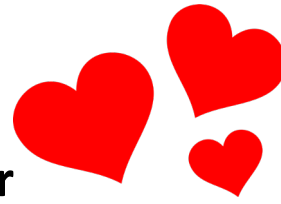


February 2026 Newsletter



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Happy February to all the Busy Bees Families! What a crazy end to January, with the snow dump and the freezing temperatures! We are extremely grateful for Team Mec's! Sandro and his helpers, created paths and mountains on our playground that not only made our playground accessible, but made it a beautiful winter wonderland with endless fun! We are looking forward to getting outside this week!

WINTER UPDATE

You all have been wonderful with packing winter gear, thank you! **Upon further investigation, I found that the state regulations are that children can go outdoors if the windchill is 15 degrees or more.** (in the past, I thought it was 20 degrees). We are very excited to get outside and enjoy the snow, and we appreciate you packing all the snow gear!

FEBRUARY THEME

"I can do it" will be heard a lot this month as we explore our **"I CAN"** theme. We will enjoy focusing on age-appropriate skills in fun and creative ways such as carrying our belongings, getting on snow gear, using scissors, crayons, and glue. This helps build confidence and independence! We will also be weaving fun with colors along the way.

VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

The children will be celebrating Valentine's Day with a party that includes a Valentine exchange on **February and 12th and 13th**. Wear your favorite valentine color! When working on valentines, please make sure that you or your child signs his/her name on the card, but **please do not write the names of classmates on the individual cards.** (That makes handing them out very tricky!) Put the cards in a bag and label the bag with your child's name. Each child who brings in cards will have the chance to play mailperson for the morning and deliver his/her cards to classmates. There are 23 children in our MWF class and 24 children in our TTH class. If you would like to bring treats for our Valentine Party, please sign our parent board. Thank you!

PROGRESS REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS:

Every child is unique and born with a developmental time clock that determines readiness in many areas of growth. During the month of February, we will begin the process of evaluating all children attending our program. From the beginning of school in September, we have been observing the following areas: social development, cognitive skills, play habits, attitudes, language development and motor skills. All staff members will have an input into the evaluation process of each child. You will be given a report in April that outlines the staff observations. We feel fortunate that we see parents/

caregivers on a weekly basis, so we can share day-to-day happenings here at Busy Bees. If we feel that we need to speak to you about a certain issue involving your child, we will do so before progress reports are issued and whenever the need arises throughout the school year. Both classes are involved, interactive and eager to learn. The time and energy that you invest in your children's lives is very evident.

REMINDER ABOUT WELLNESS POLICY:

There are a lot of respiratory illnesses going around the community. **In order to keep our teachers and children healthy please follow these guidelines** and keep your child home if they are not well. **We appreciate your cooperation!**

In order for your child to attend Busy Bees they must:

- Be fever free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of medications
- Symptoms are getting better and your child can manage through the routine of a typical morning in our care

Symptoms are NOT improving if:

- Fever (100.5 or higher) comes and goes over any period of time
- Cough continues to interrupt sleep and ability to participate in activities
- **Congestion requires frequent wiping of nose/ mouth due to runny nose or excessive saliva**
- Fatigue makes it difficult for your child to participate
- Your child had diarrhea or vomited within the last 24 hours

KINDNESS CHEER

Here is a catchy tune that we will be learning around Valentine's Day.

K-I-N-D that's the way we want to be

In our work and in our play,

We'll be kind in every way..... wooooo!

IN HOUSE FIELD TRIP: Knucklebones- for the love of play! February 12th and 13rd

www.knucklebones.us dress to play!

Knuckle Bones will come to Busy Bees to provide exciting activities, games, and exercises. We are looking forward to seeing what fun equipment they will be bringing this year!

Sincerely,

Marna Shields

