Dear CPS Families,

As I sit looking out the window at all of the snow still falling, I must remind myself that it won't be long before we see 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 surround us!

The first promising sign of Spring is Summer Registration which is just beginning! We will be opening our Summer Program up to the community as a summer camp option so be on the look-out for our new and exciting Summer Camp information!

If you have any questions, please stop by the office.

For families currently enrolled at Campus Pre-School, your requests for the Fall 2014/2015 packets will be dispersed in a few weeks.

Don’t miss the fun this year at 35th Annual Children’s Fair at SUNY Broome Community College! It is scheduled for Saturday, April 18, 2015!

Remember to SPRING FORWARD ONE hour the weekend of March 8th for Daylight Savings Time!

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

Smile...Spring is on it's way!

All the best,
Tonya Rivera

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 are in practice: keep your child(ren) with you during arrival and departure, sign in using FIRST and LAST names, staff take attendance repeatedly throughout the day, the placement of child height stop signs, and closed classroom doors. Again, thank you for your support.
**WEE BEAR NEWS**

We are marching through Winter and enjoying the snow. We have all turned two years old now, but we are not so “terrible.” We have moments when a tantrum is about to happen, but usually the teachers can redirect the behavior. In March we hope to see the sun peek through and we will see what happens to the snow. We will move into spring activities and be experimenting with colors.

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

Kelly Louise Sue

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**BEAR CUB NEWS**

I’m sure everyone has had enough of this long cold winter and are anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring. March brings the coming of spring and the bear cubs are ready to watch for any signs of it. We will be observing the melting snow, return of the geese and birds, warmer weather and signs of spring flowers. We will also be learning the color green and celebrating St. Patrick’s Day.

We would like to welcome two BU interns, Leslie and Cynthia, who will be helping in our classroom for the rest of this semester. We look forward to mentoring them.

Finally, we have many children that are showing an interest in using the potty. 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, the parents and the caregivers. It’s a time when adults need to be sensitive to the child’s individual needs and developmental levels. It should be a positive experience and one that is rewarding to a child! Because toddlers love to do things by themselves—it is wise to dress them in clothing that is easy to pull up or down when toilet training. Positive reinforcement should be expressed through language, actions and readiness to learn.

Happy St. Patty’s Day!

Chris, Jamie and Sarah

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**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 Monday, March 2nd, 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 focus on St. Patrick’s Day. We will be exploring the holiday by talking about leprechauns and the colors green and gold. We have fun arts and crafts planned—such as fruit loop rainbows, four leaf clovers and more!

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. We will also be trying to plan a mini field trip to Binghamton University’s library to explore that the library has to offer!

Thank you,

Larissa, Kait and Michelle

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**HONEY BEAR NEWS**

The Honey bears would like to thank “Dr. Pete” Hatala for taking the time to come in and talk to the children about dental health! The children continued talking about Dr. Rabbit for days to come. We would also like to thank Berny Huang’s mom, Jennifer Zhou’s mom, Felix Ding’s mom and Sylvia Tong’s parents for coming to our class to help us learn about and celebrate the Chinese New Year. The children enjoyed the pictures and games that were presented.

We have a lot planned for March—we will be celebrating Dr. Suess’ birthday, the beginning of Spring, St. Patrick’s Day and getting ready for Easter.

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

We are hoping to get outside a lot more as the weather warms up! Please bring back their hats, mittens, snow-pants, and boots! We appreciate it!

Happy March!

Claire, Brenda and Megan
**TEDDY BEAR NEWS**

February was a busy month in the Teddy Bear class—we have been talking about all of our body systems and what they do! We learned about our teeth and how to take care of them as well. NY Dental Group came to teach us about proper brushing techniques.

Thank you to Nathaniel’s mom and her co-worker Kelly who came in to do a lesson on composting! “Compost Critters” was a big hit! Thank you also to Dr. Hatala for bringing us a bad of dental goodies!

In March we will be talking about the food groups and what foods do for our bodies. We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss’ birthday and reading many Dr. Seuss Stories.

Nathaniel’s mom will be coming in on the 20th to make “Bread in a Bag” with us.

Happy Birthday to Sophia Mahler! She will be turning four this month.

Let’s hope the weather warms up so we can get outside!

Gabe, Michele, Renee

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**GRIZZLY BEAR NEWS**

As February began, the Grizzlies learned about construction! We discussed many different tools and how they are used. We used play dough and blocks to construct our very own cities. The children loved playing at the sensory table filled with marshmallows for snow, pretzels for logs, rocks, chex cereal for dirt and cheerios. They used a variety of construction trucks to move all of the items.

We celebrated Valentine’s Day by reading books about caring, sharing and love. Thank you to all the parents for helping out with our Valentine Party! The children had a blast! This month our curriculum is “In the City, In the Country.” We will be discussing the differences and similarities between the two. The Grizzlies will be making both city and country projects. In addition to our curriculum, the Grizzlies will have a week celebrating Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick’s Day, and doing Spring crafts as well. We will create beautiful Van Gogh style masterpieces. As you can see, March is filled with many fun activities!

I am very proud of all of my Grizzly friends for their exceptional job in reading. They all have come a long way since September. Keep up the good work friends!

Ms. Miranda

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**PANDA BEAR NEWS**

I always forget what a short month February is until we come to the end. We were devastated to have to cancel our Post Office field trip, but were thankful the Polar Bears invited us to their class to hear the mail carrier speak! We had a blast learning about and celebrating Chinese New Year—we figured that most of our friends were born in the year of the Tiger.

We will be starting March off by celebrating Dr. Seuss’ birthday on the 2nd—we will be dressing crazy and watching “The Lorax”. For March we will be focusing on transportation and community helpers. If you or someone you know would like to come speak to the children about their job, please let us know!

We are so excited that Ms. Julie’s birthday is March 25th! We haven’t had a birthday to celebrate since October!

Stacy & Julie

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**POLAR BEAR NEWS**

For a shorter month, we sure packed a lot in! First of all, a big “Thank You!” to our parents and other volunteers for coming into our classroom to help us learn about Community Helpers. The children had a lot of fun pretending to be Doctors, Dentists, Mail Carriers and Police in our "Seuss Ville" dramatic play town! They especially enjoyed being a part of our Chinese Restaurant as we celebrated Chinese New Year.

Also in February, we enjoyed a whole week themed around Valentine’s Day. The children spent the week leading up to our Valentine’s Day Party, tracing and cutting out hearts, writing letters to their friends and families, and mailing those letters in our Polar Post Office.

March is going to be another action packed month, starting out with a celebration to honor Dr. Seuss's Birthday. We will finish our unit on Community with a week all about Teeth and the Dentist. In addition, The Polar Bears will celebrate St. Patrick’s Day, explore and create with all the colors of the Rainbow and learn about Weather. We will also be keeping our eyes open for Signs of Spring!

Lastly, we would like to welcome our Spring Semester Interns, Ms. Megan and Mr. JC, and welcome our Student Teacher, Ms. Danielle.

Happy March!

Nicky and Carolyn
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

BAEYC
35th Annual Children’s Fair
Will be scheduled for Saturday, April 18th
10AM—2PM

10 Tips for being 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 its not scheduled mealtime, offer small healthy choices that you determine.
8. Limit screen time- Allow no more than 2 hours 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.

Shamrock Shake Recipe

Ingredients:
2 cups vanilla ice cream (or non-dairy alt.)
1 1/4 cups 2% milk (Or non-dairy alt.)
1/4 teaspoon mint extract
8 drops green food coloring

Directions:
1. Combine all ingredients in a blender and blend on high speed until smooth.
2. Stop blender to stir with a spoon if necessary to help blend ice cream.
3. Pour into 12-ounce cups and serve each with a straw.
Happy St Patrick's Day!

We will soon be releasing our revised yearly calendar with dates for our Summer Session, Fall 2015 Semester, and Holiday or special closings.
Keep your eye out for fliers concerning this information, and as always—Feel free to visit the office to ask any questions or voice concerns.

Happy Birthday
Dr. Seuss!
3/2/15