class will make Valentine cards for their families to say, "Thank you" for loving them. We will have a party and exchange Valentines with friends on Friday, February 12th.

The third week of January we began our Alphabet Days. Each day we focus on one letter of the alphabet through books, songs, snacks and art. We are also learning the sign language alphabet. During Alphabet Days the children may also bring one toy to school which relates to the letter of the day. Reading to your child at home is a great way to enhance their learning and alphabet recognition.

We are looking forward to a month filled with learning many new things. During our circle time, we will read many books. Additionally, we will provide creative art projects for the children to explore their own ideas and imagination, as well as develop their fine motor skills. The art activities will reinforce the alphabet theme. Kk day the children will make kites, Mm day will find them marble painting, Tt day they will toothbrush paint and Ww day they will decorate wind socks. Each child is also creating their own unique alphabet book which will go home following Zz day.

PS. For Pp Day, February 17th, we will have a fun Pajama Day, so come dressed in your pj's! For Qq day, February 18th, we will have a quilter share some of the wonderful quilts she has made.

Sadly, we have to say goodbye and good luck to Ms. Maxine on February 3rd. She will be teaching at another school. She has promised to visit periodically (especially on Mm Day!) Ms. Swagata will be with us a few hours each morning, then go to room 3.

*Parents, thank you all for supporting the school and our program and for your participation in class events. We appreciate your involvement! Special thanks to Tatum's mom who came to play the accordion and Christina's mom who played

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the harp on Hh day. We enjoyed listening to the beautiful music. Once again, thank you for giving us the opportunity to be your child's teachers.

Quote of the month: When Nicholas saw the toy iron displayed for li Day he commented, "That's to keep clothes warm."

ROOM 6 3'S MWF am/pm class
Mrs. Diana, Mrs. Pam, and Mrs. Lakshmi

Greetings everybody. February is here. The children in the blue door have started learning their alphabets. It was mostly reinforcing the alphabets to the children through art and visual aid. We are glad to see some of the children open up and start to socializing with one another.

In the next four weeks we will continue working on the alphabet. The 1st week we will do art and read books on letters L, M, and N. The next 2 weeks we will talk about the letters O through S. We will be doing a cooking project for the letter S. We will be making sandwiches for snack. In the second week we will take a break from alphabets and celebrate Valentine's Day. We will be making valentine cards and art activities to go along with our valentine theme. Please let us know before hand if you want to send Valentine treats, please no candies or chocolate with peanuts in them.

Happy Valentine's Day

RM. 6 2's Class
Mrs. Diana, Mrs. Pam and Mrs. Lakshmi

Welcome to the month of february. thankyou for all your support that is the reason we are still here.

We will be introducing numbers this month. We will make 1 clown, 2 eyes, during the first week. We will make V Valentine cards and hearts for the 2nd week.

We will act out the Three Little Pigs and print the number 3. We will group in fours and play games, we will

also cut squares. We will make hand prints for the number five. then review all of the numbers. The children are doing very well and are able to focus and sit in circle for a longer time, they wait their turn, and are able to understand our questions. We are proud of their progress and every milestone they achieve

We are pleased to welcome back Liav to our class. We missed you.

Room 5 MWF 4 year olds
Mrs. Kathy, Mrs. Jeanette Mrs. Debra, and Mrs. Diana

This month we talked about animals that hibernate and other animals that t like cold weather. The children crawled through our tunnel pretending it was a bear cave. While talking about penguins we learned that they carry their egg on their feet. We all tried walking with an egg between our feet and realized how hard it was. We also had the chance to stand next to the tallest and largest penguin, the Emperor Penguin. We read a few stories about animals trying to fit into clothing that people wear such as mittens or hats.

During the month of February we will talk about love, sharing, caring, friendships, and how to keep our bodies healthy. Valentine's Day will be celebrated on Feb. 12 and we will be making Valentine bags that day. Notes will go home about our card exchange. We will have a special snack that day for the children. If you would like to send a snack in, let one of the teachers know. If there are any parents who would like to share a story or craft with our children please contact one of the teachers. Some of our stories will include The Valentine Bears, Guess How Much I Love You, and Best Friends. Other holidays we will be talking about are Chinese New Year, Presidents Day and Ground Hog Day. We will continue with alphabet ad enjoying our snacks that go along with the letters. The letters for this month will be K, L, M, N, O.

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The teachers of Room 5 would like to thank all the parents for all their support for the past weeks.

Field trip to the library Wednesday, February 10th.

**Room 5 T/Th 3 year old class
Mrs. Jeanette, Mrs. Kathy, Mrs. Debra**

We are so proud of our 3 year olds, and their bright smiling faces are such a pleasure to see each day. We have noticed the tremendous self-confidence in each of the children as they walk into the classroom each day. Their eagerness to learn and capability of sitting at circle time (with very few interruptions) have grown so much since the first day of school.

In February we will be continuing with our shapes. We will be discussing throughout activities, stories and art projects ovals, hearts, stars and diamonds. In addition we will discuss briefly the Chinese New Year along with Valentine's Day. We will be sending home a notice about our Valentine exchange with our classmates. Each child can bring in 24 valentines with only their name on it to exchange with all their classmates. If anyone would like to send in a special treat on Thursday, February 11th, please feel free to contact one of your teachers.

Thanks to all the families for your dedication and support over the last month. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful families and children in our lives.

A quote from Ryan when he was building with some various shaped blocks and put together a rectangle and a triangle.

"Look it is pointing at you"
(Ryan had made an arrow)

Field trip to the library Thursday, February 25.

**Room 4-4 Year Old Pre-Kdg.
Mrs. Currie, Mrs. Knopf, and
Mrs. Krishna**

Thank you to all the parents for attending our morning Coffee on Wed. Jan 27. Thank you also to all the parents who drove us to the bakery. It was a fun field trip. We are happy that the rest of our school year will continue undisturbed.

We will be having a Valentine exchange on Feb. 12 for the children. Details will be sent home. The letters this month are: week of Feb. 1-5: O, Feb. 8-12: P, Feb. 15-19: Q and Feb. 22-26:

We have also started the evaluations and will be completing them this month. If you have any questions regarding this or would like to meet with us, please let us know.

With so many rainy days, the children look outside and inform us that it is not a playground day. Instead they have played with various blocks, big puzzles and built space stations for the Star Wars characters.

February will also see us talking about Presidents, vote on a favorite color and draw a picture "I love..." for the Me book. Some of our other activities will be

Quilt painting, Q-tip painting, cut out hearts; decorate bags for the Valentine exchange and paint rainbows.

The earthquake which occurred mid January was not felt at all by anyone except Mrs. Currie in our classroom. We were getting ready for snack and all the children were listening to a story. We followed up by talking about safety rules and asked the class, "what is an earthquake?". Here are some of the responses:
Jason: when a big wind shakes the earth

Sydney: everything falls down

Shreyas: there is a big fire.

Our final quote comes from Shreya.

After hearing a story about Norman, the heroic dog, she said, "My Papa is a hero".

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Rm. 3, Pre-K Full Time
Ms. Tat, Mrs. Murphy, Mrs.
Swagata, Mrs. Yeh, Mrs. Sheri
We have planned lots of fun activities
for the children in the month of
February. In February we will
continue learning and working with our
alphabet program from letters Qq - Xx.
We will also be celebrating Chinese
New Year and Valentine's Day this
month.

The children are doing a commendable
job on printing their names. Their
readiness skills are also developing
well. On the first week of February,
we will work on letters Qq and Rr.
The children will be using Q-tips to
paint quail and rabbits.

The second week of February, we will
be learning and working on letters Ss
and Tt. In addition, we will be
celebrating Chinese New Year on
Thursday, February 11th. We will be
talking about the celebration of
Chinese New Year and their traditions.
On Friday, February 12th, we will be
celebrating Valentine's Day. The
children will have fun making a
Valentine's Day project on that day.
Also, they will be learning about the
importance of friendships, love,
sharing and caring. We will be having
a simple Valentine's party and the
children will be exchanging Valentine
cards on Friday, February 12th.
Please have your child bring in 21
Valentine cards with his/her name only
on the cards. Also, please have your
child wear red or pink to school on
that day.

The last two weeks of February, we
will be learning and working on
letters Uu, Vv, Ww and Xx . Our
projects for letters Uu-Xx will
include: umbrella bird, vulture, wolf
and x-ray fish. Some of the books we
will be reading are: Umbrella Birds
Umbrella, Kiss Me, I'm Vulture, A Wolf
at the Door, A Xylophone For X-Ray
Fish and much more.

We still have openings in our part
time and full time classes. Please
come to the office if you are
interested in adding more days, or if
you know of any families that would
need child care. We can give you
extra school brochures if you would
like one.

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