

TPCDC Newsletter

March 2017



Director's Notes

What does scientific learning look like in preschool? What is this big push for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in the early childhood programs? Actually, it all “stems” from some hard evidence that indicates that children who acquire investigative skills early in life build both abilities in scientific inquiry and a love of science, math and other technologies. But, before you rush out to buy that chemistry set and the encyclopedia, keep in mind that, like most other preschool learning, this happens best when children can freely explore and experiment with real items in their environment. As they sift through the sandbox, dig worms in the garden, build block towers and make jello, they learn to measure, quantify, problem-solve and predict outcomes. To read more, check out:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/10/02/science/scientific-inquiry-among-the-preschool-set.html>

<http://happyhooligans.ca/20-science-activities-toddlers-preschoolers/>

Important Dates to Remember

March 3rd- Public School Early Release-TPCDC Open

April 7th-Public School Closed- TPCDC Open

April 10- April 17th- Spring Break Public Schools -TPCDC Open (Remember to Sign Up by March 1st)

Read Across America:



This year we will be celebrating and participating in Read Across America starting March 2! We will be participating as a school (all ages) to reach our goal of reading 1,500 books. All books read at home and at school will count towards our goal. If all children at our school read 13 books or more (which we know they will!), we will achieve our goal. There will be a chart on each classroom door (starting March 2nd) where parents can report how many books were read at home. We will keep a tally each week in main building so that you can see the progress we're making towards our goal of 1,500 books!

TEDDY BEARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

Dear Parents, the Teddy Bears had a great time learning about shapes this month. We had fun painting different shaped pictures and building with a variety of shapes. For the month of March, we look forward to learn and have fun talking about zoo animals. We will discuss large animals such as elephants, hippos, zebras, and giraffes. Additionally, we'll learn about small animals like monkeys, apes, turtles and crocodile.

Our objective is for the children to acquire the knowledge about the animals and play with zoo animal's toys, so then when they see them at the zoo, they will have built their vocabulary to be able to name them and tell something about them. To enhance our topic, we will visit the National Zoo on March 30th, so the children can have the opportunity to see some animals and their habitats.



MUNCHKINS NEWSLETTER- Ms. Pam

Hello Families, This month the Munchkins will be introduced to identifying letters through being super stars. We will also learn the letter sounds through tongue twisters, alliteration, and rhyming games. Expanding on their inquisitiveness we will introduce the 5 W's (Who, What, When, Where and Why). Get ready for the questions to roll in!

Things to Remember:

The day that your child has show-n-tell will also be the day they are the star of the class! Make it fun and send them to school dresses to the “nines” or as a super letter hero!

Dates to Remember:

3/10- Ms. Pam Poppin Pajama Pizza Party! Ms. Pam will provide lunch for Munchkins. Come dressed in PJ's

3/17- Come to school dressed as a super hero or letter.



RAINBOWS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Corina

March is the month where we will concentrate on burning all the calories we gained during our “Bread Making” themed month. During our Exercise month we will take the time to explore the following: What are different kinds of exercise? How do our bodies work when we exercise? What do our bodies need in order to move and exercise? What jobs are related to exercise? And lastly, how do people stay safe when they exercise? Rainbow parents, this will be indeed a physical month, be ready to jump, skip, tumble and roll with us. You are welcome to come in on your child’s show-n-tell day to share or show us your favorite form of exercise, also we would love to see you on our “field day” on March 17th and please bring your child’s bike to school on March 23rd for our bike rally!



EXPLORERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Selvi



For the month of March the Explorers theme will be Trees and A to Z fruit. The Explorers will learn many facts about trees and different fruits: where they grow, their benefits, and the tastes of the fruit. The focus will be on the importance of eating a variety of fruits. For the science portion we will experiment using our senses of smell, taste, and touch. We will use these senses to describe a variety of trees and fruits. In our social segment, the Explorers will learn about the insects & animals who live in the fruit trees, how people help take care of the trees, and how the trees change to produce fruits. Beginning March 2nd we will celebrate Dr. Seuss’ birthday by reading his famous fun books. During the month of March we will use Lion (very windy) and Lamb (gentle winds) to quantify the weather and keep a tally of the types of days and discuss how the amount of wind affects our environment. For show and share we would like the Explorers to bring in their favorite fruit recipe to share with all their classmates. Our field trip dates are March 8th to Brookside Gardens, the 10th to the Anacostia Resource Education Center, the 15th to the Botanical Garden, the 28th Mother Earth show at the Ripley Center, and the 29th

to the National Arboretum.

SHINING STARS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Rosa

Hello March! It’s hard to believe winter will be ending soon and spring is just around the corner. For this month, the Shining Stars classroom will be honoring Dr. Seuss birthday by reading and doing activities based on our favorite Dr. Seuss books and will be making our own green eggs and ham. We also will be welcoming Spring by talking about plants, flowers and animals that will awake during the spring! On March 17th we are asking everyone to wear green! Also please remember there is an Early Public School Dismissal on Friday, March 3rd. Have a great month!



BRIGHT STARS, SHINING STARS’ AND SCHOOL AGERS NEWSLETTER – Ms. Dorothy



For the month of March we are going green! We will be enjoying several outdoor activities including cleaning up the back playground and painting the wooden fence. To welcome spring we will be planting in our garden. We will learn the importance of recycling and how it affects our ecosystem. We are asking for donations of empty water bottles, glass jars with lids and plastic containers (empty). Please also make sure that the containers are clean before donated. We will have an all green celebration Friday, March 17th. We will post a sign-up sheet for donations. We will also be participating in Read Across America, please make sure to check the schedule for events!

