

TPCDC Newsletter

February 2016



Director's Notes

With all this cold, snowy weather lately, I think we've all had plenty of experience with the interesting emotional development happening in children during these early years. There are so many emotional and behavioral abilities that children have to acquire to negotiate and survive in society. At TPCDC, the teachers try to guide the children by modeling and giving them direct assistance in improving emotional skills, specifically in these hands-on areas

- Following rules, routines, and directions
- Identifying feelings in oneself and others
- Controlling anger and impulses
- Problem solving
- Suggesting play themes and activities to peers
- Sharing toys and other materials
- Taking turns
- Helping adults and peers
- Giving compliments
- Understanding how and when to apologize
- Expressing empathy with others' feelings
- Recognizing that anger can interfere with problem solving
- Learning how to recognize anger in oneself and others
- Learning how to calm down
- Understanding appropriate ways to express anger

Want to get other helpful hints?

Check out: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/preschool/Pages/Emotional-Development-in-Preschoolers.aspx>

Important Dates to Remember

Feb. 15th – TPCDC Closed – President's Day

Feb. 26th – MCPS Closed for Professional Development Day- Full Day Camp

Feb. 27th – Winter Concert



Summer Camp

The Summer Camp registration is now available. Summer session themes include: Photography, Home Economics, Island Explorer, Color Blast, Spa and Relaxation, Training Camp, A Parallel Universe, Party across the USA, Inventors Workshop and The Everything Week. Check out our Summer Brochure available below. Also please pass it along to anyone interested in summer camp.

Camp Brochure: [Summer Camp 2016](#)

Family Winter Concert

Come socialize with our friendly TPCDC families, purchase light refreshments, and above all enjoy the performances! This event will take place Saturday, February 27th from 11am-12pm in the big gym. Tickets are \$8 per person. Stop by the office to pick up tickets now so you can avoid the long line at the door. Additionally, you can purchase tickets online through brownpapertickets.com (search TPCDC). The goal of the Family Concert is to fund our Staff Development Scholarship Program in order to assist staff members who are either taking Early Childhood college courses, or pursuing other related coursework. Although many of our staff are receiving partial financial aid from the State of Maryland or other sources, TPCDC is also actively supporting them in their pursuit of education. This is all part of the big initiative to help meet Maryland State Department of Education's training requirements for the teachers of our Credentialed Program.



TEDDY BEARS' NEWSLETTER – Ms. Ana

Dear Parents, the Teddy Bears continue to have fun in the classroom, while little by little developing their social and language skills. For the month of February, we will talk about shapes and colors. Primarily focusing on the shapes triangle, heart, circles, and squares. We will do art activities related to the weekly topic, such as painting, pasting, and building with the different shapes. The objective is to promote shapes recognition as well as to help the children build more vocabulary by exposing them to new words. We have planned our Valentine's Day Pot-Luck on February 12th, as always we kindly request you to bring a dish to share.



MUNCHKINS' NEWSLETTER – Ms. Beatrice P.

This Month's theme is divided into four parts. Each theme is designed to help the Munchkins become familiar themselves as individuals and as part of their classroom group. These themes will also help them to develop positive habits and skills.

- Week 1: Winter- We will have activities related to snow, ice and cold weather. We will dress up a snowman, freeze water and mix paint to create popsicle painters. We will also make our own snow and as a treat make snow cones!
- Week 2: Buildings-Activities for this week will be geared towards architecture and construction. We will be going on a field trip to the building museum in DC. On our field trip we will use that time to exam different sizes and shapes of buildings from other decades. We will take a neighborhood walk and take photos of unique houses, building and structures we find along the way.
- Week 3: Dental Health- This week we will talk about how to take care of our teeth. We will have activities that promote healthy eating and good dental care. We will have a special visitor from a Dental Office come in and share fun brushing tips and ideas.
- Week 4: Dr. Seuss- This week we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss. Each day this week we will read one of Dr. Seuss books and have activities related to each book read.



RAINBOWS' NEWSLETTER – Ms. Corina



Webster's New World dictionary defines emotion as "A natural instinctive state of mind driving from one's circumstances, mood or relationships with others. For the month of February we will be doing many different activities based on feelings and emotions.

We will be practicing what to do in certain emotional situations. Our goal is to transfer these emotional practices into the child's everyday life. If by any chance you walk into the classroom and see a teacher on the floor appearing meltdown, *don't be alarmed* we are just working on our emotions.

EXPLORERS' NEWSLETTER – Ms. Indira

February is Black History month and in honor of this month, the Explorers will be celebrate the positive achievement and contributions that people of color have made to society. We will explore past and present Civil Right leaders, educators, inventors, athletes, philanthropists and many others . We have planned trips such as the visit to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and the Reginal Lewis Museum which will continue to enhance our topic of Black History. For show-n-tell each child/family will be assigned a picture and name of a Notable person of color. We are asking for 3 interesting or known facts about the person you have been assigned. Please note that you can be as creative as you would like. Ideas include: children's books, poster board presentation, costumes, inventions, music, food, photos, painting, drawings, poems and 3 dimensional displays just to name a few! This assignment will be due the day of your child's show-n-tell date. We appreciate all of your help!



BRIGHT STARS' NEWSLETTER – Ms. Dorothy

The month of February is filled with special events and holidays. The Bright Stars, Shining Stars and School Agers will be involved with activities related to events, celebrations and holidays in February. Each week we will have a theme related to events during the month.

- Week 1: February monthly banner-The children will use this week to decorate a banner that represents things they love about February.
- Week 2: Pink, white and red/Friendship- The children will make yummy treats, write thoughts about friends and post them around the classroom, make a friendship chain and have a pink, white and red celebration. We will need donations for our party.
- Week 3: Presidents Week- We will create a voting box for the upcoming presidential candidates. We will make our own "White House" and play presidents bingo.
- Week 4: Science Explosion-We will Create our own volcano, create a classroom lava lamp and make pop rock soda rockets.

At the end of the month we will celebrate by having a Friendship Party. We are looking forward to a month filled with interesting activities.

