Dear CPS Families,

Welcome back to those that recently returned from break… and for everyone else, it is still light out and 5:30pm! Spring really is on its way!

It is very difficult for me to write a goodbye message to Peggy Carney, our Assistant Director. She was hired into the position for the Fall of 2006. Peggy and I have been through a lot together over the years. We have laughed and cried together through good times and in difficult times. Myself and staff are not only losing a co-worker, but a wonderful friend to many. I want to thank Peggy for all of the support you have given me and all you have done for the staff, children, and families at Campus Pre-School. Best of luck in your retirement and have a wonderful, safe trip visiting your family in Norway. Peace and Happiness…

We want to acknowledge and thank the classrooms that participated in the Martin Luther King “Service to Other’s” Celebration. The various art activity bags that the children created are being delivered to the SOS Shelter. They will be on sight and ready for use as needed!

Once again, we will be sponsoring students from surrounding colleges working on internships and volunteering. The students will be learning about childcare routines, stages of child development, and how young children learn. The students will also be observing, planning, and implementing activities with the children. Please welcome them aboard, they will be wearing nametags.

We have a very busy month ahead of us beginning with the preparation and delivery of Valentine messages for all to enjoy, Gertrude Hawk sweets for the sweet, and preparing for the International Dinner Adventure that will provide the feel that we are moving that much closer to Spring.

Peace and enjoy!

Peg Smith
Executive Director
**Wee Bear News**

The Wee Bears are enjoying the winter. We have had snow inside, made a snowman, played outside, and did art projects to enhance our classroom.

Our vocabularies are increasing and there is a notable increase in "conversations" throughout the day. We have been verbally labeling toys, tools, and gadgets in our room. We will be including written labeling to further the development of pre-reading skills.

In February, we will be learning about heart shapes and loving one another. We will exchange valentines, make more art projects, and end the month learning about transportation. Please continue to provide outdoor clothing.

Kelly Louise Sue

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**Honey Bear News**

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!!! During the month of January we spoke a lot about snow, animals, and the cold winter. We were scientists and conducted a lot of experiments with water, ice, and snow. Bears and hibernation were fun topics also!!

In the month of February we will be learning about Dental Hygiene, the Post Office, and celebrating Dr. Seuss!!! So stay tuned to announcements of upcoming exciting events related to these topics. We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on Thursday, 2/13, and Friday, 2/14. We also invite families in to read or share an exciting activity. Thank you to Henry's Grandparents for coming in to read the *Gingerbread Baby* and Lucy's mom for reading some of Lucy's favorite books!

Besides all these fun activities, we also foster your child's interest and you may see some other really exciting things going on in the room throughout the month; cooking, science experiments, and creative arts.

Reminders: Please be aware of your child’s designated snack day, the children look forward to celebrating their special day with the class. Please bring in your child’s snow suits, hats, gloves, and boots since we do go out!!! Also make sure to have extra clothes stocked and all of their winter items in the cubbies and labeled.

Tina, Brenda, Scott & Megan

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**Bear Cub News**

In February we will be talking about friends, friendship, heart shapes and of course Valentine’s Day! We will be making several theme related projects to send home.

Many of the children are beginning to play together more in all areas of the room. They love to cook for others in the housekeeping area, share stories in the book area, and they are enjoying their creativity in the art area. Our curriculum is play based and your child is learning while engaged in play. For example: when your child plays in the housekeeping area, he/she learns what the roles of mothers, fathers, and children are. He/she understands what it feels like to play at being somebody other than himself. He/she learns how to use their imagination. He/she learns how to cooperate with others. When your child listens to stories or looks at books, he/she learns to listen. He/she learns new vocabulary by hearing the words read to them. He/she learns about different concepts, people and places. He/she learns to enjoy books and reading. Their mind is stimulated, visualizing the things he/she is hearing about.

Remember to take some time out of your day to play. It is fun, relaxing and your child is learning.

Thank you so much for all of the proper outdoor clothing. We have been enjoying our outdoor play whenever possible!

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and we are looking forward to 2014 and a great spring session!

Happy Valentine’s Day

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**Pooh Bear News**

The Pooh Bears will start February off with a Gingerbread theme. We will be doing different art and science activities related to gingerbread, including baking our own gingerbread cookies, and will be reading different variations of *The Gingerbread Man*.

And of course we will spend the second week of February focusing on Valentine’s Day. You are more than welcome to bring in Valentine’s with your child on Friday, 2/14, but by no means do you have to! We will be making special “mailboxes” and any child that brings something in will deliver them to each child’s mailbox with a teacher’s help during activity time that day.

Since February is Dental Health month, we will spend the third week doing activities based on making healthy choices for our teeth! One of these activities requires us to use old Styrofoam egg cartons. If you have any at home that you are getting rid of, we could use some extras!

The last week we will be learning and exploring through our five senses. We have many activities planned that will focus on using one or more of our senses. It should be a blast!

Happy 3rd Birthday to Mariya, Tom, and Kano!

Alisha, Nicole, & Meghan

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Happy Valentine’s Day
Teddy Bear News

Wow, where did January go? We have been doing different snow/winter activities. We read the story "The Mitten Tree" which led us into making our own mitten tree in our classroom. The children did a great job sewing!

In the next month or so, we will be talking about our bodies. We will be discussing the different body functions, what we can do to keep ourselves healthy. We will discuss the food pyramid so we know what foods do what for our bodies. We will also be talking about Dental Health and doing dental related activities.

In February we will be celebrating Valentine’s Day. Look for more information in your parent folder.

The Teddy Bear class had to say goodbye to two of our special friends, Ashely and Francis. We will miss them very much! We would like to welcome two new friends, Dana and Grayson to the Teddy Bear class!

Happy Birthday to Michael and Calder, who turned 4 in January. Happy Birthday to Kailin, Mya, and Grayson who will be turning 4 in February.

Gabe
Michele
Renee

Panda Bear News

The Pandas had fun acting out the behaviors of “Animals in Winter.” The hibernation cave was a big hit. Emme and Brynn wanted to migrate to Florida.

Exploring ways to keep our hearts healthy has kept the Pandas busy, watching the foods they eat, and exercising.

It’s hard to believe that February is here! The Pandas are getting ready for Valentine’s Day. They will need a cereal box to decorate for their valentines. Please bring one box in for your child.

February is Dental Health month. We will be experimenting to learn the importance of brushing our teeth 2 times a day.

The children have been working on identifying their last name. Many are fluent with capital letters and have begun writing their names with both capital and lowercase letters.

This has been a very cold winter! We appreciate your diligence in keeping the children ready with appropriate clothes to go out when we can.

Claire & Stacy

Grizzly Bear News

It is hard to believe that we have already made it through the first month of 2014. Time really does fly.

In January we had a great time learning about snow/snowflakes and making snowmen. We also learned all about Polar animals and celebrated diversity by learning about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his fight to ensure fairness. We also celebrated the Chinese New Year by learning about Chinese New Year traditions and celebrations, and making some fun crafts.

Happy Year of the Horse!

In February we will begin the month learning about space, which is always a hit. We will then move on to learning about our 5 senses, Presidents, and doing a unit on Nursery Rhymes and Fairy Tales.

We are planning a Valentine exchange and Pajama Day for Thurs., and Fri., February 13th & 14th. We still have some details to work out so please keep an eye on your parent mailboxes for specifics.

Thank you!

Miss Nicole
Miss Kat

Happy Birthday to Ava Palmer (Feb. 10th)

Polar Bear News

The Polar Bears had a great start in the New Year! We began with a scientific look at NYS animals in winter. The children discovered that some animals hibernate, some go dormant, and others migrate to warmer climates. Please check out our Hibernation Houses displayed on the Science Table in our classroom; the children all worked very hard on them! Also in January we enjoyed some beloved children’s literature. First, we read Jan Brett’s “The Mitten.” The Polar Bears even made their own mittens and cut out their own animal characters to help teach them story sequencing. As we read the story they could follow along with their own story props! Another classic story we looked at was “Peter and the Wolf.” The children were mesmerized by the audio story which we also acted on a storyboard. Also in January, we celebrated diversity with Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Together we discussed what makes us different and what makes us alike. We also made a Peace Wreath in honor of this day.

During the half of the year, we are going to be focusing much more on letter recognition and letter sounds. So far, we’ve looked at “A”, “B”, “S”, “P”, “J”, and “G” formally. We will be looking at letters as we go through our theme-based and play-centered curriculum. Coming up in February we will be learning about Our Healthy Bodies, The Post Office, Presidents, and getting ready for two weeks of Dinosaurs!

Happy New Year!!!

Nicky, Carolyn, Jane, and Andrea
**ON Icy, Snowy Days**

**Please** park away from curbs at pickup/drop off times, so that our BU grounds crew can keep our sidewalks safe and clear.

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**Staff Birthdays**

Nicole Lally  2/15  
Scott Swanson  2/15  
Peg Smith 2/22

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**Flu-like Symptoms**

**Include:**

* Fever
* Cough
* Sore Throat
* Runny or Stuffy Nose
* Body Aches
* Headache
* Chills
* Fatigue

Some may also have vomiting, AND diarrhea. People may be infected with THE FLU, and have respiratory symptoms without a fever.

**Take Preventative Action:**

* Wash hands often (water and soap)
* Cover mouth and nose when sneezing
* Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth
* Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
* Stay home for at least 24 hours after fever is gone (without fever reducing medicine)
* While sick, limit contact with others to keep from infecting them

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**Parking Services**

Will be collecting **pet supplies** in February for the **Humane Society.** There will be a tub in the CPS main hallway for donations.