



March 2009

Dear Parents,

Happy March to all of you! Soon spring will be upon us with its sunny days, green grass, budding trees and blooming flowers. For now may we all enjoy the last days of snow filled yards!

Thank you to all parents who joined us on our field trip to the Parkshore and Friendship Village. It is heart-warming to see the joy on the faces of the residents as they are greeted by the children. The singing and handmade valentines were dearly loved

Our theme for March is **Nursery Rhymes**, this month we are focusing on the importance of early literacy through the means of the classic nursery rhymes. Our virtue this month is **Cooperation**. Please join us in encouraging your children to work together in the classroom and follow the directions of the teachers. Remember as we work on this skill at school it is helpful to recognize when your child is displaying cooperation at home as well...this encourages a child to keep trying!

Our **C.S.O. (Children Serving Others)** project for this month will be collecting non-perishable, ready-to-serve meals and snacks for the NICU Family lounge at the Children's Hospital. A teacher at the Calvary location experienced first-hand the gift of having healthy, quick meals available when her child was in the NICU as an infant. A flyer will be in your child's cubby giving more of the details.

A BIG thank you to all the children and families who donated food and supplies to Tyler Ramm and his troop. The generosity was contagious and we have packaged and sent boxes throughout the month and have more ready to go. What a great way to encourage and show support to this group of men and women serving our country.

We appreciate you keeping your child home if he/she is coughing, has a runny nose and is sneezing. Hand washing is so important and we are pleased to have you supervise your child's hand washing upon arrival. Thank you for joining with us as we attempt to reduce the germs which are so prevalent this time of year!

A special guest, Ms Carol from the Playmakers, will visit our school on March 18 and 19.

She is a delightful person who shares her love for stories in a fun and dynamic fashion.

We are always striving to make communication between the school (teachers and office) and the families readily accessible. In regard to those efforts, we have a new phone system designed to have you call one number (952-836-1577) and be able to reach or leave a message at the office or with the school coordinator at each school. If you have an emergency PLEASE leave a message on the voicemail at the appropriate school. Cyndee Ramm (at Colonial) and Mary Lamb (at Calvary) will retrieve messages and make sure the message is relayed to the teacher you are trying to contact.

Thank you to all of you who took the time to give us feedback on our afternoon programs. In response to the information we received we decided to try a new format for PM playmates and Academy. We distributed flyers with detailed information in the children's cubbies last week. If you have any questions please call me in the office and I will be happy to assist you.

Berrie is spending the month of March in Tucson, Arizona with her son and his family, as well as attending a family reunion the first week of April. She will be back after spring break, if you need anything in the meantime, please feel free to talk with your child's teacher or call the office.

Your children continue to be a blessing to each one of us. Our love to you and your dear family as we look forward together to the coming of spring!

With Love and Blessings,

Important Dates

March 9	No Lunch Bunch: staff meeting
March 14	Hands-on Learning Fair at Countryside (9:30 - 12)
March 18 & 19	Story teller
March 20	Conferences – NO SCHOOL
March 28 - April 5	Spring break
April 10	NO SCHOOL – Good Friday
April 28 & 29	Gale Woods Farm
End of April: dates coming	Class Photos with Candid Life Photography