



News From Miss Lisa & Miss Sherry:

After the mild winter weather that we have had, we surely hope Punxsutawney Phil will continue the trend by not seeing his shadow! We will find out on February 2. Valentine's Day excitement will be here in a few short weeks. We will be exchanging valentines in our classrooms on Tuesday, February 14. There will be a note from each teacher soon concerning the number that will be needed for their classroom. As always, you may also send in a *small* treat. We will be making valentine holders here.

Miss Jana started her final semester of ACDS training and will graduate in May after two years of hard work, and Miss Rachel started her third semester of ACDS. Miss Jen and Miss Shelly will be attending the annual "Celebrating Connections" conference in Charleston later this month. We all look forward to attending trainings to gain new and useful ideas to use in our classrooms. Please consult your monthly calendar for the dates when Pre-K will not be in session due to this training.

Some of you will be receiving a 2012-2013 Pre-K letter for our classroom here at Little Bear. Please remember to complete your acceptance/refusal letter so that we can get you the necessary paperwork to complete enrollment. In-house enrollment will run through the end of February. If we do not get an application from you, there may not be a place for your child in the program.

We are in need of scrap paper. We would greatly appreciate the paper to reuse.

Also attached is a "Labels for Education" from Campbell's. We would like to have 50 returned to submit for points. Please return by

February 29 so we can mail them in. Thank you for helping us!

Cub Den News

Our month of January started with the Arctic theme. We all had fun painting snow bunnies, painting polar bears with puffy paint, coloring penguins, and using felt and tissue paper. We even went outside to ride bikes a few times in January. We love it outside even if it's only for 15 minutes. Next, came our Five Senses. We made handprints and touched cotton; we saw a rainbow; watched and followed a light from a flashlight; we smelled a flower; tasted Cheerios; and listened to bird sounds. We then went into outer space where we painted stars and a moon and stamped our planets. We even got to play in a rocket ship. Oh, what fun we had! We also pretended that we were astronauts traveling through outer space. We ended January learning about the weather, the four seasons, and the changes that they bring. We enjoyed many, many books about our themes, too. Some signs we learned were please, thank you, bird, stop, and music. The children love circle time that we have each day and going over names, colors, shapes, numbers, stories, songs, and games that are all related to our themes. Please remember that we do go outside when the weather permits, so make sure your child has appropriate outerwear so that he/she can enjoy going outside. In addition, they will also need extra, clean clothes to change into if needed.

Happy "1st" Birthday to Abel on Feb. 16.

Koala News

We started the year off with fun themes and activities. First was the Arctic where we talked about and made seals, penguins and igloos. Next, we used our Five

Senses. This was a fun week with making and playing with slime (corn starch and water) and making a volcano and then watching it erupt. We watched listened, smelled, touched, and tasted popcorn. We then proceeded into outer space in a spaceship that was fun to play in (thanks Miss Rachel). We made our planets while looking down on them and the starry sky. We finished the month talking about nutrition where they were able to name a lot of foods that were healthy for us. On the other hand, we had to mention some that we should only have a little bit of. We finished the week by making and drinking a purple cow. It's fun to learn! Please keep in mind that if there is a morning that you would like to read to the class, please let us know. They really enjoy it! If you haven't already, and you would like to bring slippers in, please feel free to do so. We do try to go outside, weather permitting, and since it has been extremely wet and muddy, we have to take off our shoes when returning. We sometimes need extra clothes to change into, so be sure to leave extras with us.

Happy Birthday to Travis on Feb. 10 and Eli on Feb. 26.

We would like to welcome Ethan and Isabelle Ringler to our class in February.

Pre-K2

(Miss Kelli)

We started January by ringing in 2012 with a lot of fun themes! First, we learned about the Arctic and the letter "A." We learned that the Arctic is very cold and that polar animals and Eskimos live there. We made some polar bears, penguins, and even ourselves as an Eskimo! We then moved on to learning about our five senses and the letter "S." We did a lot of fun

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activities involving our eyes, ears, nose, mouth, and fingers. We learned a few new songs to help us remember our five senses. After our senses, we made a few trips to the moon during outer space week! We practiced the letter "O" and learned all about the sun, moon, stars and planets. We then jumped right into learning about nutrition and staying healthy. We practiced the letter "N" and learned about all the foods that are good for us to eat so we can stay healthy and strong. We even learned some exercises to keep us healthy and active. We spent the last two days of January learning about the weather and the letter "W." We made our own thunderstorm and a rainbow to wrap up a busy January.

The new year brought us a new friend to our class! We would like to welcome Alivia Fike to our class and to Little Bear. Happy 4th birthday to Travis Parks on February 10th!

Pre-K News

January was a busy and exciting month for the Preschoolers. Everyone was excited to get back to their normal routine after a winter break. We began the new year learning about the cold arctic and the arctic animals; Outer Space and all the planets, moons, and stars; healthy eating and exercising (for Nutrition Week); and ended January talking about the weather and making predictions for Groundhog Day. For each of our themes, the children enjoyed making fun art projects and listening to many fun stories. We continue to practice our numbers, letters, our names, and sight words daily so our skills don't get rusty. The children are doing a FANTASTIC job! The estimation jar is still making trips home with the students, so if you

haven't gotten it yet...your time is coming. The children enjoy seeing what items their classmates fill the jar with and even more enjoyment when they are guessing (estimating) how many objects are in it.

With a new year beginning, colds/flu's are making their rounds. Since February is National Healthy Smiles month, we are asking you to please send in a new toothbrush for your child. Once your child brings in a new toothbrush, we will toss the old one. We continue to collect box tops. If you need collection sheets, please let us know or you can send in your box tops in an envelope with your child's name on it.

Miss Shelly and I will be heading to Charleston to attend our annual Early Childhood Conference. There will be NO Pre-K on Friday, February 24th, and we will be making this day up on Monday, February 20th (this was originally scheduled off for President's Day). As always, we will remind you as the time gets closer. We have been very fortunate with such a low number of snow days, that we will be celebrating our 100 days of school on Monday, February 6th. (This is the earliest we have ever celebrated 100 days.) A fun guessing activity will be coming home with your child in preparation for our 100 day celebration.

Happy Birthday to Aidan on February 2nd!

Important Dates

NO PRE-K - Friday, February 24th
WE WILL have PRE-K - Monday, February 20th

Grizzly News

We were excited about not only beginning a new month, but a new year! We all returned to "big kid school" after a nice, long, and relaxing Christmas break. We

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quickly got back into the swing of our afternoon routine. We spent most of our time working on homework and practicing all the new things we have learned in the new year. On January 16th, we had a day off from school to honor Martin Luther King, Jr. We learned that he did a lot of great work to help everyone in our country have equal rights. We enjoyed spending a few afternoons outside when the weather was nice. Please continue to send in spelling words or the things your child is working on each week. We will practice them here during homework time.

Opps... We made a mistake on Abbie's birthday. It was January 31, not January 3! Sorry, and we hope you had a great birthday.

