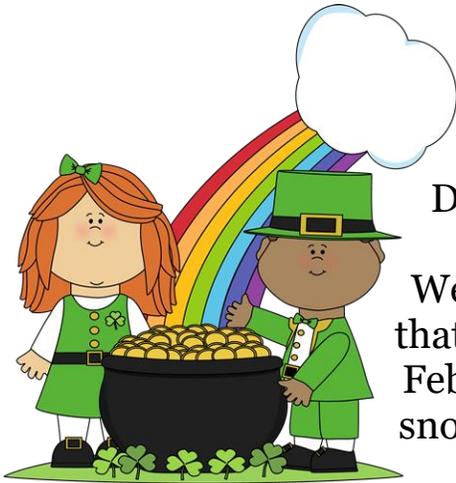


Sandcastle Child Care



Newsletter 2019





March News

Dear Parents:

We hope everyone had the opportunity to enjoy all the snow that mother nature decided to give us over the month of February. We know that the children have loved to play in the snow on the play yards.

There are a lot of fun and exciting things happening at Sandcastle during the month of April!

- Spirit Week is April 1st – April 5th. Keep an eye out for a flier on the fun events planned for that week.
- Sandcastle's annual Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser will be Thursday, April 11th. **SAVE THE DATE!**
- April 8th- April 12th is The Week of the Young Child! Watch for more information in a few weeks.
- Sandcastle is closed for the observation of Good Friday on Friday, April 19th

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 can 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.
- **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.

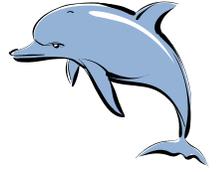
Irish brigands kidnapped St. Patrick at 16 and brought him to Ireland. He was sold as a slave and served in bondage for six years, until a 'voice' told him to escape. He later returned to his parents' home in Britain, where he had another vision that he would preach to the Irish. After 14 years of study,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

“Infant Information”



Dolphins: (Jackie, Danette, and Carol)

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: (Rose, Angie, Isabel, Jody, 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: (Tiffany, Emily, Barb, Denise, and Katie)

We are sad to say goodbye to our friends Murphy, Harper, Vera, Alafair, and Angela as they move up to our toddler program. We want to give a warm welcome to Sammy, Joey, and Ellery as they are joining our room.



This month we will be learning all the colors of the rainbow. We will explore with touch and texture in our sensory table. We will do art with lots of colors and different textures such as finger painting, color pencils, markers, and crayons.

Friendly reminder to always have proper outdoor gear here as we love to explore the good outdoors. We are keeping our fingers crossed that we can get out more this month and be able to enjoy the sun.

Thank you- Ms. Tiffany, Ms. Emily, Ms. Katie, Ms. Barb, & Ms. Denise.

“Totally Toddlers”

Sea Lions: (Debbie, Brandye, and Brittney)



Boy was it a cold and snowy February. We had so much fun talking about “Healthy Me.” We enjoyed painting with cotton and tooth brushes. We also had a great valentine’s day. The children really enjoyed being doctors, vets and dentists in dramatic play!

In March we will be talking about colors. Our theme will be “Somewhere over the Rainbow!” Keep your calendars handy so your child can wear the color of the day! We will have an art studio set up in dramatic play and we will also make a rainbow by painting with fruit.

Things to do with your child at home:

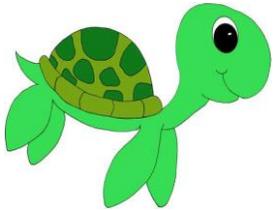
- Go on a color walk
- Paint with your child
- Eating food of the rainbow

We would like to say hello to Vera and Harper that moved up from Infant 3 and our new teacher Brittney. We are sad to say goodbye to Macy and teacher Barb.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us at these times: Debbie 6:30-1:30; Brandye 6:30-2:30; Brittney 6:30-2:00.

Have a colorful month!!

Sea Turtles: (Molly, Rosa, and Sarah)



In the Sea Turtle Room, we spent February talking about the sun, moon, stars, and planets. It was a great adventure. We took time to learn that our solar system is very important to our everyday life here on Earth. Things have been far out!

In March we will be exploring and experimenting with rain, sun, clouds, and rainbows. It is going to be so great. We will also be learning about St. Patrick’s Day and what that means. There might even be some gold at the end of the rainbows this month.

Sea Crabs: (Laura, Myesha, and Meriah)

Ya-hoo spring has finally sprung! March is here and we have so many fun-filled activities planned! Last month we celebrated valentine’s day and learned all about baking. We made mini raspberry pies, donut art, and we even painted with red shaving cream.

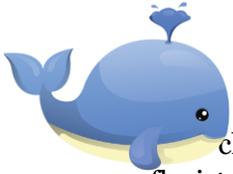


This month we will be learning all about the zoo! We will be making giraffe art, a fun science experiment and even bathing zoo animals in our sensory table! We can’t wait to learn all about zoo animals. Our color of the month is green, and the shape is circle.

Things to do at home:

- Visit the zoo
- Read books about different zoo animals
- Make monkey art

“Preschool Players”



Whales: (Patti, Dari, 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, Tiffany, and Mia)

Hello and Happy March to all our Penguin parents! We are so please to have the opportunity to spend another fun filled month with your sweet child! Throughout the month of March we will be exploring the theme on the Farm.” Together, our class will learn all things farm related as well as learning our A-D and colors yellow, green, purple, and pink,



“Down
letters

Things we are doing in class:

- A dairy taste test
- Group salad making
- Yarn collage
- Cow art
- Different farm animals and the sounds they make
- Letter names and sounds A, B, C, & D

As a reminder we post all of our fun activites on the Sandcastle Facebook page so you can see the cute and funny pictures of your child at school.

Sea Stars: (Brianna, Giovanna, and Tracy)

This past month, the Sea Stars learning all about construction. We discussed different types of buildings and the tools necessary to build them. Of course, everyone had a blast during out Valentine's Day party.



Our March theme is “Healthy Me!” We will learn all about keeping ourselves healthy and happy. What a great opportunity to talk with your children around healthy habits such as brushing their teeth and washing their hands (it is the easiest way to prevent germs from spreading!”

“Pre-K Performers”

Jellyfish: (Val, Kathi, 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.

Stingrays: (Stacey, Margaret, and Ashley)

Happy ‘almost’ spring Stingray parents! Last month we learned about fairy tales. We read The 3 Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Bean Stalk, and The Three Billy Goats Gruff. The children got to plant their own green bean plants, or as they call them, beanstalks. In dramatic play they got the chance to act out the 3 little pigs and build their own straw, stick, and brick houses.



This month we will be learning about construction. We will read books that talk about different jobs within construction as well as some vehicles that help them with those jobs. This month we will be trying something different with small groups. We will have 3 groups; literacy, math, and science. The children will rotate so that each will get to experience each activity. The activities with the groups will change every week. To continue the learning at home try talking about and pointing out construction you see. We look forward to another fun and knowledge filled month.

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Puffer Fish: (Becky and Jamie)

For the month of February, we learned about Transportation. We talked about and read about all the different ways we move from place to place. Keeping with our theme we designed and built cars out of cardboard boxes, we then drove them to the drive in where we enjoyed movie day in our cars. We had a great time at our Valentine’s Day party. We enjoyed all kinds of special notes and treats from all our friends.

We also had a word of the month, RESPECT! We have been talking about what is respectful and what is disrespectful. We also learned that we should treat our parents, friends, and teachers with respect. When we are being respectful it makes the people around us feel better and it makes us feel good because we are being kind to others. So, at home you can follow through with questions like “is that respectful or disrespectful?”

Our theme for March will be “The Pufferfish Café.” We will be learning about healthy choices with the food we eat to keep our bodies healthy. We will also talk about making food choices with not only food but good behaviors to keep us respectful and strong. At home you can talk with your Pufferfish about how to keep your body healthy (things like exercising, food, baths, etc.). At supper, talk about the meal components and how each food group helps the body.

We hope that March’s weather is that of a lamb and not the huge lion we had for February. Have a great month!

Manatees: (Amy & Sara)



The Manatees have been busy over the last month learning about everything transportation! They really enjoyed decorating cardboard boxes into cars to take them to the drive in on movie day. We had a great Valentine's Day party where we ate heart shaped pizzas, passed out treats and cards, and played games.

For the month of March, we will move onto animals! We will learn about pets, zoo animals, arctic animals, and forest animals as well as their habitats. We will be reading various books and using our imagination to explore the animals we might meet at home, at the zoo, or in the wild.