



Teacher's Corner

January was a great beginning to a new year. During the 'Winter' theme, the children had lots of fun; sledding and skating and playing in the snow. Through stories, science activities, and outdoor play they have explored ice, freezing, melting, and sliding. Our skating lessons have been going well, and the children are learning quickly. Style and confidence have both improved already. A huge THANK YOU goes to all the Moms and Dads who are driving, lacing, organizing and encouraging for lessons. We have planned two 'backyard skating' sessions, and may add a third later in the year. Lots of parent help is requested on those days, to lace up, play and unlace – and sometimes to shovel the rink! I have seen many times that the kids work so hard in lessons, they don't realize how fun skating can be until we go outside at our own Community Center. After the first fun skate, confidence soars. Don't forget to **SEND SKATES AND HELMETS TO SCHOOL** on outdoor skating days!

The theme for February will be FRIENDS AND FANTASY. Talking about Friendship helps the children to think more objectively about their own social relations and skills, and hopefully to extend their friendships within the class. We will talk about feelings, and how our actions affect the feelings of others. We'll discuss bullying, and how to help if we see it happening. With the Fantasy aspect of this theme, which includes all those magical things like fairies, dragons, castles, knights, Queens and Princes, we will have lots of fun exercising our imaginations. Throughout February, we will continue to develop skills of sequencing (placing items or events in order), patterning (repetition of a sequence), and making sets (counting a group of objects and matching it to a number). We will continue to practice letter formation and letter sounds, do lots of phonemic awareness activities, and work on number recognition and formation. The kids have been telling me their addresses, and a little review at home would be helpful.

Important dates for February:

- Feb. 6 – Parent Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Feb. 1, 8 – Skating lessons
- Feb. 14 – Valentine exchange (in class)
- **Feb. 17, 20 – No school**
- Feb. 21 – Mad Science presentation (in class)
- March 22 – Climbing Wall field trip*
**details to come*

Swimming Lessons

A reminder that in-class swim lessons will take place on Tuesday and Thursdays, April 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, and 20. Again, we will depend on parent drivers to get the kids to the pool and to help in the change rooms. As lessons go twice a week, please see if you are able to help out.

Dads Needed!

The kids will be doing a "Top Secret" project on Friday April 7 starting at 9:30. It would be great to have some Dads come in to help with this project so please check your calendar.

Mrs. Brown has a new email address, so please update your address book. It is teacher@dcakids.com.



Teacher's Corner continued...

As a part of our Friends theme, there will be an exchange of Valentines on Tuesday February 14. This event is purposely low key, so please keep greetings simple. We would love to have some special treats that day (with no nuts or peanuts), so if you feel an urge to prepare a special snack, please let Miss Destiny or myself know a couple of days ahead of time. You can always leave a note on the mailboxes if we are both busy.



The curriculum information given in the "Teacher's Corner" is necessarily somewhat general. For example, though I can say we are studying the letters and sounds, I do not tell you specifically which letters. If you would like more specific information, please have a look at the teacher's long-range plans, which are posted in the classroom. Read the reminder note on the door at pick-up and drop-off times, or ask the person doing the driving to make notes. Resist taking too much responsibility for knowing the letter, since ideally children should remember it themselves when it is introduced on Mondays.

Thanks parents, to all who have helped in any way. I remind you that parents and friends are always welcomed by teacher and children alike. If you have any ideas for special projects, crafts, or story sharing you would like to become involved in, speak to us. Such participation enriches our program. Keep an eye on the themes, and see what you have in your bag of tricks that might fit in! Don't forget to bring your camera on your helper day. We can always use more shots of the kids for the yearbook. If you give me a few selected printed photos, they will be admired by all during book sharing time, and then they will be distributed and placed in the children's scrapbooks to take home at year-end.

- Clair



February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Skating lessons	2 Music lessons	3	4
5	6 Parent Council, 7 p.m.	7	8 Skating lessons	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentines exchange	15 Music lessons	16	17 NO SCHOOL	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL	21 Mad Science	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Notes:

Class Information:

Time: 9 – 11:50 a.m.

Phone: 403-288-1050

Teacher: Clair Brown

Administrator: Catherine Spackman

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