

Director's Desk....

Amy Bartlett

Happy Valentines to all our sweet little ones, families, friends and staff! It's time for cherubs, cards and candy! I'm expecting to see lots of hearts and handprint art projects going home this month. The children love to show their love for you in this way.

Jesus gave us the ultimate Valentine message!



I think that says it all!

February brings us some other exciting happenings:

Little Caesar's Pizza Kit Fundraiser

Starts 2/13

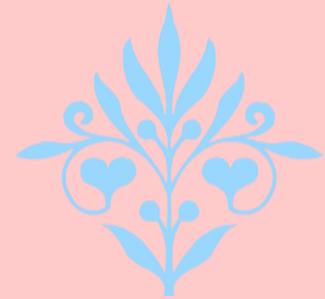
Orders are due 3/1

Delivery will be 3/12

Yum!

Young 5's/Kindergarten Roundup

- ◆ Lobby Displays—2/13
- ◆ Classroom Observations -2/15
- ◆ Readiness Testing -2/22
- ◆ Parent Information Meeting—2/26
- ◆ Registration Begins—2/27



Young Infant

Miss Jenny

Greetings from the Young Infants, thirty six more days until spring! Our Michigan weather has been all over the place. I'll be anxiously awaiting the warmer weather. Babies galore is a good title for this month's newsletter. We recently welcomed two new families to our program.. The Garcia family

and their adorable little guy Tucker and the Rey family and their precious little angel, Zoey. We also recently said farewell to our friend Chloe she will soon turn one and was happy to begin her adventures in the older infant room. Happy Birthday Chloe, we will miss you. Our oldest friend is Ava, she is 10

months old and she has been so happy to meet all her new friends. Be on the look out for this month's craft project. Until next month, God Bless!



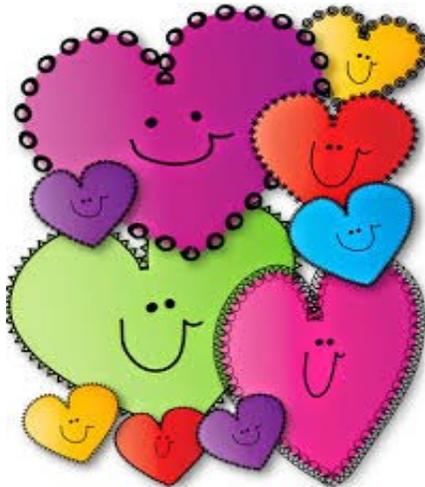
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Older Infants

Hello from the Older Infants! We would like to welcome Chloe and her family to the room. She is such a sweet and smiley little angel. Chloe will be with us a short time and then her family is moving out of state. We'll enjoy getting to know her for a little while. We also said good-bye to another ray of sunshine, Zoey. We will miss her, but she is so ready for the next big adventure of the Toddler room. We'll see you around big girl!

Happy Valentines to all the friends and families. Here are two poems for you to enjoy. The first is for you to share with your little one, an action poem. Enjoy your month!



It looks like the ground hog predicted an early Spring. I know officially that Spring begins on March 20th, so I guess we will see who is correct. It would be great if the rodent won that bet. It's been a different kind of winter this year, cold and wet, and it hasn't been all snow that we've had to deal with. We haven't ventured out too much this season with the cold and the rain. We are getting cabin fever. We will welcome Spring with open arms and shedding of our winter garb!

This month we will be talking about

My Valentine Heart

When I say I love you
(Point to lips)
It comes from my heart
(Hand on heart)
You hear it in your ear
(Point to ear)
And it sounds very smart
(Point to head)
I love it when you're
proud of me
(Stand very tall)
You say it all day long
(Stretch arms wide)
And when I hear you say
it
(Point to ear)
My heart sings a merry
song
(Hand on heart)

God's Valentine Gift

God's Valentine gift of love to us
Was not a bunch of flowers;
It wasn't candy, or a book
To while away the hours.

His gift was to become a man,
So He could freely give
His sacrificial love for us,
So you and I could live.

He gave us sweet salvation, and
Instruction, good and true--
To love our friends and enemies
And love our Savior, too.

So as we give our Valentines,
Let's thank our Lord and King;
The reason we have love to give
Is that He gave everything.

By Joanna Fuchs

Toddlers

opposites, near/far, loud/quiet, fast/slow, big/small and tall/short. Last month, we started back up with Mrs. Deanna for our music classes. She works on opposites such as stop/go fast/slow. Mrs. Deanna spends 1/2hr with each class. She keeps them engaged for the whole time with singing, dancing and playing different instruments. The friends are introduced to different genres of music, from classical to country. They learn to keep time by using their body or it may be some bells or scarves that they dance and keep time with. Whatever they use they are having a wonderful time learning. We are so blessed to have Mrs. Deanna come and share herself with us.

Miss De

This month we welcome to our room, Zoey from Older Infants and Vella and Athena and their families, from outside the center. We said have fun to Haven as she moved to the 3 year old room. We have to say good-bye to Chance as he and his family move to Florida, we wish them well.

We wish all our families a blessed month. If you have any questions about our department please direct them to myself, Miss De. I am in the office on Tuesday afternoons, but you can always call the center and speak with me or speak with me in the class room. Thank you for giving us the honor of taking care of your little ones.



Threes

Welcome to February! We sure had an interesting start to it—didn't we! Hopefully now we can all get back into the swing of things with our schedules!

During this month we will be doing lots of projects with hearts since Valentine's Day is approaching. We will also read books having to do with Valentines, friendship and love. During our music time, Mrs. Dean-

na will also be teaching us some new songs about LOVE. The kids always look forward to the class and really enjoy being able to play with instruments.

Teddy Bears will also be a theme coming up this month. The kids will be able to bring in a Teddy Bear to dance with and have an indoor Teddy Bear Picnic. We will also use the song and story of "Going on a Bear

Hunt" ~ so fun!! I will post when to bring the Teddy Bear in a couple of weeks.

Welcome Haven Petrella and Zaylee DeHaven to our room. Both girls have recently joined our room and we are so happy to have both of them and their families here with us!

Happy Birthday Charli!!

Have a great month, Di



Fours

February is a great month with so many fun dates and it brings us closer to Spring! We have a lot of plans here in the Fours Room. We'll be having a Valentine's Day party on the 14th. The boys and girls will be very busy making beautiful decorations for our room. A sign up sheet will be posted if you'd like to share in bringing a treat. Your child will need 12 valentines to pass out for friends. Your child does not need to

"address" each valentine, but I do encourage you to have them practice their name ~ "who it's from". (Maybe a couple each night leading up to Valentine's Day). Along with Valentine's Day the other plan we have will be learning about the past great Presidents: Washington and Lincoln. Even at this young age the boys and girls are so interested in these two great histori-

cal figures.

For phonics, our focus will be on Qq, Rr, Ss and Tt. In math we'll be attempting more "elaborate" patterns and still working on sorting, graphing, and number recognition.

Happy Valentine's Day! Remember those you love & the one who loves you most! ♥

Young 5's/ Kindergarten

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever. Psalm 107:1

February is a short month but a wonderful month at Great Beginnings. We think of hearts and Valentines and loving each other. I'm reminded of our G verse, God is love 1 John 4:8. Our boys and girls have sweet hearts, they sing of God's love everyday.

Our themes for February are "Weather and Bears." We will study about our weather through the year and have fun with some freezing and thawing experiments. February 28 is "Teddy Bear Day"! Bring your fa-

vorite bear!! We will take our bears to music class with Mrs. Deanna. Music class will never be more fun.

Another exciting part of February is our first chapter book, Abe Lincoln Gets His Chance by Francis Cavanah. We will read about Abe Lincoln from the day he was born in the little one room, dirt floor cabin with the bear skin door. We will finish the month making a shoe box diorama of Abe's first boyhood home.

Our phonics and reading centers are really blooming. We have started our "Reading Club" and some boys and girls

Mrs. Layer

have read 9 or 10 books; silently, to me and then to someone in another room. We are also introducing st, pl and tr.

Math centers are coming right along. We had our 100 Day Party on the 8th. We ate 100 items, ran 100 laps around the room, made a snake 100 inches long and shared our 100 collections. We are now counting to 100 by 1's, 5's and 10's. Well, Happy Valentine's Day! Be sure to give someone a heart.

