Dear CPS Families,

Whether you take credence in the predictions of Punxsutawney Phil and his shadow, we can say with certainty that we have experienced some pretty crazy weather the past few months. As for myself, I am anxious to discover the tiny buds on the trees, the curly bumps of colorful crocuses peeking through the ground, and the sound of birds chirping as signs of spring, resilience and wonderful adventures to come.

At the end of last month we quietly (per her request) wished Peggy Carney best wishes in her retirement as she was off to visit her family in Norway. This month however, it is my pleasure to introduce the newest member of the Campus Pre-School Community, Tanisha Arroyo, Assistant Director. For the past couple of weeks she has been in transition familiarizing herself with the program, children, and staff. Tanisha is no stranger to the position which she previously held at another local facility. We are delighted to have her working with us, please stop by and welcome her aboard.

The first promising sign of Spring is Summer Registration which is just wrapping up. If you have any questions, please stop by the office. We will now accept summer enrollment from outside the program for 3 & 4 year olds.

Don’t miss the fun! Lots of great activities for instance… Annual Sodexho Health Fair on March 25th 10:30 am-1:30 pm in the East Gym, and in April the BAEYC & BCC Children’s Fair. More to follow.

Remember to SPRING FORWARD 1 hour the weekend of March 9th for Daylight Savings Time!

And if I’m not mistaken, St Patrick’s Day is a sure sign of SPRING with all that GREEN!

Peg Smith
Executive Director

Safety Practices and Procedures

Thank you for working with us as we continue to improve the safety of children, staff, and families through a variety of methods. The following are a few such techniques that will help; keep your children with you to and from the classroom during arrival and departure, sign in using FIRST and LAST names, staff taking attendance repeatedly throughout the day, the placement of child height stop signs, closed classroom doors, and soon the addition of a chime to the closed inside main door. Again, than you for your support.
**WEE BEAR NEWS**

We are marching through Winter and enjoying the snow. We experimented with colors, made a long train/truck track around the room, and celebrated a few more Birthdays. In March we hope to see the sun peek through and we will see what happens to the snow. We will all be 2 years old by the middle of the month.

We are starting to play with our friends with silly games, copying actions and occasionally getting in each others space. The teachers will be facilitating conversational skills to help them use their words to express their feelings (and maintaining a positive self esteem when we hear “NO” several times a day).

Kelly Louise Sue

**BEAR CUB NEWS**

It has been a long, snowy, cold winter. The Bear Cubs are trying to do their best at enjoying it. We have not been able to get outdoors much because of the cold, but we have been bringing snow indoors to enjoy whenever possible. Hopefully March will bring some milder weather for us to continue to enjoy our outdoor play. Please remember to bring all of the proper outdoor clothing everyday so we can continue to enjoy this well needed play.

It may seem almost impossible right now, but March also means the coming of “Spring.” We will be looking for signs of Spring (melting snow, return of the geese, warmer weather, and spring flowers) as well as working on the color green and celebrating St. Patrick’s Day!

We also want to welcome our SUNY Broome Intern, Cassandra who will be in our classroom on Tues/Wed. She will be doing a variety of age appropriate activities with the children for the rest of the semester. We look forward to being her mentors.

A big congratulations to Everett and his family on the arrival of their new baby boy. We wish you the best of luck and are looking forward to seeing Aldon!

Finally, we have several children that are showing an interest in using the potty. First and foremost, I feel it is very important to keep open communication between parents and teachers when in the process of toilet training. Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions or concerns. Toilet learning should be a non-stressful experience that involves the child, parents, and caregivers. It’s a time when adults need to be sensitive to the child’s individual needs and developmental levels. Toilet learning should be a positive experience, one that is rewarding to a child! It must never be a forceful process, the child must never be frightened, humiliated, or intimidated. Positive reinforcement should be expressed through language, actions, and readiness to learn.

Because toddlers love to do things on their own, please dress them in clothing that they can pull up/down by themselves. We help and encourage as much as possible but they love to say “I can do it myself!”

Chris, Jamie & Sheila

**POOH BEAR NEWS**

We are very excited to start our month off by honoring Dr. Seuss! We will do a small author study to learn about him and read many of his books. We will also have a pajama day on Wednesday, March 5th, where we will watch a Dr. Seuss movie! Please bring your child to school in his/her pajamas and a soft snuggle toy from home too!

Later in the month, we will be doing activities based on St. Patrick’s Day. We will touch base on the holiday, talk about leprechauns, and set out a trap to try and catch one in our room! We will also be taking a break from themes and spend time with some classic “must read” literature and explore through open ended activities.

And the last week of March, we will begin reading fairy tales. We will learn about how fairy tales begin with the phrase “Once Upon a Time,” about real vs. pretend stories (non-fiction vs. fiction), and about antagonists vs. protagonists.

Thank you,

Alisha, Nicole, and Meghan

**HONEY BEAR NEWS**

During the month of February we learned about the Post Office, Valentine’s Day, and Space. Thank you to all of the parents for your support. During the month we also had a one day celebration for Valentine’s Day, and Space. Thank you to all of the parents for your support of the week of Valentines, the children loved delivering their cards and gifts and mailing you personal valentines at home.

We are currently working on our numbers and our number books so please make sure to ask your children about their day since they are so excited about the activities they participate in.

We have a lot planned for March; we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss’ Birthday, Dental Health with a special guest coming in and towards the end of the month we will start counting down to Spring and Easter.

We hope you are helping your children with their self help skills at home, as we are encouraging them to continue strengthening their skills in the classroom to promote their independence. We are seeing growth and the children are proud of their personal accomplishments; putting on and taking off shoes, coats, boots, bathrooming, and cleaning up.

A few reminders: Please remember your child’s designated snack day. Keep in mind we are a nut free facility and encourage healthy snack options. If you need any ideas, please come see any one of us. Please make sure to sign in and out with your full names and exact times of drop off/pickup. Always check your child’s cubby box for an extra set of clothes LABELED; snowsuit, boots, winter hat and gloves and their coat. We are hoping to get outside a lot more as the weather warms up.

Happy March!!!

Tina, Brenda, and Scott
TEDDY BEAR NEWS

February was a busy month in the Teddy Bear room. In February we have been talking about good healthy choices. We learned about all of our Body Systems and what foods we should eat and what they do for our bodies. We also are starting our Dental Health Unit, learning about our teeth and what to do to take care of them. We will be visited by a dentist on Thursday, March 13th.

In March we will celebrate Dr. Seuss’ Birthday and start our Dinosaur Unit. As always, please make sure your child has extra clothes at school as the weather changes, we do get wet outside.

Happy Birthday to Jonah and Jordyn who will turn 4 years old this month.

Gabe, Michele, & Renee

PANDA BEAR NEWS

The Pandas really enjoyed our week at the Olympics. They kept track of the medals being won, they practiced hockey, the skeleton and figure skating.

Our Dental Health Unit was a success. The children really learned the importance of brushing after every meal. Through an experiment we hypothesized what effect Coke, milk, and vinegar would have on our egg “pretend tooth.” The visual outcome of the eggs reinforced that need to brush.

Our March themes will be Dr. Seuss, colors, St. Patrick’s Day, and Transportation.

Happy 5th Birthday to Emme Leahey on March 2nd.

Happy Spring!

Claire & Stacy

GRIZZLY BEAR NEWS

It’s almost Spring! February has flown by. We had a great time learning about Chinese New Year (or the Lunar New Year) and making our dancing dragons. We took a trip to space and learned about our Solar System. We even watched a tour of the International Space Station. Our Valentine’s Day Drive-In movie was a big hit! Especially getting to wear our PJ’s to school.

Our Dear Miss Nicole is off on a new adventure and we will miss her very much. But many fun things will still be in store for us as the rest of our year marches on.

Speaking of marching, March is just around the corner with lots of fun in store. We will see if March comes in like a lion and leaves like a lamb. We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss’ Birthday to start us off, followed by learning our colors and celebrating St. Patrick’s Day. We might even try to catch a leprechaun! We will also learn about the wind and the weather.

On March 11th we will be taking a trip to the Anderson Center to see the Youth Symphony.

I will keep my fingers crossed that Spring comes soon and we can go outside more!

Thank you,
Kat

POLAR BEAR NEWS

For a shorter month, we sure packed a lot in! First of all, a big “Thank You” to Dr. Pete Hatala for donating a new TV to Campus Pre-School, a very generous and much appreciated gift. Secondly, The Polar Bears would like to thank our parent volunteers for coming into our classroom to help us learn about our healthy bodies. Dr. Pete came in with his assistant to teach us all about dental health, and Dr. Rabia Uppal introduced us to going to the doctor’s office. The children had a lot of fun pretending to be doctors and dentists in our dramatic play area, especially with all of the real tools our parent volunteers brought in.

Also in February, we celebrated Valentine’s Day. This is a favorite holiday in the Polar Room. The children spent the week leading up to Valentine’s Day, tracing and cutting out hearts, writing letters to their friends and families, and mailing those letters in our Polar Post Office.

Another holiday we celebrated in the Polar room, was President’s Day. Together we remembered a couple of our most loved presidents. We looked at the face of Abraham Lincoln on the penny and explored the value of money. Ms. Carolyn conducted the Penny Prediction science experiment with the children. And now as we bring February to a close, we delve into the world of Dinosaurs. The children will be participating with hands-on explorations, scientific expeditions, Paleontologist dinosaur digs and dramatic reinterpretations of how the dinosaurs really lived.

March is going to be another packed month, starting out with a celebration to honor Dr. Seuss and a focus on rhyming words. We will also learn about Community Helpers, celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, explore and create with all the colors of the rainbow and learn about Weather. Lastly, we would like to welcome our Spring Semester Interns, Ms. Rachel and Ms. Nicole, and welcome our Student Teacher, Ms. Katrina.

Happy March!

Nicky, Carolyn, Jane, and Andrea
REMINDER

Pick up times for:
Half Day Care: 12:50 pm
Full Day Care: 5:20 pm

Late fees are assessed after 1:00 pm & 5:30 pm
$5.00 within 5 minutes
$1.00/minute thereafter

The Annual Sodexho Health Fair
When: March 25th
10:30 am-1:30 pm
Where: East Gym @ Binghamton University

10 Tips for setting good examples-
Be a healthy role model!

1. Show by example- let your child see that you munch on raw veggies.
2. Go food shopping together- teach your child about food and nutrition, discuss where foods come from and make healthy choices.
3. Get creative in the kitchen- cut food into shapes, name the food made.
4. Offer the same foods to everyone- stop being a “short order cook!”
5. Reward with attention, not food- show love with hugs and kisses.
6. Focus on each other at the table- turn off the gadgets, talk about fun and happy things at mealtime- a stress-free time.
7. Listen to your child- if they are hungry and it’s not scheduled mealtime, offer small healthy choices that you determine.
8. Limit screen time- Allow no more than 2 hrs of any screen time per day, TV and or computer. Move during commercials.
9. Encourage physical activity- Fun for the whole family, involve children in the planning. Set an example by being physically active and using safety gear.
10. Be a good role model- Try new foods, describe how it tastes and smells. Avoid lecturing and or forcing your child to eat.

BAEYC
34th Annual Children’s Fair
Will be coming in April.
Watch for more info.....

Staff Birthdays
Sue Hughes 3/2