

January/February/March 2013

is "prepackaged." As we get closer to Valentine's Day, ask your teacher for the number of playmates your child has in their room. 

VALENTINES PARTY

We will be having our Valentine's Party Thursday February 14, 2013.

With this in mind we ask that you have your child "sign" the back of their cards they plan to exchange. This really works out well and decreases the amount of  confusion for the children and teachers. Many parents ask if they can bring treats during the party and the answer is "yes" as long as it



~ Tax Time ~

It's that time of year again! This year has really flown by! Yikes! Ms. Vickie is busy working on end of the year statements and should have those available for your tax purposes by January 31, 2013. If you have any questions you may contact Ms. Vickie either by phone, in person or using her email address.

[\(Nanniesunltdvj@aol.com\)](mailto:Nanniesunltdvj@aol.com)

For those of you who need our [Employee Identification Number \(EIN\) here it is!](#)

[39-1905508](tel:39-1905508)



Nursery Room

News



In looking at what is the best practice for safe sleeping we have initiated a new policy and procedure regarding the use of blankets in the nursery rooms.

Beginning January 1, 2013 we will no longer be using standard blankets in our nurseries.

Instead we will be using Sleeper Sacs.

The soft wearable blanket replaces loose blankets in the crib, therefor reducing the risk of rebreathing (the inhalation of carbon dioxide), which has been associated as a possible cause of sudden infant death syndrome. The generous sack allows room for kicking, but can't be kicked off so baby stays warm. You can use the sleepers over regular sleepwear to take the place of loose blankets.



Toddler Room

News



New games being played in the toddler room this month. You might see your child do these finger movements and wonder what they are doing. Below I have instructions on how the game is played so you can do this at home too! The toddlers love to do these types of games. They are short and holds their attention. However, expect a little chaos at first. They're full of energy and want to explore, so don't be surprised if they can't focus for long or follow rules to the letter.

Game: Two Little Blackbirds



How the game is played: With singing and hand motions, the adult leads the children in a song about opposites.

Two little blackbirds sitting on the hill

(Start with your hands behind your back.)

One named Jack

(Bring one hand to the front with your pointer finger extended.)



One named Jill

(Bring your other hand to the front with pointer finger extended.)



Fly away, Jack!

(Put the hand and finger representing Jack behind your back.)



Fly away, Jill!

(Do the same with your "Jill" hand.)

Come back, Jack!

(Bring "Jack" back to front.)

Come back, Jill!

(Bring "Jill" back to front.)

Two Year Old Room News

Potty Training



At this age your child might be showing interest in toilet training (between 2-3 years!) This is an exasperating phase for you and your child! When that time comes we want to help! If your child is showing interest at home, we will be evaluating your child's continued toileting interest here and we will work with your child to enforce

what you are attempting at home. To encourage the use of the toilets, we have installed small toilets for them to use to enhance their independence and decrease their fear of using a commode. Please make certain you send them in elastic waist pants (no zippers yet please!) that are easily and independently pulled up. While toilet training they will have to wear pull-ups, not diapers. At the Center, we toilet the children every two hours, unless they tell us they have to go more frequently. They love washing their hands at the short sinks and looking at themselves in the mirror! 😊



Every Friday the Lead Teacher completes our Tracking Form. This has 8 Keys to address listed here:

1. Is the child willingly toileting?
2. Does the child tell you when they need to urinate/defecate?



3. Do they attend to their own clothing?
4. Are they dry when they wake up from naptime?
5. Are their pants dry before they successfully toilet?
6. Have they been independent in toileting this week (even though needed minimal assistance)?
7. Is the child dressed in toilet training appropriate clothing? (elastic waist pants etc.)
8. Is the child wearing regular undershorts/panties?



Ms. Vickie checks this book every Monday to watch progress. If a child was evaluated “no” on #1 we will back off for a week or two then restart the process. You are welcome to look at the white notebook anytime you wish. It is located on the cubbies to the left of the office. After your child has completed 2 weeks of all “Yes” responses, they



are considered toilet trained and Ms. Vickie will send you a letter informing you of a rate decrease (will also need to be 3 and potty trained for a reduction) and the effective date.

Three Year Old Room News

Ladybugs:



The Ladybug Room has been super busy these past few months. So much to learn! The children had been practicing their Christmas songs for their program daily and did an awesome job during their performance for family and friends.



They also have been learning about spatial concepts, what are pets, Thanksgiving (for example: Pilgrims, Indians etc...) Food and food groups, Dinosaurs, Farm animals, Zoo animals, Weather, Fall, Transportation, Manners, and much much more.

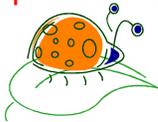


Children are beginning to learn the concept of using scissors, sequencing with beads etc..



Story time is a special time where the teacher will bring the Focus of the Week together with the book.

Outdoor play continues even during the winter. The children love to put their snowsuits, hats, gloves and boots on and stomp in the snow.



Four Year Old Room News

Fireflies:



The Fireflies also had a very busy holiday! They performed their Christmas Musical for their parents and family members in December and did a wonderful job.



The first few months of preschool have been jam packed with new learning opportunities.

Here are some things they have been learning. "All about Me" brought name recognition and practice handwriting along with scissor usage and painting a self-portraits.



They have many opportunities to use our books on tape, leap pads along with the computer.

Circle time allows them to talk about the weather, sign language, days of the week and the months.



Other Focus of the Week topics are My family and home, Letter Aa and Apples, Autumn, Fall, Bugs, Letter Bb, Letter Cc Caterpillars, Community Helpers, Dental Health and the Letter Dd, Letter Ee Elephants and the Letter Ff Furry Foxes.

The children have time to play with Lego's, funny Connect, Lincoln Logs, wooden blocks, trains, peg boards, puzzles, lacing cards, playdoh, stamping,



chalking, cars, trucks, and much, much more

They incorporate games and exercise in with their daily program along with outdoor play and story time.



The Pleasant Hill Librarian comes once a week to read a special story to them, Thank You, Ms. Gail!

There is so much more to tell you but I will cut it off here. However, if you have a specific question you would like to know please feel free to ask Ms. Autumn, Ms. Sue or Ms. Judi.



Schooler's Room News

Hornets



Over the Christmas break, we had one little girl who had a special story to tell so I thought I would share it with you in her own words.

"A Christmas Miracle" by Alexis McGregor.





My Grandpa found a baby kitten in a Christmas tree so my grandpa call my mom and so we came over and the kitten was on the edge of the tree. So we call the fire department and they came and this guy went in on this machine and he almost got her but right when he touched her she ran back up the tree and she was getting higher and higher. So the police man came up and so my mom called the news but they didn't answer. So my mom called the animal rescue league and they said they wouldn't be there tell the next day. So we called the tree service and nobody answered. So me and my mom came home when my grandpa called and said the tree service is here and a minute later they got her down and me and my mom got to my grandpas house and they had her so we got to keep her and that's how we got a Christmas Miracle.



We named her baby Miracle."

Alexis wanted to thank everyone involved with saving her new cat during the snow storm. (Rick Hansen Family Tree Care)



Other School Age news:

Just a reminder for our parents and family members. During "breaks" there is always a sign-up sheet posted on the schooler's communication board. When signing your child up please make sure they will be attending because we purchase extra food and supplies along with scheduling field trips with these lists. If your child is on the list indicating your child will be attending the Center during "breaks" you will be charged the full schooler's fees.

Also, when there are scheduled days off we again will post a sign

indicating the day off and a sign-up sheet.

Those same rules apply.



We have also had parents not sign children up and the child just shows up for the day without notice. Again, it is very hard to have the proper staffing, food, and supplies available for everyone when this occurs. Please be courteous to others in our school age room.

Things to remember:

*Children who leave the Center during the day, for any reason are considered gone and will not return. So remember when making doctor/dentist appointments etc... it might be best to make them toward the beginning or end of the day.

*If your child, for any reason is not attending the Center for the day please notify the Center prior to 8:00 am so we may adjust our snacks and lunch count accordingly. This helps our staffing needs and also keeps your daycare costs down as much as possible.





Things to remember:

*Please **DO NOT** allow your child to sign their own name in the sign in record in our front lobby. These are official documents that need to be kept for review and audited by others.



*Please remove all unnecessary items from your child's cubby daily, they really get filled up fast!

*Diapers & wipes are due the first Monday of every month. This has always been a good way for us to keep a supply of diapers for your child here at the Center. Keep in mind if you do not have a supply of your child's diapers we will use the daycare supplies, however you will be charged \$1.00/diaper. We appreciate everyone bringing their supply when needed. Thank you!



*Birthdays/Tuition: Please notify administration **in writing** when your child has a birthday. There could be tuition adjustments to be made especially when the child turns two years of age. Parents (Families) are responsible for this notification. There will NOT be any type of reimbursements or adjustments made for any



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oversight regarding changes in your child's tuition.

*We would really appreciate it if you would remind your child to walk when at the Center. This includes not only inside the Center but outdoors in the parking lot. The teachers are constantly reminding the children to Walk, Walk, Walk! Otherwise children and others are going to hurt. Thank you so much!



*Entrance & Exit when entering the parking lot area Please enter through the east and exit from the west entrance. This will help keep the flow of traffic in one direction preventing a potential accident to occur. Also, please slow down and be aware of others in the parking lot. Safety is our biggest concern!

*We try and accommodate our parents as much as we can. In doing so our staff continues to work four, ten hour days. This allows the staff member the opportunity to be available at the beginning of the child's day and also at the end. Please take advantage & visit with the staff about your child's day.



We sincerely want to thank you for your continued business during the past year.

We would also, like to thank the many parents and family members who have donated plastic sacks for our staff to use. They really come in handy in so many ways here at the Center.

The paper products and all of the toys, arts, crafts & books you've also donated to the Center. We appreciate this so much, you have no idea! The children use these items over and over again receiving much satisfaction and enjoyment.



Please keep in mind when cleaning out toys or books, trying to find space for new things and they are still in good condition please keep the Center in mind. We can always use them!



Again, if we have failed to mention our gratitude, it is not our intention. We have an awesome group of parents, children and family members who attend the Center.



Watch for our next newsletter in April 2013.