



Play and Prep Preschool Newsletter

February 2020

News from the Directors- Mrs. Halley & Mrs. Johnson

January brought us lessons on snow and arctic animals, collaborative garden projects, and glow activities in both Music and Creative Movement. What a great way to welcome in the new year!

In January, we began registration for the 2020-2021 school year. Classes are filling up quickly and some classes have waitlists. We have a few spaces in two year old classes. If you have friends with two year olds feel free to pass along our registration information which can be found on our website:

www.playandpreppreschool.org.

In February, we will have Parent-Teacher conferences. We will also have hearing screenings for our students. Information and permission slips will be going home in backpacks soon.

Please continue to send your child with snow pants, mittens, hat, and boots - we will be outside. The winter gear will keep them warm even if there isn't snow.

We really appreciate all those that have volunteered to clean toys. Let's keep our students healthy this winter. Here's the link to sign-up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d49a9ab2ca6f49-play1>

Important Dates

Feb 6-7- NO SCHOOL- Parent-Teacher conferences
Feb. 14- Valentine's Parties in classrooms
Feb. 17- NO SCHOOL- Presidents' Day
Feb. 21- Hearing Evaluations
March 4th - Children's Museum all school field trip - save the date

Below are some easy ways to support our school:

Check out our fundraising page at **Mabel's Labels** at www.mabelslabels.com and click on Support a Fundraiser then find Play and Prep Preschool in the school listing. Play and Prep will receive a percentage from your order.

Giant Eagle Apples for Students

Register your Giant Eagle Advantage Card at GiantEagle.com/AFTS enter Play and Prep's School ID #5977.

Heinen's Tasteful Rewards School Program

Register Play and Prep with your Tasteful Reward Card at heinens.com/schools, In-store at the Customer Service Desk, or call Customer Relations Department at 1-855-475-2300 ext. 2337. Past participants must **RE-SELECT** Play and Prep by logging in to their Tasteful Rewards profile.

Oak- Mrs. Balog



Love and friendship are in the air! We will learn and show ways we can be good friends. We are going to write letters to friends in school and let them know why they are a good friend. Next up, we are going to explore dinosaurs. We are going to become archeologists and dig up dinosaur bones. We will create our own dinosaur skeletons. Ending the month of February, we will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. We will be reading a lot of Dr. Seuss books and even make green eggs and ham! We have lots of fun activities planned to honor Dr. Seuss.

Pine- Ms. Cline



In January, we learned all about winter, even though the weather didn't fully act like winter! We learned about animals that adapt, migrate, or hibernate during the winter. We looked outside and inside for animal tracks in the snow. We made hypotheses as we filled 3-D shapes with snow and left them inside overnight. In February, we will start a series of author studies, beginning with Mo Willems and Mac Barnett.

Maple- Mrs. Schofalvi



We have had a wonderful time exploring all things cold and snowy. We worked together to paint and decorate a winter wonderland mural, painted colorfully dressed snowmen, cut "snow bricks" to build a fort which it then "snowed" on in our classroom and then had many polar animals come visit our fort. We have dressed up like FROZEN characters, worked in our class ice cream shop, and worked hard on showing what we know for progress reports. We celebrated three birthdays and enjoyed the special treats. This month we are having a pajama party with cocoa, cookies, stories and games, celebrating Valentine's Day, exploring our feelings, and learning about our five senses. We will also be constructing a post office and restaurant.

Willow- Mrs. Pecherkiewicz



During January we were busy learning about different jobs in our community and even had a chance to pretend to do those jobs in our classroom. We have been focusing a lot on our social skills and will continue to do so throughout the remainder of the year. February is all about exploring our emotions. We will use pictures, words, art, music, and movement to learn more about our bodies and how they feel when we are experiencing a range of feelings. We will talk about how our actions can impact how others feel, and continue to learn about our red and green choices and how those make us feel. I look forward to speaking with you all at conferences!

2's Class- Mrs. Pecherkiewicz



What fun we had exploring different jobs in the community and pretending to be firefighters and construction workers! During February we are going to talk about our feelings and learn ways to express them through our words and art. We hope to be able to get outside to play in the snow too!

Messy Monday and Outdoor Class- Mrs. Juergemeier

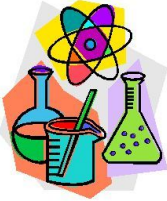


January was a great month in the Learning Garden! The recycled Christmas trees have become the hub of the garden over the past month for both the Messy Monday and Outdoor classes. There is something about laying back on the soft pines taking in the fragrant smell of evergreen that creates the perfect resting spot. The pine trees have also been turned into balance beams, race cars and the perfect spot to store food. Ice and snow observations and experiments have added to our winter studies. Inside, students have worked on a snow-covered mural made from recycled items. In February, artists inspired by nature will be our topic of discussion. Colors, shapes, patterns, and textures! Nature surrounds us with its beauty. We will be making some of our nature inspired art pieces using different mediums. The Outdoor class will also celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday February 13th.



Lunch Bunch/Extended Day- Ms. Cline and Mrs. Perlberg

Extended Day friends collaborated on many various projects during the month of January. We decorated old CDs to hang as a garland in the garden, we used yarn and sticks to create mobiles for the hallway, and we even created our own mailbox to use as we write letters to our friends. In February, we will continue to follow the interests of the class as we collaborate for even more fun projects!



Science- Mrs. Chapek

For Science this month the students will get to try their hand at some engineering experiments by constructing bridges and buildings with various materials. If your child talked about picking up ice with yarn, here's how the experiment goes so they can show you at home. Need an ice cube, 6" piece of yarn and salt. Lay yarn over ice cube, put 5 pinches of salt on top of yarn/ice cube. Count to 60 (parents make sure ice cube is not stuck to table/counter) then carefully/slowly pick up ends of yarn. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again!



Woodshop - Mrs. Chapek

In Woodshop students will be trying their hand at an abstract self portrait. They will be able to use a hammer and/or screwdriver to attach parts to help bring their portrait to life.



Music- Mrs. Perlberg

We have enjoyed exploring instruments from the percussion family during January. This month, we will be moving on to the string and woodwind instruments.



Creative Movement- Mrs. Johnson

In January, we played ice hockey with pool noodles and skated in our socks in the Big Room. We also tried cosmic bowling. Coffee creamer bottles with glow sticks served as our bowling pins. It was fun to see students with light up shoes move in our cosmic bowling alley. In February we will play some Dr. Suess games and try curling.