



## 😊 Small Talk 😊

### The Monthly Newsletter of Bethlehem Preschool February 2020

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#### Happy Valentine's Day!

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##### Valentine's Day

Just a friendly reminder to let you know that the children will have the opportunity to make cards at school to share with friends and family. **Please do not bring in Valentine cards or candy from home.** Thank you for your cooperation. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like to participate in any Valentine's Day activities happening in the classroom.

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##### Taxpayer Identification Number

Our Taxpayer Identification Number is **14 -1569614**. A year-end tax statement is available upon request.

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##### BPS Closed - Presidents' Day

Bethlehem Preschool will be **closed** for Presidents' Day on **Monday, February 17**.

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##### Parent/Teacher Conferences

We are again offering an opportunity for parents to discuss your child's development and progress with classroom teachers. You will receive a "Family Conference Form" at the end of February or early March. The form will report on your child's strengths in a wide range of developmental touchpoints.

We are using the "Creative Curriculum

Gold" assessment system which provides observations and assessments in up to 38 Objectives for Development and Learning. The system uses daily observations, developmental checklists and portfolios to follow children's progress and achievements.

The system also relies on input from parents to develop social, educational, physical and literacy goals for your child. We will continue to ask for your input throughout the school year.

Once you have received the "Family Conference Form," please speak to your child's teacher to arrange a meeting time that is convenient for you. We look forward to our discussions.

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##### Bethlehem School District Kindergarten

Kindergarten registration for students who will be **5-years-old by Dec. 1, 2020** takes place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Registrar's Office, in the high school (700 Delaware Ave). A packet of registration materials, with detailed information about registering, was mailed in January to parents who have students in this age group and are in the district's database.

If you have a child who will be in kindergarten next year but has not been registered with the district's census, please contact District Registrar Melissa Haas at 518-439-2442. Once your child is registered for kindergarten, a screening will be scheduled for your child at your home elementary school.

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## Book Orders

The **February Scholastic** book orders were sent home in your child's mailbox. All orders are due on **Wednesday, Feb.19**. Order online using our parent activation code **GTCDJ** or turn in paper orders by the 19th. Please make checks payable to **Scholastic Reading Club**.

## Plastic Bags

Before the new law takes effect please collect your plastic bags. We use them for many things and would love to take them off your hands. We will store them for future use.

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## Classroom Notes

**Infants:** Welcome to February! We are excited to be welcoming a new friend **P** to our infant room.

The infants have been busy creating beautiful art work. We love to be creative! Look around the room to see your child's work.

We have also been exploring sand in the sensory table. We have also experimented with o-blec and painting. We really enjoy exploring the sensory/science activities. We will continue to introduce new and exciting ooey-goey, slimy messy sensory items.

**Winter and cold seasons are still upon us, so continue to wash your child's hands upon arrival. Thanks.**

Please check your child's clothing bin and restock as needed.

Finally, please do not hesitate to share any questions or concerns you may have.

Happy 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday to **S**.

~ **Michele & Brianna**

**Toddlers:** Happy Ground Hog's Day. We hope he doesn't see his shadow. We want spring to come!

During the month of February, we will be talking about the "**Alphabet**." We will do some baking, read stories, and sing lots of songs.

Look for something special that your child will be working on for our moms and dads for Valentine's Day.

We love visitors. If you would like to

come in to read a book or do a special project, please speak to one of the teachers.

Happy Birthday to **M, A,** and **T**.

~ **Alicia, Tara & Jenny**

**Twos:** February is in the air. The weather has been cold...brrr.....but please continue to send in snow gear because we hope to get outside.

Everyone is having a great year. We are making great "friendships" and we are learning a lot. Our friends love playing the Peppa Pig matching game and the "What's Missing" game as a group. You have no idea how many times a day we hear, "Can we play the Peppa Pig matching game?!" We also have great conversations. We often go around the circle and ask our friends what they had for dinner the night before. Some of the answers are awesome!

Our friends love to read!! If you would like to join us to read a book, do yoga or an art project, or just come in to visit, please let us know.

In February we will create some art projects for Valentine's Day, talk about families and why we love them, and discuss who is very special to us. We will bring out some "new" toys and books.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Happy birthday to **M, T, J,** and **K**.

~ **Kristen, Cassidy & Tera**

**Threes:** Happy February, friends and families! Our studies for the month include "**Love and Manners**," and "**The Hospital and Veterinarian's Office**." If you have any books, games or toys that have to do with friendship, family or manners, you are welcome to bring them into school for the "**Love and Manners**" study (which leads up to Valentines day.) Don't forget, wear red or pink on February 14<sup>th</sup>!

The three-year-olds are growing bigger, stronger, and smarter each month. They love earning more responsibilities and accomplishing new tasks. Allow them to be involved in self-directed or independent jobs at home. At home ideas include setting the table for a snack or meal, and dressing in clothes or outdoor gear. Some other ideas are walking up and down the stairs without being carried,

and washing their hands like they do at school (singing “The Alphabet” for 20 seconds!) are all terrific ways to encourage their independence.

Here’s to another month of investigation, exploration and imagination.

Happy Birthday to **C**.

~ **Jared, Ashley & Saaleha**

**Pre-K 3/4s:** In January, we kicked off our year with our dinosaur, winter, and ocean studies. We learned about different types of dinosaurs, their diet, and we introduced the terms “herbivore” and “carnivore.” We also explored a variety of ocean animals from mammals to crustaceans. We even created our very own “Under the Sea” bulletin board full of jellyfish, seahorses, octopuses, and sea stars.

February has arrived! The new studies we will be exploring are **music, trees, and buildings**. In addition to our new studies, we will also be looking forward to our field trip to see Charlotte’s Web February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Palace Theater. Our chaperone sign up is posted by our classroom entrance.

Happy Birthday to **S**!

~ **Brenda, Stephanie & Mellisa**

**Pre-k 4s:** Happy February! We have been working so hard to make our way through the alphabet, and practicing our writing skills. This month we will be focusing on the letters, “X, Y, and Z.” Besides working on our letters, we have been working as a class to practice our “Super Friend” skills. I hope you had time to read the Super Friend books that we sent home at the end of January.

We will also be studying about “**Pets,**” “**Ground Hog Day,**” “**Dental Health**” and “**Presidents’ Day.**” We are looking forward to our field trip to see Charlotte’s Web, February 12<sup>th</sup>. Our chaperone sign-up sheet is up!

Our mystery reader calendar is looking bare. If you haven’t had a chance to be a Mystery Reader, please consider signing up!! The children really enjoy the surprise.

Please bring in extra clothing, especially socks and pants. We love to play in the snow, but we get wet. **PLEASE REMEMBER EXTRA PANTS AND SOCKS!!**

Happy birthday to **N** and **A**.

~**Maura, Sherry & Nicole**

## **Calendar of Events:**

**Mon., Feb. 17** – BPS is closed for Presidents’ Day

**Wed., Feb. 19** – Scholastic Book orders due