

Country Day School

Pre-Primary Newsletter – February 2012

'my groundhog' by Joshua

We would like to say farewell to Mrs. Emily Avila. Mrs. Avila is moving on to teach in a lower elementary classroom. We thank her for her time with us and wish her the best!

We are happy to announce Mrs. Joyce Benson as a new member of the Pre-Primary teaching team. Mrs. Benson comes with an extensive background working with infants, toddlers and children ages 3 – 5. We welcome her enthusiasm (and patience!) for working with young children to our classroom. Please take an opportunity to stop by and extend a warm hello.

February Work: “Ground hog, Ground hog, Where are you?” Just what is a ground hog and where does

he live? Those are some of the questions we will answer this month as we begin our February Unit. We will learn about shadows, how they are made and have fun making them inside and outdoors. During the second week of February, our thoughts turn to red as we prepare for Valentine’s Day. We will be making red collage pictures, finger painting with red paint and even red snacks.

We will read a story about the **Valentine Bears**. Mrs. Bear is disappointed that they always sleep through Valentine’s Day and decides to set the alarm for February 14th and surprise Mr. Bear with a special bear snack and card to celebrate the day. **To finish the month Bears, Bears, Bears** will find us pretending to go on bear hunts, reading stories about bears and doing many bear related art projects as we learn about the world of bears. Bear-Hug cards and gluing Corduroy’s missing button on his overalls. We will conclude our Bear Unit with a Teddy Bear Picnic on Wednesday, February 22nd. The children are invited to bring their favorite Teddy Bear (or special stuffed animal) to school on that day for the picnic. With weather permitting we will have our picnic outside.

As we do not celebrate Valentine’s Day with a party, some of our little ones like to give Valentine cards. If you choose to do so, please send them in on or by Monday, February 13th. (NO candy, please.)

Parent Education: Thank you to those families who attended the Montessori Parent Moving-Up informational meeting. It was an evening of valuable information provided by our Montessori Primary Teachers. It provided a glimpse of the Montessori environment for those



children entering into the 3 – 6 programs. Additional parent education opportunities are coming up in the spring!

Thank you to all families contributing to our daily snack. As one of the first pieces of work the children want to do, eating seems to be the best. If any one would like to contribute to our snack calendar, please contact Ellis Clarkson to be placed on the monthly calendar.

Welcome to the following new friends to the Pre-Primary class: Joshua Anderson, Jackson Smith, Everett Breakenridge, Jeremiah Schaffer, Malek El-Yousef. Please take the time to introduce yourself to our new families.

Since Valentine's Day is set aside to remember those that are near and dear to our hearts, let us take advantage of this opportunity to wish all of you a "Happy Valentine's Day". Thank you for the privilege of working with and watching your children grow and develop.

Sincerely,

Ms. Hammock, Mrs. Pier and Mrs. Benson

Reminders:

Saturday, February 11th Friend's of Country Day Parent Social "Disco Fever"

Tuesday, February 14th Valentine's Day – bring Valentine's (optional)

Wednesday, February 22nd Teddy Bear Picnic – bring your favorite bear!

Thursday/Friday February 23rd and 24th No School Parent Conferences (Ms. Heather will be calling you to schedule your time)