

March  
2009

# Center News

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss! Which one of his books was your favorite when you were young? Mine was *Oh The Places You'll Go*. I absolutely love reading his stories to a group of children. The rhyming words capture the children's attention and keep them intrigued



and asking for more when you finish a story! It is so much fun to watch the children enjoy the amazing work of Dr. Seuss that we also enjoyed as children. Many of the classrooms have incorporated his literature and many projects into the March curriculum as we celebrate his 105<sup>th</sup> birthday.

March will hopefully bring nothing but good weather so the children can spend more time outside. Remember to keep extra clothes at school for your child in the event they get wet playing outside!

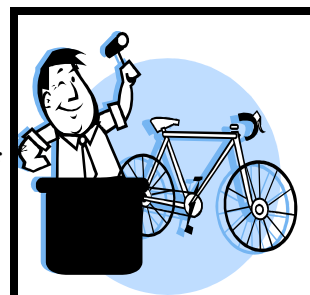
March 16-20 is spring break for WSU students. Some students have requested time off this week, so it is possible that your child may have different teachers that week. I always try to place substitutes that are familiar with the classroom so it is not disruptive for the children.



The auction committee is busy planning the spring dinner auction. I hope everyone will be

able to attend this fun evening. Our theme this year is *South of the Border*, so get your sombrero out. It's going to be a FIESTA!

Kerri Jo



## Auction News

Donations have already been making their way in! We are very excited about the early response. If you have an item you wish to donate, please take an auction donation form from outside the office. Watch for your invitation soon!

CHILDREN CALL IT FUN,  
WE CALL IT LEARNING!

# Building Blocks

## March Events

March 3rd Parent Meeting 12:15-1:15pm  
March 16-20th WSU Spring Break  
March 30-April 3rd Pullman Spring Break

## Upcoming Events

April 11th BBCC Annual Auction  
April 13-17th Parent-teacher conference week (BBCC)  
April 20-24th Week of the Young Child

# Infants

As the calendar changes from February to March we look back at the past month with fondness. We learned all about Valentine's Day, made footprint hearts, got an introduction to poetry, and utterly enjoyed our music time with Mrs. Amye.



We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Brooke and husband Steve welcomed little Perry Steven in to the world on Feb. 3rd. He was 8 lbs 1 oz and measured 20.5 inches.

Mother and baby are doing well and we hope to see her for a visit soon.

February also brought some changes into the classroom as we transitioned Ellie into the Waddler Room and welcomed

Vaughn and Kayden into our little group. Both boys have been so much fun to get to know and we look forward to sharing even more experiences with them during the coming month. We miss Ellie but know she is doing great with the big kids so we wish her well.

Another highlight of the month was the opportunity that many of us had to attend a professional development conference. Spokane Falls was the host for this all-day conference featuring keynote speaker Dr. Thomas Moore. Dr. Moore spoke about the importance of our profession, society's view of early childhood education, and the many elements of learning



that can occur with the use of music in the classroom. Other classes were designed specifically to enhance art, sensory, science, and literacy lessons. Toni Jo and I were fortunate to be able to attend classes explicitly designed for infant and toddler teachers and we are excited to implement some of the ideas we learned.

Please remember that an important part of linking home and school comes from the family picture collages. Please bring in a picture collage of the important people in your child's life. If you need help with this or simply don't have the time to put something together, just bring us the photos and we will do the rest. Thanks for all your support in this matter.

Denise, Fiona, Mandy, & Toni Jo

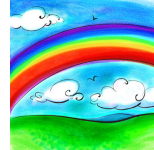
# Waddlers

Wow! February sure went by fast! It was so much fun reading books about friendship and doing activities with colors: red, white, and pink! Thank you so much to all the families that participated in and joined us for our Valentine's party. It was so much fun! It is such an experience for the children to connect home and school, and it allows them to show you how they move in the room!

We are continuing the color theme

throughout the month of March. We have begun learning about blue, and will follow up with green and yellow. (Don't forget to wear green on the 17th!)

We are so excited for playing with blue jello, playing with and tasting lemons in the sensory table, and making shamrocks! March is going to rock!



There have been a few changes to our roster. Sadly, we said goodbye to Lily, London, and Sagnik. We hope we will be seeing them in the near future! Sara Frances and Luke moved up to the big world of toddlers. We miss all of them! On a happy note, we welcomed Ellie, Nathan, and Valerie (a new friendly face). Please make sure to say hi and wave to them when you see them!

Stephanie, Kayla, Martha, and Heather

# Toddlers

What a great month February was. We loved learning our ABC's, playing with pots and pans, and creating flubber to name a just a few highlights.

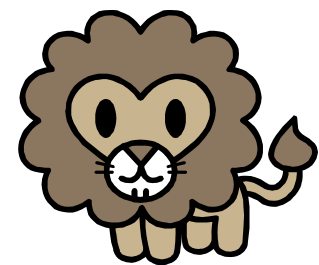
We had a couple more transitions this month. Kai moved up to Junior Preschool. We will miss him! Sara-Frances and Luke have joined us from the Waddler room. It has been fun getting to know them

and their families.



In March we will be learning about lions and lambs. We will also do a few weeks on the book "Five Little

Monkeys Bake a Cake for Momma". We will be having a pajama day and a class party, so watch for more details.



Megan, Aubrey, Arianne, Jen, and Heather

# Jr. Preschool

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March will be a fun and exciting month in the Junior Preschool room! We will begin the month by learning all about pets. Please feel free to send in pictures of your family pets for your child to share with the class! The next week we will focus on the color green and St. Patrick's Day! We will create many green art projects and hopefully find a pot of gold at the end of the



the children very soon! The last week of the month will be an "I Can Cook" theme. The children will work on many cooking projects, and

rainbow! Later on in the month, we will FINALLY welcome Spring! We hope to start taking some nice nature walks with the children very soon! The last week of the month will be an "I Can Cook" theme. The children will work on many cooking projects, and

hopefully learn some proper "helping" techniques to take home! We are so excited to welcome Kai to our room! We have all enjoyed getting to know him and learning with him. This will be a fun-filled month! Happy Spring!

Terri, Christina,  
Andrea, Heather,  
and Bailey



# A.M. Preschool

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Springtime is just around the corner, and in the meantime we have some fun themes planned for the month! There is a lot for us to celebrate!

We will start the month off celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday. His birthday is on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>! Dr. Seuss is so important in children's literature because with his whimsical drawing styles, verse rhythms, and simplified vocabulary, he makes reading fun!

Next, in honor of St. Patrick's Day, we will learn about Ireland! The class will be able to find out where Ireland is on the map. We will learn a fun

song that will help us learn all seven continents. We will learn about the people in Ireland and their culture and what St. Patrick's Day means to them.

"Spring" will be our next theme because the first day of Spring is on the 20<sup>th</sup>! We will observe the changes in the environment once again by going on a nature walk. The children will discuss their observations about the weather, plants, and the animals they are starting to see and hear. We will review what happens in the winter and learn about what happens in the spring, and compare observations.

Finally, we will learn about nutrition, as March is "National Nutrition Month." We will learn about what types of foods are good for us and what types of foods are bad for us. The children will learn about the food pyramid so they can visually see what foods we need to eat more or less of. We will discuss other ways we can stay healthy, such as exercising.

Please mark your calendars. We will not be having Preschool March 30<sup>th</sup> through April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We hope everybody has a marvelous March!

Jackie and Brigitta

# Preschool

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We hope everyone enjoyed Valentine's Day! Thank you for all the beautiful cards and treats.

March will begin with an Author study of Dr. Seuss. We will celebrate his birthday on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Preschoolers love the rhyming and imaginative creatures that Dr. Seuss shares in his stories. We will be making green eggs and ham, painting with our feet, learning rhyming words, and celebrating special days. Please watch for more information on these, as well as upcoming field trips.

As March continues, we will learn

about growing things. Your preschooler's knowledge of the plant kingdom will grow when we take close-up looks at flowering plants, soak up the wonders of photosynthesis, and grow some beans.

Something new always blows in when we study the season's moody weather. We will become active weather watchers. We will learn about clouds, wind, and rain. We will also learn which clothing is appropriate for spring weather.

Then we turn Irish for a week, and we will meet leprechauns, follow rain-

bows to their pots of gold, and hunt for lucky shamrocks.

We will conclude the month with a study of spring and lots of colorful surprises. We will learn about baby animals, take some nature walks, and enjoy charting if March came in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.

Check out our lesson plans posted on the parent board and the white board outside our classroom door. We are looking forward to the magic of March and all the fun that will be taking root this month. Ms Juanita, Ms Jessie, Ms Kim, Ms Kaylynn, and Ms Susan

# Kindergarten

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Throughout the month of February we learned about the following themes: "Groundhog's Day," "Friendship" and Valentine's Day," "Important People-Black History Month," and "President's Day." The students' favorite theme was all about friendship and Valentine's Day! We concluded our theme with a Valentine's party where students exchanged Valentines and enjoyed yummy treats from one another!

Our weekly themes this month will be: "All About Dr. Seuss," "Rain, Rain, Go Away," "Fairy Tales and Folklore," and "Dinosaurs!" Each theme will have a variety of art projects, literature, and activities to add to the learning experience!

We concluded our literacy unit on airports by going on a field trip to the Interstate Aviation Airport! The students had a lot of fun being able to see the ins and outs of the airport! We began a new literacy unit on Construction Sites! We will continue to learn all about this theme throughout the month of March! We will culminate this unit by going on a field trip to a construction site. More details to come! As an additional component to our literacy theme we are working on our word families and rhymes. Each Monday I will send home a note identifying the word family that we are working on along with examples. Please take the time to work on these word families with your child so that he/she can continue to grow in his/her reading and writing skills! Thanks for all of your support!

## Pip Pops

Mrs. Cann Miss Jackie Miss Brigitta

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Throughout the month of February our Author Study was all about Marc Brown, the author of the Arthur series! The students enjoyed hearing both his short stories and his chapter books! They were able to make several connections with the Arthur character and themselves, which was a lot of fun to witness and be a part of! Be sure to ask your child which of the Marc Brown stories was a favorite! Next month our Author Study will be all about Mercer Mayer, the author of The Little Critter series! You may want to go to the library and find books written by Mercer Mayer and read them together at home!

Our themes this month will be: "All About Dr. Seuss," "Rain, Rain, Go Away," "Fairy Tales and Folklore," and "Dinosaurs!" If you are willing and have any books or supplemental materials that will aid in the learning of these topics, we would love to use them!

One last order of business! Several parents have come to me letting me know that their son's/daughter's snow gear is missing. If you would please check the tags of your son/daughter's snow gear and in particular their snow pants to see if they may have been switched with another child's, that would be most appreciated! Thank you for your help! Thanks again for all of your support! Mrs. Cann Miss Ashlee Mr. Dusty

## Cougar Kids

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Children are a joy to be around. They keep us young and force us to be better people. There is no greater joy than to bring a smile upon the face of a child. The Cougar Kids are very impressive and very knowledgeable. They bring joy to so many people and everyone we come in contact with stand in admiration of how polite and well behaved the class is. Truly these behaviors are learned at home, and I congratulate you parents. How many of us parents get home and sit down for dinner or drive home and ask your child, "How was your day?" Usually the response is "good". I'm going to try to help the situation each month, and give you ideas for questions to ask your child. Usually the information will be topics we covered in the previous month. Here are this month's questions:

Would your child like to live in a dictatorship or a democratic country? Have your child explain his answer.  
How do you make Conversation Heart Fudge? (Fun project for the family to do together.)  
Did the groundhog see its shadow? Explain what that means.  
What was your score in bowling and did you learn any new techniques?  
What was there to explore at the science center? (Fun family outing to do on the weekends)  
What is a bully? How can you not be a bully and what do you do if you are being bullied?  
Have your child sing "Living on a Prayer" or "Hey, Ya Baby!"

I hope we can teach our children to include everybody and never to exclude others, a principle we teach in the classroom.

Thank you for being such wonderful and supporting parents.

Keoki, Torey, and Jessica

