

St. Mary's Community Preschool Newsletter

February 2015

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Dear Parents:

Registration is still open for our 2, 3 and 4 year old programs for the 2014-2015 school year. If you know somebody that is interested in our school, please direct them to us.



**February Is
Dental Health**

Mommy And Me Jubilee

Kathy Wright, Facilitator

Our spring session begins April 8, 2015. If you are interested or know somebody that might be please call/text or email Kathy Wright, 845-216-6871 or CRider8680@hotmail.com.



Month

Thank you Alpha & Omega Dental for teaching us how to keep our teeth healthy.



Preschool Two Day

Sharlene Pizza, Head Teacher

The months are flying by!! Wow, we've had our share of snow and cold weather during February. Don't let that dampen your spirits; spring is on its way! The birds have been greeting me the second I open my car door, what a lovely sound to hear. Now, we just need the piles of snow to melt, and we will be on our way.

February was a quick month; but it was fun-filled with lots of hearts, treats, sweets and, of course, learning. Our letters this month were M, N & O. Our shape of the month was the heart, no surprises there! Valentine's Day would not be complete without focusing on the color Pink. We concentrated on numbers 1 through 5 counting all sorts of objects.

During our Valentines craft sessions, the children made heart sun catchers. We enjoyed the sensory pleasure of shredded crayons, Then, watched as Ms. Sharlene taught the kids when something HOT touches crayons, they melt. Our Valentine's Day party included some fun games especially Taste and Tally.



We sampled each color of the Conversation Hearts and took a poll of what color the children liked best. Then, we glued on the number of



colorful hearts that were liked onto our tally sheet. The fun didn't stop there. Our colorful friendship salad of fresh fruits was just as nice to look at as it was to eat! Thank you parents for making our Valentines Day so special.

The following week was Presidents Week. We read a story on Abe Lincoln and what it was like for him growing up as a young boy to becoming the President of the United States. We learned that he had a humble beginning and lived in a small log cabin. The children were excited about building their own log cabins with pretzels and vanilla icing - YUM!!

During Chapel time on Tuesdays, Reverend Betty taught us about the love that we have inside us that God wants us to share with others. We sang about this love and talked about the ways we can show love to others. The children's top picks were hugging and helping Mommy, being nice to their brothers and sisters, and listening. Praise God!

Sharlene Pizza, Head Teacher

Michele Kayser, Assistant Teacher

Preschool Three Day

Amanda Rabolli, Head Teacher

"Get Set For School Curriculum

February may be the shortest month of the year, but it packs a lot of holidays and celebrations!

We celebrated Black History month by making a traffic light and learning the words to a song that goes along with it. We celebrated friendship and love with a Friendship salad for Valentine's Day. We added the fruit to our salad and discussed how, just like the various fruits, we are all different but equally as important to our classroom.

We welcomed Dr. Chung from Alpha and Omega Dental who presented us with information on the importance of good dental hygiene. Each student was given a toothbrush, toothpaste and timer-

Thank you Dr. Chung!



We also celebrated President's Day by making a yummy log cabin with icing and pretzels. Throughout the month we completed various crafts centered around our four main celebrations, as well as our letter of the week. We created L is for lamp, M is for mouse, N is for night, and O is for octopus. The students used their Readiness and Writing to trace the number 2 and letters P and R.

During Language and Literacy, the students have been discussing everyday occurrences within our classroom. Our focus has been to get comfortable speaking to a group of peers using complete sentences. We are also practicing our listening skills and being polite while our friends are talking. We listened to a song about capital partners and sang about letter matches. The children realized that Cc, Ss, Ww, Xx, and Zz are letter matches because they look the same in both capital and lowercase forms. We matched up our lowercase letter cards with their capital partners as we sang along.

We went fishing for letters. Each student reached into our Sound Around Box and pulled out a letter, number or object. Then, sorted the letters into a pile. We expanded the idea by separating letters, numbers, and objects.

In Math, we continued to practice recognizing numbers and counting. Using different sized noodles, the students compared length. We created a noodle masterpiece as we glued our noodles in size order. We completed a special Valentine's Day graph using candy hearts. We first sorted our candy hearts by color and then graphed our results. We enjoyed some of the candy after we completed our

lesson.

February was a lot of fun, but we are looking forward to March and Spring!

Amanda Rabolli, Head Teacher
Michele Kayser, Assistant Teacher

Preschool Five Day

Ida Payne, Head Teacher

"Get Set For School" Curriculum

All the cold weather and snow in February did not prevent the PreK students from plowing ahead and piling up their knowledge of letters, words, and numbers. Let's take a look at what they accomplished.

Word Time: Squawker helped the children learn the spelling, definition and correct pronunciation of words in the **Earth** category.

Penmanship: The students finished practicing the **Center Starting Capital Letters (A, I, T, and J)** in their Letters and Numbers for Me books. They learned to write words with these capital letters. They started practicing the **lowercase letters (C, O, S, V, and W)**.

Math: We continued exploring the section on **Geometry**. The students used their Mix and Make Shapes to find similar shapes of different sizes. They used their 4 Squares More Squares pattern boards and shapes to build puzzles. The students learned to identify and describe circles and how to make a circle using half circles and quarter circles.

The children completed their I Know My Numbers #5 and I Know My Numbers #6 booklets this month.

Language and Literacy: We finished our chapter on Concepts About Print by **recognizing** important signs in our world and to understand the **meaning** of those signs. Then, we started our chapter on **Comprehension**. The children act out stories using props from texts to the dramatic play center.



Students learn to **predict** what will happen in a story based on the title and illustrations found on the front cover of a book. The use of our Line It Up Story Cards help children make predictions by looking at each picture. The students learned to identify the **beginning, middle and end** of a story using their Line It Up Story Cards. This understanding enables them to organize their memories and retell stories. Using our Mat Man series of books, the students learn to identify the **main character** and why they are the most important person in a story.

We had time for fun making log cabins for President's Day, celebrating Black History month by making an Amistad Friendship Chain, and making and sharing our Friendship salad and other goodies on Valentine's Day.

Our teeth are whiter and healthier because of the visit from Alpha and Omega Dental in Tuxedo. Thank you, Dr. Chung!!



The students always enjoy their Wednesday visits to Chapel with Reverend Betty. They listen to stories, learn to sing new songs, and pray for the special people and pets we love.

We say goodbye to winter in anticipation of spring and warmer weather.

Ida Payne, Head Teacher
Cynthia Dinan, Assistant Teacher

Calendar Of Events

**March 2-13 Celebrating Dr.Seuss
Birthday**

March 14 Happy St.Patrick's Day

March 20 First Day Of Spring

March 30-April 3 Easter Break

St.Mary's Community Preschool offers a variety of early childhood academic programs:

Mommy & Me Jubilee
Preschool 2-day
Preschool 3-day
Preschool 5-day
Community Social Enrichment



For more information please contact Ida Payne /Head of School

at ipayne@stmarysintuxedo.org or you may call the school at 845-351-2389.



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