



From the Director,

Spirit Week is humming right along. Today is pocket day and the children are excited to show me the tiny things that fit in their pockets when I visit their rooms. On Friday, volunteers from Akron Mennonite Church are coming to read Dr. Suess stories to the children as we celebrate his birthday. Soon it will be March when we celebrate Peace Week the week of the 16th-20th. You will be hearing and seeing more about the themes for each day. During that week we will be collecting items to fill School Kits for refugees through Mennonite Central Committee as our international service project. The kits include notebooks, pencils, a ruler, colored pencils, and an eraser. Each room will be collecting a different item. I wonder how many kits we can fill??

June Hershberger

Reminders:

There is still time to register for the following classes:

Parenting classes: March 3, 10, 24, 31 from 6:00-8:00pm. A meal and childcare are provided at no cost.

Financial seminar:

Tuesday, March 17, "Earth Conscious/Money Conscious" from 6:30-8:30 pm. \$2 registration fee.

March Calendar

- March 6 Bookmobile
- March 10 Wolfgang Candy Orders Due
- March 13 **Full Day Eagles**
No Kindergarten/Preschool
- March 16-20 **Peace Week**
- March 23 Mini Move Up
- March 24 Isaac's Fundraiser Night

Warbler Room (Infants)

The Warbler Room welcomes **Gavin** to our room. Gavin is 11

months old and joins three other infants within six weeks of his age.

Recently our staff completed a training on Early Learning Standards. This has aided us in spending time observing the infants and recognizing their developmental progress, new skills, and interests. Our goal is to be aware of each child's temperament and stage of development.

Parents, you might want to check your child's box to be sure the change of clothes still fits. Clothes have a way of getting smaller at the end of each season!

Ms. Sharon, Ms. Leah, Ms. Starla, and Ms. Dolly

Bluebird Room (Older Infant)

During the month of March the theme in the Bluebird room will be *Our Five Senses*. This is always a good theme for the Bluebirds since they are in the stage of leaning through sensory exploration. We will again be doing a tasting week (more information to come soon). We will be making "squish" bags for the children to explore and we will be finger painting, making collages, and exploring play dough.

If the weather warms up, we will be spending more time outdoors and hopefully playing on the playground, too!

Ms. Amy, Ms. Jean, Ms. Dolly & Ms. Kelly

Robin Room (Toddlers)

Happy March from the Robin Room! Spring will soon be here, hopefully! The children and staff members had a fun month of February even though we did not get too much outside play time. Valentine's Day and Spirit Week were great! Thanks for all your support! We all enjoyed the fun!

The month of March sees to be a great time to be learning about the weather. Lions, lambs and rainbows will be included! And don't forget to think green on Tuesday, March 17th.

Keep sending hats, mittens and warm coats for the outside play times. Your child should also have an extra full set of clothes in his/her hall box—just in case! We are working hard on potty training!

Please be sure to inform us of any concerns pertaining to your child. It allows us to better care for him/her. Thanks!

Ms. Debbie, Ms. Joanne, Ms. Barb

Hummingbird Room

We have had a great time in February with all our special events! Thanks for all your help. The children learned a lot so far about Celebrations Around the World. We've covered Asian holidays, a South American holiday, May Day, and holidays from India. We will continue with one more week of Celebrations in March. We will have another celebration from India, one from Sri Lanka, and finally Africa.

The next themes will be *Musical Instruments* and *Famous Artists*. The last week in March we will start talking about *Easter*. Look for information coming about an egg hunt.

Please save any coffee cans, oatmeal containers or similar size containers for us to use to make our own drums. Please bring the containers in by March 9th.

Special dates to remember:

March 18 Show and tell

March 31 Show and tell

Ms. Kelly, Ms. Jessie, Ms. Pat and Ms. Marie

Registration information:

Preschool and Kindergarten registration has begun for 2009-2010. Check with the office for rates and availability.

Summer and before/after school care for 2009-2010 registration will begin this month.



Cardinal Room (Pre-kindergarten)

The month of February is gone and hopefully, the cold weather will go with it. It was a short month but we packed a lot of fun into it. Our class is excited to invite a new friend, **Dylan**, to our room in March.

The Cardinals would like to thank all the parents and friends who came to the Parent Breakfast. We would also like to thank **Dr. Nolt** for coming and talking to us about our teeth. In this month we also cherished friendships and Dr. Seuss.

March is filled with new experiences. We are going to have some hands-on learning about *Sculpture and Painting*. The Cardinals are then going to learn about all kinds of *Fish*. The last week of March we are going to start incubating some eggs! March is also Parent-Teacher Conferences; we will be sending out more information at a later time.

Important Dates to remember:

March 12 – Show n Share – Favorite Picture drawn by you!

March 17 – Green Day

March 20 – Cooking Project

Ms. Amanda, Ms. Suzy & Ms. Wendy

Preschool

Magical March—the time when Old Man Winter finally starts to relinquish his icy grip and Spring arrives! One of my favorite memories as a child is that of my grandfather ushering Spring in with his annual tradition of maple sugaring. Recently, one of the AM MWF kids asked where maple syrup came from and a light bulb went off in my mind—why not teach the children about *maple sugaring*? The MWF classes

will be exploring that theme during the week of March 2nd.

Please be sure to carefully read this month's calendar and Classroom Times as it is packed with information concerning the Book-It program, field trips and Peace Week activities. Just a reminder that I will be away from March 9-12. Please direct any questions you may have to either Lynn or June that week.

Thanks again for your donations to our Friendship party and for signing up to read to the class. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Ms. Marie & Ms. Lynn

Kindergarten

March definitely came in like a lion, but will it go out like a lamb? I'm not so sure, because before we know it, we will all be at our Kindergarten's End of the Year program.

If you don't know, St. Patrick's Day is one of my favorite holidays. I can't wait to celebrate with Kindergarten. The leprechaun has been known to cause chaos in our room on that day. I wonder if he will show up this year?

Check your child's folder with them each day. Talk with your child about what they brought home. It may see like scrap paper to you, but to your child, it may be something that they are really proud of doing. Also, I often stick little notes in their folders about important upcoming events.

Like always, please check your class calendar daily. We have many exciting themes coming up. We will be studying and observing plants and flowers, how seeds become flowers, and pollination. I am VERY excited to do an embryology unit with kindergarten this year. I have never done it before, so it will be a learning experience for all of us. This will have to be an ongoing unit. We will be working with the Cardinals and compare and contrast the eggs we are incubating. Is anyone

thinking of giving a duck or chicken as an Easter gift? Please see Ms. Amanda or me.

We have so much to look forward to in March and the upcoming months. If anyone would like a mini conference about your child's progress, contact me to set something up. I like to have a formal sit-down conference at the end of the year as well.

Ms. Dede

Eagles

March means Spring is soon here! Spring means that we will be able to get back outside to play! Hopefully we won't have any of those late snowstorms!

March can be a long month for school-agers. There are no days off for holidays. The Akron children are lucky though to have March 13th off. At least it will break up the month a little bit. If your child will need care that day, please let us know so that we are able to plan for staffing that day.

Lately the children have been enjoying playing Connect Four and Tricky Fingers. Both are games for only two people but they don't seem to mind waiting their turn to take on the winner!

Please continue to communicate with us any schedule changes or absences due to illness.

Ms. Pam, Ms. Dede, Ms. Brieanna, & Ms. Nami

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Diamond Street parents are offered a parent-teacher conference in March. If you are interested in scheduling a meeting, please contact your child's teacher or the office. All parents will receive their child's latest observation/assessment and will be asked to sign a copy for the DPW files.

