

Sandcastle Child Care



Newsletter 2018





March News

Dear Parents:

We hope everyone had the opportunity to meet with teachers during our week of conferences. Thank you for taking the time to attend!

There are a lot of fun and exciting things happening at Sandcastle during the next two months!

- Sandcastle is closed for the observation of Good Friday on Friday, March 30th.
- Spirit Week is April 2nd – April 6th. Keep an eye out for a flier on the fun events planned for that week.
- Sandcastle's annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser will be Tuesday, April 10th. **SAVE THE DATE!**
- April 16th – April 20th is The Week of the Young Child! Watch for more information in a few weeks.

Important Reminders:

- During pick-up and drop off please keep your child next to you. Don't allow them to run from you towards the building or towards your car.
- Parents are able to park in the convent parking spots along-side the school. Please do not pull up in front of the stairs. We do put cones up to keep cars out of that area to keep the families safe when they are coming in and out of the building.
- We are looking for donations of boys and girls pants size 2T and up.
- **PLEASE SIGN YOUR CHILD IN AND OUT EVERYDAY. THIS HELPS OUT OUR OFFICE STAFF, SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO FILL IT IN LATER.**

Have a wonderful month!

Jennifer, Wendy, Lisa, and Rachael

St. Patrick's Day

On St. Patrick's Day (March 17), millions of people will wear green and celebrate the Irish... and very few of them have a clue about St. Patrick, the historical figure. The modern celebration of St. Patrick's Day really has almost nothing to do with the real man.

St. Patrick's Day marks the Roman Catholic feast day for Ireland's patron saint, who died in the 5th century. St. Patrick was not born in Ireland, but in Britain.

Irish brigands kidnapped St. Patrick at 16 and brought him to Ireland. He was sold as a slave and served in bondage for six years, until a 'voice' told him to escape. He later returned to his parents' home in Britain, where he had another vision that he would preach to the Irish. After 14 years of study, Patrick returned to Ireland, where he built churches and spread the Christian faith for 30 years.

After he died on March 17, 461, Patrick was, for the most part, forgotten. However, slowly, mythology grew around Patrick, and centuries later, he was honored as the patron saint of Ireland.

Many myths surround St. Patrick. One of the best known is that Patrick drove all the snakes from Ireland into the Irish Sea, where the serpents drowned. However, snakes have never been native to Ireland. (Many believe that the serpents were likely a metaphor for druidic religions, which steadily disappeared from Ireland in the centuries after St. Patrick planted the seeds of Christianity on the island.)

In the United States, it is customary to wear green on St. Patrick's Day; in Ireland, green was considered to be unlucky. Irish folklore says that green is the favorite color of the faeries and they are likely to steal people, especially children, who wear too much of the color.

Happy Birthday

Owen Legg - 3/4/2016
Adrienne Vore - 3/7/2016
Elijah Wells - 3/14/2016
Teagan Landberg - 3/15/2016
Ty'Lyiah Humphrey - 3/20/2016
Monroe Sunday - 3/4/2015
Cameron Anderson - 3/10/2015
Vaughan Anderson - 3/13/2015
Adelaide Zens - 3/14/2015
Jozy Klocker - 3/18/2015
Joseph Levinson - 3/13/2014
Kimberlye Gravelle - 3/13/2014
Vivian Henrikson - 3/18/2014
Gemma Salute - 3/20/2014
Max Limoges - 3/25/2014
Simon Simmers - 3/1/2013
Jamaal Foster - 3/4/2013
Maida Ahmed - 3/13/2013
Ryan Wacker - 3/19/2013
Augustus Ward - 3/20/2013

Happy Anniversary

Rachael Peterson - 3/02/2009
Rebecca Borowski - 3/03/2008
Wendy Jackson - 3/05/2007
Mia Cole - 3/7/2016
Danette Matykievich - 3/17/1997
Deanna Jarzynski - 3/17/1997
Allison Kavanagh - 3/30/2015
Quanzenga Williams - 03/28/2017

“Sandcastle Spirit Week”

April 2nd – 6th, 2018

Scholastic Book Fair in the library

The following special days will be celebrated center-wide:

Monday (2nd): **Crazy Hair Day**

Tuesday (3rd): **Hat Day**

Wednesday (4th): **Jersey Day**

Thursday (5th): **Color Day**

Infant 1 – white

Infant 2 – green

Infant 3 -orange

Sea Turtles – black

Sea Lions – purple

Sea Crabs - red

Whales - yellow

Penguins - blue

Sea Stars - green

Jellyfish - pink

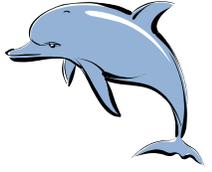
Stingrays - orange

Puffer Fish - brown

Friday (6th): **Pajama Day**

“Infant Information”

Dolphins: (Jackie, Danette, Carol, and Rose)



In months 4-5, your baby is gaining better control of their body. They can hold their head up and sit up with some help. They also can start rolling over. Their back, neck, arms and legs are getting stronger. You can help by positioning their arm at their side or over their head to help them roll over better.

Tummy time with toys around them to reach for and grasp them is a good activity. At this age, they enjoy playing with

- rattles
- soft balls
- squeaky toys
- stuffed animals
- teething rings

They are beginning to notice the world around them! Almost everything they hold will go into their mouth, so keep everything clean and safe.

Seahorses: (Becca, Isabel, Jody, Angie, Samantha, and Jessica)



We are looking for an iPod to be donated to the infant room. This is in hopes to eliminate the use of CD's that are getting old, scratched, etc. Ideally, we would to make playlists for different times of the day. Thanks for the consideration!

This month we are going to continue working with music, but we are going to be making our own music/ noise with instruments. Drums, maracas, shakers, etc. will be in our dramatic play area.

Game of the month: Loving Me Calms Me. Realize that loving me does not spoil me. Show the love you feel for me through all the interactions we have together. Taking care of my needs does not spoil me. Comforting me when I need you helps me learn to trust that you will take care of my needs. I will be calmer as my brain learns I can expect you to take care of me.

Clownfish: (Jaime, Rosa, and Miracle)

Hello Spring! Good-bye Winter? Minnesota sure has interesting seasons.

This month we will begin exploring the signs of spring. We will be exploring in dirt with some plastic flowers and celebrating St. Patrick's Day.



Fun activity this month:

Putting objects in a box or basket. Babies love taking things out of boxes and putting things into boxes. This helps them learn cause and effect and that things aren't permanent.

Staff Hours:

Jaime 7:00-3:00 Mon-Thurs

Miracle 10:00-6:00 Mon-Fri

Rosa 7:30-4:00 Mon- Fri

“Totally Toddlers”

Sea Lions: (Debbie, Deanna, and Brittany)

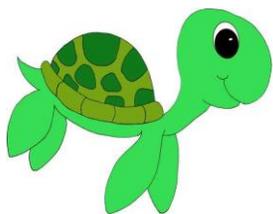
We had a great month of February. We had fun with our new friends and our new teachers: Deanna and Brittany. We had fun this month playing doctor in our home living. They loved listening to their friend’s heart and also their own. They had fun putting ace bandages on their arms, legs, and head. They had so much fun playing in the doctor’s office that we decided to turn it into a vet’s office to take care of animals. We also enjoyed decorating the room with hearts for Valentine’s Day. Coming up in March our theme will be “We Love Animals!” We will be talk about farm animals, pets, and zoo animals. We will also discuss what a vet does, what animals eat, and where they live. The week before St. Patrick’s Day we will talk about colors and will wear a different color each day.



Things to do at home:

- Go to a zoo, farm, or pet store
- Talk about animals and read stories about them
- During color week talk about the color they are wearing that day

Sea Turtles: (Brittney, Sarah, and Rachel)



We started February off freezing cold. We are very glad that it has started to warm up. The weather is all over the place. In February we learned about mailmen and mailwomen. We mailed our letters to our special friends. We hope that they have all gotten them and have called you or even wrote back. All the Turtles were very excited making letters to send. In our room one of our favorite toys to play with last month, was money. We even sang, “money, money, money, money” while cleaning up the money. They are so fast when cleaning up their mess. Some fun events that we loved was the Super Bowl Party and our Valentine’s Day Party. The Super Bowl Party was fun, but we really didn’t understand how to play/throw the football. We had a photo booth with props and enjoyed all the food.

As we move forward with the year, we are going to be learning about the rainbow and all the colors that make it. We will be turning our Dramatic Play into an art studio. We know our Turtles will love it as they love doing art. Each week we are going to learn about a new color. We have lots of fun art projects planned for the month. St. Patrick’s Day is in March as we will have some fun activities/art to revolve around that. We are going to end the month with our family bag lunch day. Even if you can’t attend, your turtle would still love a bag lunch. Sometimes they get sad seeing all their friend’s bag lunches. We would like to thank all of you for spending some time with us for conferences. It was nice to hear what you and your turtles are doing at home.

Things to try at home:

- Read books about rainbows & St. Patrick’s Day
- Make rainbows our of collage items
- Talk about colors
 - Start with their clothes “What color shirt are you wearing today?”

Sea Crabs: (Laura, Myesha, and Marcianna)

Can you believe it’s almost spring! Last month we learned all about the bakery shop. We got to make mini raspberry pies, donut art, and we even got to paint with baking utensils!

This month our theme will be “Fun at the Zoo!” We will be learning all about the different types of animals that live at the zoo. We will be making a zoo collage, washing zoo animals, and having a salad bar.

Our color of the month is green and our shaped of the month is a circle.

Things to do at home:

- Visit the zoo.
- Make giraffes out of cheerios
- Read zoo books.



“Preschool Players”

Whales: (Megan, Patti, and Sreymao)



Spring is near! The first day of spring is this month and we will be celebrating by having a flower shop. Our dramatic play area will be a flower shop where the class can buy and sell flowers. The children will have the option to pretend play in different roles, like shop owner, cashier, customer, and florist. The sensory table will have potting soil where the class can hoe and shovel the dirt. This month we will be painting with flowers and we will also paint with trains to commemorate Casey Jones' birthday.

A fun activity that our class will do is each child will plant his/her own flower in a cup. They will water them each day and when the flowers have grown a little, your child will get to take it home!

At Home:

- Plant your own flowers inside and then replant them outside when it gets warmer.
- Take a trip to your local flower shop and talk about the similarities between the shop and our dramatic play area.
- In celebration of National Craft Month (March) do a special family craft. We would love to see and hear about it!

Penguins: (Allison and Tiffany)

The month of February was full of fun for the penguins. Our theme “Let’s Bake Together” gave us a chance to do lots of hands on activities! We especially loved painting with cheeries and making cupcakes.

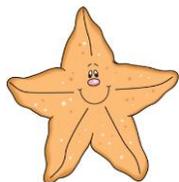


In March our theme will be “Down on the Farm,” where we will learn about farm animals, things they eat on a farm, and things that are used on a farm such as tractors, cultivators, mowers, etc. We will also learn about some of the important jobs the farmers do and talk about foods we eat that comes from farms. During this unit, dramatic play will be turned into a farm. We will read stories that identifies farm animals, equipment, etc.

At Home:

- Try to stimulate imagination, ask your child to imitate different farm animals by walking how that animal walks or making the noise of that animal.
- Try signing songs like Old McDonald Had a Farm or If I were a Horse

Sea Stars: (Brianna, Jill, Giovanna, and Sue)



This past month the Sea Stars theme was “Build it Big.” We embraced this theme by our 5-day read aloud, theme materials, toys in centers for free play, and art projects such as making buildings on paper with noodles and cereal, designing their own doghouses, and coloring trucks & filling the beds with rocks. We had a blast celebrating Gabby, Ben, Eloise, Kate, Isaac, and Ms. Jill’s births. We also had a Valentine’s Day full of fun and love.

Our upcoming theme is Healthy Me! We will learn about different ways to take care of ourselves such as nutrition, exercise, and check-ups. We will also talk about the different people whose jobs help us stay healthy. We have some fun days coming up in March so check your calendars and look for sign ups!

“Pre-K Performers”

Jellyfish I: (Val and Q)

The theme for the month of March will be Vroom, Vroom! Your Jellyfish will be learning about transportation in the upcoming weeks. They will learn about the different ways to travel, signs, and signals. The Jellyfish will ride the city bus to the Sholom Home as we discuss another way to get around town.



Share what you know about driving and discuss the different dials and buttons you have in your car. Do you drive a truck or a car? Point out the different signs you see while you are driving and talk about what they mean. Explain why it is so important to always wear your seat belts.

Jellyfish II: (Molly and Kathi)

Our theme of the month is Tabby Tiger’s Diner. In this month we will be learning about different foods, healthy food choices, manners, different food groups, where foods come from, and the importance of foods. We encourage you to have your Jellyfish help you make a meal in the kitchen and teach them about what you are making.



March is also St. Patrick’s Day and the beginning of spring! Your Jellyfish will be learning about St. Patrick and the spring season.

Stingrays: (Stacey, Margaret, and Ashley)

Hello Stingray Parents! Last month we enjoyed learning about Fairy Tales like ‘The Gingerbread Man,’ ‘The 3 Little Pigs,’ and ‘The 3 Billy Goats Gruff.’ The children got to act the 3 little pigs in dramatic play and they found out which house could withstand the Big Bad Wolf. We also continued to work in our small groups and further our knowledge.



This month we will talk about construction. The children will learn about the different equipment needed to build something. In dramatic play, they can pretend to be a construction worker or a foreman in a job site. If you want to continue the learning at home, talk about the different signs you see while driving or what kind of construction maybe happening around you. We will be placing the children into different small groups based in the test scores we for from winter testing.

As a general reminder, please make sure your child has snow pants, boots, hat, and mittens. We do try to go outside as much as possible fi the weather allows. If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Puffer Fish: (Becky and Mia)

We had a lot of fun exploring all things transportation. March is all about Dr. Seuss and we will be learning so much about him and his creative rhyming skills by reading his most popular stories!



As we enter the month of March, we plan to do more outside activities and a walk on the 20th, weather permitting!



