



# DSECC News



Issue 248

DIAMOND STREET EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

February 2010

## From the Director,

As a STAR 4 center, DSECC is required to submit demographic and developmental information for each child to the state through the Early Learning Network (ELN). This information is kept secure and privacy laws are honored. This is a way of evaluating and improving education programs in Pennsylvania. For more detailed information for parents please click the link from our website or go to [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org) to find more information on the ELN.

DSECC uses the Ounce Scale (OS) assessment system for children up to age 3 and the Work Sampling (WS) system for children 3 and above. Results for these assessments are also entered into the online reporting system. Teachers use assessment information to create classroom learning opportunities that meet the interests and needs of each child. Please talk to your child's teacher at conference time to discuss the results of the OS and WS assessments. Thank you for your cooperation as we try to provide the best program possible for your child.

*Jane Hershberger*

## February Calendar

Feb. 5	<b>Bookmobile</b>
Feb. 8	<b>Spring Fundraiser Begins</b>
Feb. 12	<b>No Preschool/Full Day Eagles (Akron only) or Weather Make Up Day</b>
Feb. 15	<b>No Preschool Full Day Eagles</b>
Feb. 22-26	<b>Peace/International Week</b>

## Warbler Room (Infants)

Well, the month of February is here already. Even though we are still in the middle of winter, the days are getting longer and a few warmer days give us hope of the spring to come. The Warblers recently took a walk outside which was the first in a long time. They were all excited and happy to be outside in the fresh air and new surroundings.

Our two oldest Warblers have just turned one year old! The rest of the infants are also celebrating new accomplishments. It seems like they are surprising us with new skills every day. As always, please keep us informed with your child's changing needs, and thank you for previously doing so.

Wishing everyone a Happy Valentine's Day!

Ms. Kelly M, Ms. Sharon, Ms. Ruthie & Ms. Tina

## Bluebird Room (Older Infant)

The cold snap finally broke last month and we were able to get outside more for walks and fresh air! What a nice change. I hope we have some more nice days that we can enjoy the outdoors in February.

For this month, the theme in the Bluebird room will be Friendship and Families. On Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Pajama Party Day. Everyone will come to school in the pj's and we will make a special Friendship snack (more info to come). A few of the other activities planned for this

month are decorating Valentine holders, Q-tip painting and making Diversity collages.

Ms. Amy, Ms. Jean, & Ms. Chelle

## Robin Room (Toddlers)

Greetings of love and friendship from the Robin room this month of February. The children are all having fun as they explore new friendships with our younger, new Robins. This month we will focus on Love and Friends the first two weeks and celebrate Valentine's Day on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup>. The children may exchange Valentines and we will have a small party that afternoon. The remainder of the month we will talk about different kinds of transportation—which we know many of our children will enjoy!

Please remember warm winter gear for outside play and an extra set of seasonal clothes in your child's hall box. Also, let us know of any concerns of yours pertaining to your child which would allow us to better care for him or her.

Thanks and Happy February!

Ms. Debbie, Ms. Joanne, & Ms. Barb

## Hummingbird Room

Love is in the air! February is here and with it – Valentine's Day! We will have a Valentine's Day party on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

We've enjoyed travelling around the world and have visited Japan, China, Africa, and India. The first week of February we will continue the theme as we visit Europe, South America, and

Canada. The children are excited when they learn teachers or classmates are from those areas.

The week of February 8<sup>th</sup> will be our Friendship/Love week. The next two weeks will be Nursery Rhymes. We'll be practicing hearing the rhymes. You can help your child by playing rhyming games such as, "what rhymes with *hat*?" or supplying a rhyme for them to hear. It should be lots of fun!

We are excited to welcome **Carter, Taylor, Brooke, Relly,** and **Andrew** to the Hummingbird room!

You will also be seeing Ms. Debbie in our room more often for the next few months as she does her student teaching with us. We are excited to have her!

Ms. Kelly, Ms. Suzy & Ms. Sumathi

## Cardinal Room

February is the month of love and peace. We have a new friend joining us. I would like to welcome **Shayla** to the Cardinal Room! This month we will be talking about being kind to friends, the differences between each of us and what Valentine's Day means. We will also learn about Zoo Animals, and have a second week of Dinosaurs (the children REALLY loved this unit). Did you get to see our volcano? On February 11th we will have a Friendship Party and your child will be able to bring in Valentines for their friends. There will also be a sign-up sheet if you would like to bring something in for the party.

During Peace week, we will have "wacky days." Each day will be something different. Please refer to the calendar for more information on each day.

We are all looking forward to another exciting month!

### **Reminder:**

Due to lost, broken, and unshared toys, we are asking that toys from home stay at home as stated in the DSECC Family Guide

on page 14. The only time toys from home are allowed are on "Show-N-Share" days. If you have any questions, please see me or the office. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Ms. Jessie, Ms. Alyssa, Ms. Pat & Ms. Sumathi

## Orioles

We are excited to have **Karli** join us in the Oriole Room!!! I would like to extend a personal thank you to Mrs. Cheri Freeman from myself and our class for the wonderful job she is doing teaching us our weekly Bible lessons.

The Orioles will have a Valentine's Day party on the 12<sup>th</sup>. A sign-up sheet will be posted if you would like to contribute a treat. I printed a class list on our class calendar.

February is packed with many exciting activities. From learning about dental health to doing a unit on "things that go", we will be busy. Check your calendar for some special days like a PJ Day and a couple days where you may bring in a show-and-share item. I will be sending home a heart cut-out for a Family Heart project. Please decorate any way you would like and return to school on the due date on the calendar.

Cherish the love of your family and friendships which is our focus for the month of February.

Ms. Dede

## Preschool

Even though we just finished putting our holiday decorations away, it's already February. We are looking forward to a little more snow and wind before the spring weather. In the 4's AM class we added a new classmate. Please help us welcome **Simon**. In all of the classes we will be working with a student teacher this spring. **Ms. Lauren** will be completing her practicum for early childhood at our preschool.

January brought new ideas and adventures to our class. In the MWF classes we discovered Kwanzaa and welcomed its bright colors to our room. We also studied animals in winter. We categorized the animals into those that hibernate, those that migrate and those who remain in the cold. The morning 4's class had the opportunity to have the Lancaster Parks and Recreation come to DSECC. They showed us furs and bones of animals that stay all winter long. Last week the 4's classes voted on learning about Space. They had lots of questions about the moon and the planets. The 3's class devoted the entire month to learning about trains! We brought in trains, sorted trains, created trains, and we even got to visit some trains on our first field trip! It was a great unit that everyone enjoyed!

In February we will be exploring friendship and love and also healthy living. All of the classes will have a friendship meal for parents to attend and share with our class. Please look for further details on the calendar. The healthy living unit will include lessons on healthy food and exercise. The last week will be our International Peace Week. This is a unit that it done center wide.

Ms. Amanda & Ms. Lynn

## Eagles

Please be sure to check the dates for no school or full day Eagles. If you have questions, please feel free to contact the office.

### Important dates:

- Feb. 12 **Full Day Eagles**  
*Akron Only or  
Weather Make Up Day*
- Feb. 15 **Full Day Eagles**  
*Akron & Brownstown*
- Feb. 24 **Brownstown Early Dismissal**

Ms. Cathy & Ms. Pam