

## March 2019 Newsletter



### From the Directors:

We appreciate all the support we receive from our families!

#### Tuition:

March tuition is due. Please remember we bill on the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month and you have until the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month to pay. A \$45 late fee will be added onto the account if payment is received after the 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Registration 2019 - 2020 School Year:

We are **SO EXCITED** to announce we will be registering for the 2019 - 2020 school year! You can get the registration forms online or in the office. To secure your child's spot for next year we will need the registration form along with the registration fee of \$125.00.

#### Midland Fundraiser:

Back by popular demand, our spectacular spring fundraiser has returned! Whether you are looking for items for a special occasion or gifts for that special occasion, Midland has it all! This is the perfect opportunity to stock up on high quality gifts for family and friends while helping your school. The fundraiser will run March 4<sup>th</sup> thru March 18<sup>th</sup> and information regarding the fundraiser was sent home in backpacks this week. The profits we receive we will help the school to purchase outside play equipment and teaching materials for our students!

#### Lunch & Learn:

Our next Lunch & Learn session will begin on March 11<sup>th</sup>! The theme for this next session is "Let's Plant a Garden". We have lots of fun indoor and outdoor activities planned! If you would like to enroll your child(ren) in our enrichment program you can call, e-mail us, or stop by the office

#### DTPT Drop Zone:

We know that life can be busy and sometimes you just need a few extra hours in your day. We are here to help by ensuring that your child is comfortable, happy, and enjoying their time at our DTPT Drop Zone. This program was created to allow our families the convenience of leaving your little one at school for the day on a drop-in basis. Your child will stay and play while you get those few extra hours in your day.

**Hours: 9:00 to 12:00 pm or 12:30 to 3:30 pm**

#### Inclement Weather Policy:

Please remember we follow Prince William County Schools on closings and delays. If the county is closed, we will be closed. If the county has a 2-hour delay, we will open 2 hours late as well. Our morning classes will run from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and our afternoon classes will run from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

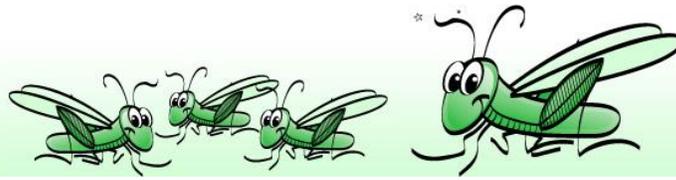
#### Field Trip:

We are currently working with the Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum to reschedule our filed trip. We appreciate your patience as we try to work out the details and will get you the date as soon as possible!

#### PJ Party:

We love to hold PJ Parties for our parents and our next PJ parties will be March 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>! These events allow our parents FOUR kid-free hours to run errands, go on a date night, or go out with friends while knowing your child(ren) are safe and having fun at school. Your child(ren) will be able to play games, make a craft, eat pizza and watch a movie in our Music & Movement classroom in their PJ's!

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### Ms. Kristine Says...

#### Ladybugs:

Hi Ladybug Families! The educational character for February was Compassion and this theme was emphasized greatly this month. Half of our month was centered around Community Helpers. Some of the Community Helpers we learned about were police officers, construction workers, and doctors! These Ladybugs showcased their construction skills by using playdoh and popsicle sticks to create tall towers! It was exciting to see how each one turned out so unique. The students were all so proud of themselves. We spent some of our Dinosaur week preparing for our Valentine's Day celebration which was a blast! The class had so much fun decorating their bags and being able to give out Valentine treats to one another. Although our Volcano week was cut short by the snow days, the class had fun learning about what volcanoes are and what they do. The hanging 3D volcanoes they made were pretty awesome! We finished out our month by circling back to our final Community Helper: Dentists. We learned all about Dental Health and why it is important to take good care of our teeth. We painted a tooth and got to make "elephant toothpaste". The students LOVED this experiment!

March will be a very exciting month for our Ladybugs. Our educational character will be Acceptance. This month we really want to emphasize that all our friends are different and that we should embrace the idea that there is no "perfect" way to do a craft or activity. "Uniqueness" is a word we will use quite often next month. We will have our first take-home project called The Lucky Family Project. You will receive an activity to complete at home and return to class for your Ladybug to share with the class (more information to follow). We will kick off our month by learning about different types of Transportation: boats, cars, trucks, and even hot air balloons! Much of the month will focus on learning about Weather, so we will start off by learning about the Water Cycle and its different stages. We will practice our sequencing skills a lot during this section. Finally, we will finish out the month of March by learning about all different types of weather, especially what the weather is like in the Desert and the Rainforest and what those different habitats are like—including the animals that live there and plants that grow there. We will also be keeping our eyes peeled this month for a sneaky leprechaun that has been causing mischief in our school. We hear he only comes out when it's very quiet, so we will see if we can get him to come out and play!

### Ms. Sarah Says...

#### Frogs & Ladybugs:

February was a wonderful month filled with new concepts in mathematics, language arts and science. As we continue through these next few months, I'd love to share my enthusiasm about the different aspects of the rainbow, learning measurement with different tools, St. Patrick's Day, new sight words, vowels AND letter blends! Letter blends are going to be one of our biggest focuses for the month of March. Since the children have all successfully mastered the short and long vowel sounds - we will continue to build on that by recognizing them in words now! (HOW COOL!) This is a VERY tricky concept that will give them a head start in Kindergarten.

On the white board as always - in the front of the classroom I have written a LIST of monthly goals for March. This board and these goals are to not only challenge your child but to challenge myself as an educator. As a class we continuously reach and maintain consistency meeting these goals - without you, these goals would not be possible to reach!

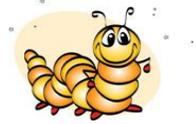
The major goal met this month was mastering and being able to write/draw AND recognize 2/3D shapes. Although a VERY difficult task for majority of 4/5 year olds - our class completed this goal and I am 110% sure they would enjoy sharing their skills of drawing 3D shapes. I have been an educator for many years and never have I had so much confidence and faith in their ability to learn new concepts within a short period of time.

Our daily schedule and routine has remained the same for February and will only be altered slightly come March - we will continue to focus on abstract concepts (such as: cause and effect, predictions, adding, subtracting and 24-100 piece puzzles) Academically our morning is focused on the letter of the week, the sound it makes, how to write it the proper way (top to bottom). A new concept was introduced in January that will carry over into March month is VOWELS - I hope they practice for you at home. If not, I highly recommend you asking your child "What does a long A say? What does a short A say?" and so on... 😊

In addition to our normal routine - I have been assessing all the children one-on-one which will reflect on their March progress report. At which time if there are any concerns, questions or comments my door is ALWAYS open.

Ms. Victoria and I look forward to a productive month with our Frogs and Ladybugs! March will be very craft oriented and science will be magnified!

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### Ms. Barbara Says...

#### Inchworms:

Hello boys, girls, and grownups! It is time for our newsletter. February was a great month, with fewer snow days and some more sunny days. We were able to enjoy the playground for a few days. In February we learned the letters "N," "O," and "P." On the first week, we learned about volcanos, and we saw an eruption. The children loved the experience. The second week was Valentine`s week, we read about valentine`s, made and exchanged crafts between the students, and we had a party. Thank you for your participation, providing the valentines and the amazing cookies that one friend brought for our party, they were delicious. On the third week, we learned about dinosaurs, the children`s favorite toys in the jumping room. During the last week, we learned about dental hygiene; we used playdoh, blocks, and yarn to learn about flossing. Then we used white paint and toothbrushes to brush some craft teeth while talking about the importance of brushing our teeth. It was also a month of new challenges. We changed all our snack time placemats. Now, they look like the same with each child`s name; we are using them to practice the recognition of the children`s names. We started by associating their names pronunciation with the first letter of their names; you can practice home as well. Another challenge was our "obstacles course," the children loved to jump over the blocks, go through the tunnel, throw the bean bag inside the bucket, and match the shapes. This activity is great for the little ones` gross motor skills, and it also works as a tool to expend their energy during the cold days. There is much more to come in March. We will have a month full of activities. We will celebrate the spring by planting some flowers and working at the school garden. We will learn the letters "Q," "R," "S," and "T." We will also learn about the transportation, desert, rainforest, weather and water cycle; which means a lot of learning in the playground area and with water. We will have a month filled with activities, academics and especially fun. It will finally be spring and we are ready for learn and fun.



### Ms. JJ Says...

#### Busy Bees:

In February your Busy Bees were full of kindness and love! The children had a great time participating in their Valentine`s Day card exchanges. I`m sure they were excited to show you all their cards and goodies. They did a great job handing out their cards independently and enjoyed receiving them as well. I also want to thank everyone for all my wonderful valentines, I really appreciate your kindness! In February, we covered our unit about dinosaurs. We created T-Rex fossils out of Q-tips and read some great books about dinosaurs. I think the class favorite was "The Cat in the Hat`s Oh Say, Can You Say Di-No-Saur". It`s a great book for kids and adults alike because it spells out the dinosaur names phonetically...lets be real for a minute, some of those dinosaur names are not easy to pronounce. Then we had a great time exploding our volcano and making our paper volcanoes. The children always have the best facial expressions when they see the volcano erupt. Last but not least, we had our unit on dental health. We talked about how it`s important to brush our teeth every day to keep our mouths healthy and our smiles beautiful. We talked about dentists and how they help us take care of our teeth. They also explored a sensory bin that had a playdoh dental play set in it...I believe we may have some future dentists in our presence. In February we introduced the letters L, R, and T. In March we will discuss the letters V, Q, X and Y. We will also be covering our units on rainforests, deserts and weather. Our character education of the month is "acceptance". One way I plan to cover this topic is through our March book of the month "We`re Different, We`re the Same...And We`re All Wonderful". It`s a book that explores our differences, while explaining all the things we have in common. For example, our eyes may be different colors, shapes, and sizes but we all use them the same way - to see things. In March we will to continue working on using our pincher fingers to hold our writing utensils. I will be introducing new tracing centers and have the kids continue to trace their names. I`m starting to see improvement in their tracing skills and will keep focusing on this for the remainder of the year. Hopefully March brings us signs of spring and warmer temperatures. We will be getting outside as much as possible so make sure your child has weather appropriate clothing and jackets. Please remember my door is always open should you have any questions or concerns.

## March 2019 Newsletter

### Ms. Lindsey Says:

#### Ladybugs:

February has been a busy month! Throughout February, we discussed the themes Dinosaurs, Prehistoric Animals, Dental Health, and Volcanoes. We celebrated Valentine's Day by playing Valentine's Bingo, enjoying a sweet treat, and exchanging Valentine's Day cards with our classmates. The children enjoyed our book of the month, Dinosaur Bones, and completed a Dinosaur craft. It was displayed on our classroom door during February. The highlight of the month was Daytime Playtimes sensory bin, "Digging up Fossils". Students were able to dig up the dinosaur fossils that were covered in black beans in the bin. The children loved playing with the dinosaur fossils and beans. If you take a look at our artwork on the walls in the hallway or on our classroom bulletin board, you will see we have been focusing on scissor skills. The children have been cutting everything on their own. They are doing a great job and I am so proud of them! Scissor skills is such an important ability to have when entering kindergarten. We are always working to improve fine motor skills in fun and exciting ways.

In language arts, we focused on the letters Ll, Rr, Tt, and Vv. The children had fun brainstorming together to find words that start with these letters. We also made a class list with different words and pictures that start with our letter of the week. The students were also challenged to go on a letter hunt and find the letter of the week in a book they were reading, earning a sticker as a reward for success. This was a popular activity!

In March, our themes will be the Rainforest, the Desert, Weather, the Water Cycle, and Transportation. Our book of the month will be, Rumble in the Jungle. This book will lead us into our Rainforest theme and we will continue to practice rhyming and pre-reading skills throughout the month.

The children are doing a great job of being able to recognize their last names. We will continue to work on writing our last names this month. We will also celebrate St.Patrick's day in March. Please have your child wear green on St.Patrick's day. Ms.Lindsey will be bringing in a sweet treat and a fun bingo game!

I am looking forward to watching your children's growth and progress over the next few months. Your children are doing a great job in preschool! They are working hard at teamwork and problem solving in the classroom. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for sharing your children with us!

### Ms. Teresa Says...

#### Busy Bees:

I would like to thank everyone for all of my Valentine's Day goodies - from my sweet cards, candy, and gift card. I really appreciate all of your kindness. The children had a great time decorating their bags with the stampers and stickers, and had a great time sharing our Valentines with their friends. February brought us a lot of crazy weather, so when we weren't able to go outside, we created our own fun! The Busy Bees used some newspaper snowballs and created their own snowball fight! They had so much fun, and we were able to burn off a lot of extra energy too!! We discovered dinosaurs, and discussed how they were different from each other. We discovered some were carnivores (meat eaters), and some were herbivores (plant eaters). The children were able to excavate some dinosaur's bones, and then we made our own fossils. They made a paper volcano, and then they created their own eruption in the classroom volcano. They became scientists when they learned about "chemical reactions", mixing the baking soda and vinegar together. They really enjoyed watching the "lava" pouring out! We talked about eating healthy food, and how to keep our teeth healthy by brushing our teeth at least two times a day. Everyone enjoyed celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday, and reading some of our favorite Cat in the Hat stories. We discussed and learned the letters Ll, Rr, and Tt, and their sounds, along with reviewing our numbers in English and Spanish.

In March we will be having more fun themes. We will be learning about the rainforest and deserts, and about some of the animals that live in both environments. We will be learning about the weather and the effects it has on our environment and the animals around us. We will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day too! We will be learning the letters Vv, Qq, Xx and Yy by going over their shapes and the sounds they make. We will continue to review the months, days of the week, our colors, and counting. We do patterning on our calendar every day. The children are practicing tracing the letters in their names, using upper and lower case letters. As spring is approaching a reminder to check the clothes that are in your child's backpack to make sure that they still fit.

Thank you for your support at home and school! I am looking forward to another great month!

