



Co-Operatively Yours

Jan Johnson, Administrator

The fortunate news for this newsletter is that there is not much to report. The unfortunate news is that there is not much to report. One of my most favorite family activities that we do is our Family Potluck dinner/Talent Show. As like so many things in the last year, it has been postponed. It is always such a bright spot in the cold gray skies of winter in Cincinnati, but I am sure hoping that we can reschedule it for a fun spring activity or at least work it into our end of year picnic!

At this point in time, I am guessing that the Bunny Brunch might be cancelled for this school year also. We will keep everyone posted as to what is happening with this fun event. Covid cannot go away/get under control fast enough for me!!

When you receive this, our Open House will have already happened. If you have not turned in your registration yet for next year, please let us know what you think that you will be doing. It helps us to be able to plan our staffing and budget for the coming school year.

Did you see our news on Facebook? Thanks to so many of you and our dear alumni families, we were voted as the top Not for Profit Preschool in Cincinnati by Cincy Magazine! Thank you to all who voted for us!



We are starting to get a little low on rolls of paper towels, 70% (or more) rubbing alcohol and disinfecting wipes. If you could think of us on a shopping trip, we would certainly appreciate help restocking our cabinets. Everyone is doing an awesome job with helping us keep Covid out of our little school and we sure do appreciate all of your help!

Please remember that we sell Larosa's Buddy Cards all through the year. It is \$10 for a card and it is good for a year from when you first activate it or for 14 free large cheese pizzas with the purchase of another pizza, whichever comes first. We use them at my house, you do not need to get just cheese pizzas with them. Extra ingredients can be purchased, but the value of a cheese pizza is

taken off of your total. You can also ask for it to be unbaked so that you can take it home and freeze it for later! You earn \$5.00 towards your fundraising commitment for each Buddy card you buy or sell!!

We will be selling Butter Braids again in early March and also having another Usborne book sale in the hallway upstairs during our conference days! Keep your eyes open for these events!

There will be a new round of medical reminders coming out soon. If your child comes home with one pinned onto their school bag, please get your Doctor's appointment made quickly. We need to keep all of the files up to date to help us stay compliant with the State rules and regulations.

It is such a privilege to get to work with all of you and your children, thank you for choosing the Co-op! I always look forward to seeing all of you in the classrooms and the hallway!

Messages From Your Teachers

The Threes' Classroom

Jan Johnson

February and March are always full of many fun activities with the 3 and 4 year old classes! We will start out February wondering if the Groundhog will see his shadow! We will have fun finding ours also! We will then open our Co-op Post Office in the classrooms and the children love to "write letters" to send to their classmates and hand deliver them all around the classroom. This is followed by our Valentine's Parties where the children will bring cards from home to deliver to their classmates! After Valentine's day, we will spend the remainder of February exploring our 5 senses! So many fun projects that we can do to help us learn how amazing our bodies are!



March will find us learning about rhyming words in honor of Dr. Seuss's Birthday! Work with your children with rhyming words! It is great fun and also a wonderful beginning of letter sounds and pre reading skills! Nonsense words are a fine/fun way to learn about rhyming also! We will also have fun learning about opposites and healthy habits. Some of these different "learning units" might occur in April also. I still need to figure out Easter activities and timing of some of the units. It will be Spring again before we know it and with that comes even more fun to be had together!

Our year is going by so quickly! I hope that your children are enjoying school as much as I enjoy being with them! As always, thank you for sharing your "babies" with me! They are all growing up so quickly!

Let's enjoy this time together and enjoy all the wonders of childhood!

The Fours' Classroom

Kathy Curry

As I am sitting down to write this article, I see a beautiful white carpet on the ground. Finally, snow! Yay! We will begin the month of February with two more “snowy” projects, and then move on to numbers and counting. The children will be working on number sheets and looking for numbers in our classroom. We will make valentine surprises for family and friends – and even have our very own classroom post office. Our Valentine’s Day party will be on Friday, February 12th . We will deliver valentines to our friends, play lots of fun games, and whack a really cool piñata! What fun! During this month, we will also be talking about colors and shapes. We want the children to realize that shapes are all around them – in fact, everything has a shape. Have fun with your children looking for geometric shapes in your home and neighborhood environments.



The last week of February we will have a unit on dinosaurs and fossils. We will pretend to be archeologists and dig in the sand for bones and fossils. We will make fossils and dino cookies and our very own dinosaurs out of shoe boxes. Watch in the hallway for our dinosaur mural, too!

We will begin the month of March talking about March wind. We will make beautiful windsocks and fun wind puppets. (Don’t forget about Spring conferences on March 4th and

no school on the 5th.) We will talk about weather and make bird nests that will be the envy of birds everywhere! We will experience Backwards Day on the 15th, where we will talk about opposites, and do everything we can think of backwards! We are expecting a “surprise” visit from Lucky the Leprechaun on March 17th. (Do you think he will leave us a pot of gold again this year?)

The last week of March, we will be getting ready for Easter, with lots of egg activities and craft projects. Our Easter party will take place on Friday, March 26th. (We are still in the planning process for that day, so more info later.)

Our Spring Break will take place March 29 – April 6, and we will return to school on April 7th.

Your children are such a delight! They are eager to learn and so proud of their accomplishments. We continue to work on writing our names (we are now tracing our first and last name), and cutting – and they are coming along nicely. When we work on our “letter of the week”, they love to come up with words that start with that letter (the longer the better!). They are learning to read and spell each other’s names, too.

The children are working very hard in their journals, practicing their letters and letter sounds, numbers, and doing theme and season-related activities. Since the beginning of January, we have two additions to our circle time: 1) the special helper gets to play a child-size guitar on our songs; 2) we are learning to say “hello” in 16 different languages (a new one each week for the rest of the year). They really seem to be enjoying this. You might want to ask your child, “How do you say ‘Hello’ in Spanish?” or “What is your favorite ‘Hello’ word?” We are reviewing their addresses, phone numbers, and birthdays, so please be sure to work on these periodically at home. I am working one-on-one with each child in preparation for our Spring conferences on Thursday, March 4th. (We call these testing times “teddy bear games” because they will receive a teddy bear sticker and hand stamp - and a lollipop - when they are finished.)

I can't believe how fast the year is going! (Less than 3 months left!) It will soon be Spring! (And I really do wish we could have a little more snow - it is so pretty!) Stay warm!

Messages From The Board Members



Quiet as Fish!

Not too much to report here! We have a few fundraisers coming up and otherwise we're waiting for warmer weather for continued fun. Thank you everyone who spread the word about our Open House. It was a huge success and I loved seeing all the new (and some returning!) families that will join us next year!

Bonnie Titus, Secretary



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