

# Kiddie Academy of Greenlawn

## February Newsletter



Volume 2

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### DIRECTOR'S CORNER

#### Avoiding the Germs

Winter is definitely here, lots of snow, chilly days, and many sick friends! A few staff members and many of our friends were out with colds, ear infections, high fevers, and we even had a few cases of pneumonia! A handful of our friends with asthma have had an increase in their Nebulizer treatments due to the germs they were exposed to.

We do our best to maintain a germ free environment by sanitizing the classrooms and equipment each day. We wipe noses as needed and encourage the children to cover their mouths when coughing, and cover their noses when sneezing. Then, the children are sent to wash their hands. Our staff is constantly washing their own hands and help the children wash their hands frequently throughout the day. We encourage the children to make bubbles and sing some fun songs as we wash.



We take appropriate measures in maintaining a healthy environment, but we need your help too! There are a few things that you can do at home to help the spread of germs. The most important is keeping your child home when they are showing signs and symptoms of illness which interfere with the child's activities: lethargy, irritability, persistent coughing or crying and low grade fevers—especially if they are masked with a dose of Tylenol. We understand that you are working parents and need to get to work, many of us are in the same boat—but, sometimes a day of rest at home can really do wonders for a child!

Another issue has been children coming back to school too soon after being sick. Their immunity is down and they are easily exposed to new germs—or they are not entirely recuperated and are exposing their germs, and so the cycle continues! We have had to send quiet a few children home sick, after they were out for a few days. Therefore, we are now requiring a doctor's note if a child is out for more than three days. The note needs to verify the date the child is able to return to school and indicate the illness. Please call us and let us know if your child is home sick and will not be attending school. If a doctor has diagnosed an illness we would appreciate a phone call so we can inform staff, sanitize, and post a Notices of Illness in the classroom to notify the parents in your child's class.

Proper hand washing is one of the most effective tools in the fight against germs. It

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### February Babies

Let's all wish our February Babies a very Happy Birthday!

Clown Fish I

2/26 Steven C.

Harp Seals I

2/26 Robert P.

Manatees I

2/14 Caroline M.



If you would like to bring in a snack for your child's birthday, it must be purchased from a store. Unfortunately, due to Health Code Restrictions, we cannot allow home baked items. Please check with your child's teachers for any diet restrictions within their room.



### Tsunami Relief Fund

Please don't forget to drop off any spare change that you may have for the Tsunami Relief Fund. Our drive will be on until February 14th!

would be greatly appreciated if you could reinforce covering mouths when coughing, covering noses when sneezing and hand washing with your child(ren). Our MAT training recommended the following Hand Washing Procedures for adults, which we are implementing: Remove all jewelry. If you do not remove your jewelry, you must use a nailbrush to scrub around the jewelry. Prepare a paper towel for drying clean hands. Turn on warm water, wet hands. Squirt soap on hands. Lather soap in hands for a minimum of 10 seconds making sure to rub backs of hands, in between fingers, up to wrists, as well as under fingernails. Use a nailbrush to get under fingernails and clean jewelry. Hands must be washed for a minimum of 30 seconds (that's about the time it takes to sing "Happy Birthday"). Rinse off soap, with hands turned down to the drain, until clear of soap. Dry hands with a paper towel. Turn off faucet with used paper towel and throw towel away (this avoids recontamination with germs). Apply lotion as needed.

Hand washing at home should be encouraged—especially after sneezing, coughing, using the bathroom, before meals and after handling pets. "Making bubbles" (using friction) and turning the faucet off with a paper towel—even at home really makes hand washing effective and reinforces our efforts at school! If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Health Policy, please let me know! Thank you in advance for your help in the fight against germs and maintaining a Healthy Environment!



## Curriculum Corner

### Sea Stars

This month we will be doing crawling races with our friends who have mastered crawling and who are picking up speed! And, we'll be going on a music hunt. We'll be hiding a musical toy for the infants to seek out! We'll be doing lots of social activities so that we can get to know all of our new friends. We'll be playing Tickle Cheek with the younger infants to encourage them to smile and make friends. "Making Noise" is a fun activity where we offer noisy objects tied with string for the infants to pull. It's sure to be a noisy favorite!



### Sea Horses

We will be exploring shadows, the moon, stars, sunshine and sleep and stress the fun side of sleeping. Sometime during the month, we'll have a slumber party where we will wear pajamas to school. Mommy's & Daddy's, make sure you have a Teddy Bear to send to school for the day we have our Teddy Bear Picnic. The monthly center value is tolerance and respect, we will try to recognize and respect the difference between ourself and others. Special celebrations are National Wild Bird Feeding Day, Vanlentines Day and Groundhog Day. Our objectives are to arrange objects from smallest to largest, patterning by color and sorting pictures.



### Clown Fish I

This month we will be focusing on using "gentle hands" The children will be given stickers for every act of kindness. We will be working on objects that are big and small. With the blocks, we can make a big and small tower. We are going to turn our room into a "Starry Night" We will paint a sun, moon and stars. Flashlight play will be fun, we will be making shadows on the walls. For Valentines Day, the class will make red jello and paint hearts with marble painting. In the science table we will play with different textrues that are red and pink. We also are going to wear pajamas to school and bring our Teddy Bear to school for a day of fun.

### Harp Seals I

We are very excited for February! We will be learning about day and night and we're going to have a slumber party on Friday, February 4th--so make sure to wear your pj's and slippers to school! We'll be busy talking about Valentine's Day and making special valentine projects with the children. We'll also be learning about stethoscopes and have a chance to listen to our heart beats! And, we'll be doing painting with something new...toothbrushes!

### Harp Seals II

First, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Miss Alicia and I am the Head Teacher for the Harp Seals II room. I have been working with 2 year olds for about 4 years and have completed my Child Development Credential. This month we have experienced lots of new and exciting things in our classroom. The children were introduced to new flavors and textures during our snow and ice week, as we tasted homemade popsicles with the assistance of the cold winter weather. We also discussed dressing the right way for the cold. Lastly, we are discussing bears. I look forward to working with all of the children, as well as the parents, in the upcoming months!

## Manatees I

This month we're learning all about safety with our weekly themes "Construction Zones", "Healthy Hearts", "Happy, Healthy Smiles" and "Being Safe at Home". Our letters of the month are Mm, Nn and Oo. We'll focus on the number 6, the color pink and our shape of the month - a heart. We'll learn about measuring and traffic signs, how to keep the heart healthy, dental health, making and working with play money, safety at home and why we need to follow rules. Creative activities will include molding with clay, painting houses, making noodle necklaces and self-portraits.

We will also be celebrating Valentine's Day by molding clay hearts, cutting heart puzzles and making yummy Valentines treats. We'll also celebrate President's Day by looking at President's faces on coins!

## Dolphins I

This month our theme is all about safety. Our letters are Vv, Ww and Zz. Our center value is tolerance and respect. We will look at who you call in an emergency and we will practice our "Stop, Drop and Roll" technique along with our phone numbers, addresses and "911" We will be singing "We are Safe" and learning to "Look Both Ways" finger play. For Valentines Day, we will learn to say "I Love You" in Spanish and Sign Language, make a picture frame with hearts and have a Valentines March.



## Re-Enrollment



We will be sending out re-enrollment information, for any parents whose child will not be attending our summer program, but would like to return in September. Please be on the look out for these forms!

## Child Seat Safety Day

Councilman Mark Cuthbertson and Mark Capodanno are hosting a Child Seat Safety Day on Saturday, February 12th from 10am to 2pm at Huntington Chevrolet (370 Oakwood Road in Huntington Station). Car seat technicians will be on hand to check the safety of car seats and show parents or caregivers how to properly install them.

You must make an appointment to get your child's seat inspected as limited space is available.

The person to call is Audra at 351-3171.



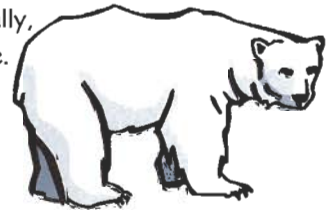
## [www.kiddieacademyofgreenlawn.com](http://www.kiddieacademyofgreenlawn.com)



Please visit our Parent Resource Center page on our website for any forms that you may need to update now and then, such as Infant Toddler Reports, Child History, Medication Administration Forms, etc. We also have copies of our archived newsletters on the page. New parents may want to take a look at the October Newsletter, as the Director's Corner topic was "Separation Anxiety"!

## Weather Related Closings

Any weather related closings will be broadcast on WBLI, WBAB and News 12. Additionally, we will also post on our website. We do not anticipate closing the center, unless conditions are severe.



## Parent Referral Bonus

Don't forget about our Parent Referral Bonus! If you refer a friend who enrolls their child at the Center for Full Time Care, you will receive a FREE WEEK! Thank you to all who have already referred new clients!

