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DEAR PARENTS

Happy February! February is a busy month. It is Black History and Dental Health month. There is also Groundhog’s Day, Presidents’ Day, and Valentine’s Day to celebrate.

DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Dental Resource Event
February is Dental Health month. We will have a dental hygienist here to talk to the children about how to take care of their teeth. Activities that she may be showing them may include a tooth mold and how to properly brush, floss, etc.
This event will be on Mon., Feb. 22nd at 9:30 a.m. for the Purple class and Tues., Feb. 23rd at 9:30 a.m. for the Orange class. (Preschool will have it at 10:00 a.m. on both days)

Dental Health Table
We will have items on our table in the lobby available to take on Wed. & Thurs., Feb. 24th & 25th. At this table we will have some toothbrushes & toothpaste, coloring sheets to take home, a toothbrush to brush teeth on a stuffed friend, & some fun songs playing about taking care of our teeth.

VALENTINES PARTIES

Our Valentine parties for the childcare classes are scheduled in the afternoon on Friday, February 12th. Check with your child’s teacher if you would like the specific time and to find out how many valentines to bring for the party.
PLEASE DO NOT ADDRESS THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPES! Just help your child sign their name on the back of the Valentines. If you would like to send trinkets or stickers that day, you may. We prefer that you DO NOT SEND candy to pass out. We will have some fun treats here!

This is the way we brush our teeth, brush our teeth, brush our teeth…

REGISTRATION RENEWAL

We are increasing our registration renewal fees from $40.00 per year to $60.00 per year effective February 1st, 2016 (or the next time your registration fee is due).

FEBRUARY 2016 CHILD CARE NEWS
February is National Dental Health Month. As mentioned in the resource event section, we will be having a special guest come and talk to the children about keeping their mouths and teeth healthy. You can click on the following link to be taken to the *Mouth Healthy* website: [http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/](http://www.mouthhealthy.org/en/). Here you will find a lot of information regarding dental health for children and adults. You can also click on the following link to be taken to *Mouth Healthy for Kids*: [http://www.mouthhealthykids.org/en/watch-videos/dudley-and-friends/](http://www.mouthhealthykids.org/en/watch-videos/dudley-and-friends/). Here you will find some fun activities for children.

Also, be sure to check out the Parent Education section on our website for this month’s topic: “When Parents Should Be Concerned About Early Reading Skills.” This is also posted on our Blog.

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**Computer Class**
LeeAnn will do some dental health activities with the children since February is Dental Health month. On the iPad they will play games that teach speed & coordination as well as healthy habits. They will also listen to a story about a trip to the dentist. Each child will also have a turn to brush Squeaky’s teeth. (Squeaky is our class mascot.)

**Music Class**
Pat will teach songs about “Hearts & Friends” for music this month. Pat will teach the children these songs through singing, playing instruments, and using other items such as beanbags.

**Spanish Class**
Maria will teach the children this month words associated with “Dental Health” and “Valentine’s Day.” Maria teaches Spanish words using a variety of materials to teach such as the iPad, books, flashcards & CDs.

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**Butterbraids Fundraiser**
We will be having a *Butterbraids* fundraiser beginning on February 15th and ending on March 2nd. The delivery date will be on March 16th. These are delicious and are great for Easter celebrations! We will be sending out more information about the fundraiser as we get closer to the date.

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**Preschool Registration**
On Monday, February 15th registration opens for the 2016-2017 preschool program for children who are currently enrolled at Tiny Tots. This is your chance to sign your child up before enrollment opens to the public!

We are increasing our rates effective June 2016. The new rates will be $140 per month for 2 days a week and $190 per month for 3 days a week. (See the front page for registration fee information)

There are also scholarship applications (*from the Early Learning Scholarships Pathway 1*) available in the office for families who meet the income eligibility requirements. Families must have a child between the ages of three to four as of September 1 of the current year, and must meet other eligibility requirements outlined in Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.165. Pathway 1 scholarships “follow the child” and are awarded to the family for up to 12 months.

Please see the office if you are interested in signing your child up for Preschool.

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**Parent Education Section**
This month’s topic is “When Parents Should Be Concerned About Early Reading Skills.” This is also posted on our Blog.