



FCCC NEWSLETTER

Play to Learn, Learn to Love

FEBRUARY 2015

Director's News

We are proud to announce that FCCC re-designated to STAR 3 with many areas of strengths noted throughout the facility summary. Much of this success is attributed to the teaching staff who work committedly towards making improvements and strengthening programs. There is one more star to achieve for which we will continue to strive towards achieving. Last year, we worked to bring more science and nature indoors and in programs. Every classroom adopted a pet, we added live plants in classrooms and we created a bean and vegetable garden in the center courtyard. There is still work to be done but we are steadily making strides. This year, our continuous quality improvements will be centered around improving interactions and extending children's learning through play and hands on activi-



ties that encourage exploration, curiosity and critical thinking. There will be onsite training and classroom goal setting for all groups. Look to hear, see and watch children benefit from our growing and learning!

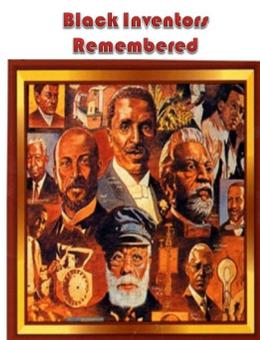
As parents and teachers, we regularly praise children for either their actions (helping someone or

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Care Bear News

My, oh my where did the month go? It is already the second month of the year and time is flying and our Care Bears continue to grow. We would like to say farewell to Clyde Morris (Suzann and Carson) who are joining the



Black Inventors Remembered

Created by Letia F. Gooper
www.Techwithtin.com

Cuddle Cubs. We are going to miss you so very much. We

would also like to welcome Ezra Roberts (Shannon and Joshua) who will be joining our classroom this month.

Every year in the month of February the Care Bears make a "Valentine box" for the classroom. The teachers put cards and things in it for each of the children. If you would like to participate in our Valentine's exchange you are more than welcome to drop some things off in the box.

With so many of the children in our classroom being mobile, we will be using our outside hallway space as much as possible. Please be very mindful when opening the hallway door in the afternoons during pickup.

Happy birthday!!!

Bo MacFarlane on the 3rd
Aviva Schreffler on the 22nd
Teacher Erica on the 22nd

Wish List

All size batteries.

Bear Cub News

The Bear Cubs' theme for February is "If You're Happy and you Know It / Black History Month." The Bear Cubs will learn about loving, caring, sharing and feelings. We will practice touching our friends with gentle hands and giving hugs and kisses. We also will be helping them to express their feelings, as well as noticing their friends feelings. Our art activities consist of making Valentine mailbox for our special Valentine cards that we will receive from our friends and teachers, create a big valentine heart, create a heart collage and create Valentine cards. We will make red Jell-O and have a Valentine party. More information will follow.

For Black History celebration our art activities consist of creating traffic lights, invented by Garret Morgan in 1923. The Bear Cubs will identify the colors green, yellow and red. We will create a bicycle frame, invented by I.R. Johnson in 1899. The Bear Cubs will learn how to say the word bike. We will create horseshoes, invented by J. Ricks in 1886. The Bear Cubs will learn how to say horseshoe, etc.

Adelaide and Quinn who joined us from the Care Bears class on January 5, 2015 are adjusting well to their new class, friends, teachers and routines. They cried a little, but overall they are doing great.



FYI: Emergency Contact Forms Due February 1, 2015.

Upcoming Parents Night

Out Friday February 13, 2015 Pajama jam. 5:30-8:30pm.

Upcoming School Closing President's Day Monday, February 16, 2015.

Spaghetti Social February 26, 2015 from 5-6:30pm in the Cherry Street room. Sign-up sheet will be posted in the classroom.

Reminder: Please label your child's belongings. coats, hats, mittens, cups, sheets, blankets, containers etc.

Cuddle Cub News

As we wave goodbye to a snowy and bitter start to the year, the Cuddle Cubs are looking forward to a new and warmer month. Let's hope that the groundhog doesn't see his shadow!

February is fixing to be pretty action packed for the Cubs. This month's themes include Valentine's day, President's day and of course Black History Month.

We will learn all about Martin Luther King, Jr., Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, Jesse Owens, Barack Obama and many more prominent figures. We look forward to exposing the Cubs to these important trailblazers in history through art projects, books and record-

ings. Feel free to contribute any creative ideas, coloring pages, books and cd's that you may come across.

The Cuddle Cubs will also celebrate Valentine's Day with a super fun Valentine's dance. More details to follow soon!

We are hoping that February allows for much more outdoor play and exploration walks throughout the city. We are feeling a tad cooped up, but are trying our best to keep busy with play, arts and crafts and lots and lots of dancing. We encourage you to bring in any cd's you think the class would enjoy from home.

We would like to take this opportunity to wel-

come three new Cuddle Cubs to our class. Clyde and his parents Suzann & Carson, Edward and his parents Adam and Jane, as well as Lazlo and his parents Erin and Andrew, will join us this month. Welcome!

We would also like to bid a fond farewell to Olivia and her family who will be leaving FCCC and to our beloved Riley who's graduating to Puddle Jumper status this month.

This month we wish a very Happy Birthday to Teacher Barbara on 2/10. Happy birthday, Barbara! Here's to a happy, healthy and love filled February from all of us in Cuddle Cub Land!

Happy
Valentine's
Day

Puddle Jumper News

Throughout the month, the Puddle Jumpers will focus on "honoring our differences". We will learn the names of some of our political leaders such as Barack Obama, Joseph "Joe" Biden, John Kerry, John Boehner, Tom Wolf and Michael Nutter. In addition, we will look at some people in history who have made contri-

butions to our nation. Some of these people will include Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, Rosa Parks, Alexander Graham Bell, Willis Carrier, Thomas Edison, Garret Morgan and Elijah McCoy. Aside from this, we will discuss the importance of voting. We will also take part in "going to the voting poll" to vote for our favorite ice cream or fruit. In addition, we will re-enact

the Montgomery Boycott. Aside from this, we will learn new songs, use the flannel board to tell stories and look at objects then tell how they are alike or different. We will learn that it is okay to be different because "Different is good!"

Happy Birthday Charlotte on 2/17!

Triangle News

The Triangles theme for the month of February is "Black History and LOVE". We will engage in discussions about famous African-Americans (Garrett Morgan, Rosa Parks, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Jackie Robinson), etc., and the contributions they made to society. We will also create and design replicas of a few inventions such as the traffic light, dust pan, the refrigerator, and even a mop. We will have them on display around the room as they are done.

We will also celebrate Valentine's Day in a special way. We will role play as we demonstrate different ways of showing and expressing our love for one another. We will decorate a mailbox for cards to share

with our friends on that special day. We will do a few activities in honor of that special day such as make valentine people, red Jell-O, red play dough, and eat a variety of red fruit. We welcome any ideas, books, or music to expand our curriculum in work and play.

Although February is a short month, we will continue to focus on activities which require problem solving such as recognizing letters and numbers, counting, sorting and comparing objects, and using a variety of materials to express themselves through creative art. We will explore with science, engaging in activities and asking questions like "(What would happen if, or what can we do differently?) in mixing colors



to make a new one, adding food color or to water with a stalk of celery, and adding water to sand. Although, these are all fun projects, our goal is to have the children use critical thinking in the process.

Happy Birthday Iva on 2/27 and Teacher Bjay on 2/1

Reminders:

Valentine's Dance on 2/13

Preschool Theater Trip Skippyjon Jones at Irvine Auditorium on 2/23

Spaghetti Social on 2/26

Quad News

The theme that the Quads will focus on in February is Black History Month. We are excited to learn about a variety of African American inventors, such as Lewis Latimer, Garrett Morgan, and George Washington Carver. We will also learn the story of Rosa Parks. The Quads will have the opportunity to make numerous inventions. (hairbrush- Lydia O. Newman, horseshoe- J. Ricks, mop- Thomas W. Stewart) In addition, we will read stories about these famous inventors.

Also, we cannot wait until Valentine's Day! The Quads will have a special celebration on Friday, February 13th. To prepare for this special event, we will create and decorate pink, purple, red, and white hearts. We will make LOVE signs as well. Feel free to bring in cards if you wish. Love and kindness will be the topic of conversation throughout the month.

In honor of President's Day, the

Quads will discuss what they think the President does. We will write what we would do if we were President. All of us will have the opportunity to make a pretzel log house and a "Presidential Parfait." This will be really yummy! The Quads will make a Presidential picture that incorporates the American Flag and coin rubbings. In addition, we will acknowledge the Chinese New Year by creating "fire-breathing dragons," a paper plate goat, and a Chinese Lantern.

Goals for the month of February:

- Learning the names of Famous African American inventors
- Practice Writing the names of these inventors
- Practice cutting on the line to make shapes
- Creating a chart of something we LOVE to do
- Creating a chart of "What I Would Do If I Were The President"
- Practice writing the letter of the week

-Sorting and counting hearts by size and color

-Create our own invention

Reminders: As always, Show and Tell will continue to take place every Wednesday and Thursday.

(Feb. 4th and 5th- Letter O, Feb. 11th and 12th- Letter P, Feb. 18th and 19th- Letter Q, Feb. 25th and 26th- Letter R)

-Please check your child's mailbox each day for important information and/ or artwork.

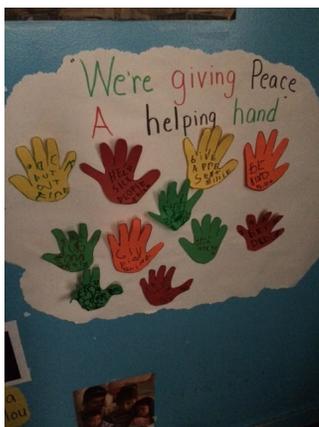
-Please make sure your child's cubby is filled with weather appropriate clothing.

*Trip to see Skippyjon Jones will take place on Tuesday, February 23rd. Please make sure your child is wearing his/her FCCC shirt.

*FCCC will be closed on February 16th in honor of President's Day.



What did I learn in school today?



The Quads made our own "I Had A Dream" clouds in honor of Martin Luther King. We utilized our fine motor skills by cutting out the cloud all by ourselves. Then, we wrote what our dream was. In addition, we wrote how we can be peaceful on our handprint.

Upcoming Events

- ◇ PNO: Pajama Jam on 2/13
- ◇ President's Day: FCCC is CLOSED on 2/16
- ◇ Skippyjon Jones: Pre-school Theater Trip on 2/23
- ◇ Spaghetti Social: Thursday, 2/26 5-6:30pm



Announcements & Reminders



Every Wednesday is **pizza day**.

°Check children's mail slots

every day.

°Friends Child Care Center is on **Facebook**. Check us out for upcoming Fundraising Events.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Friends-Child-Care-Center/197767671575>

°**Resource Library: CHECK IT OUT**

Parents and teachers are welcome to borrow books from our resource library in the B space alcove. Please complete the borrower's

form and drop it in the right side slot. Please return borrowed materials in a timely fashion, so that others have an opportunity to borrow as well. Visit www.librarything.com,

Username: fccc, Password: 1501cherry for a list of books in our library.

°Remember to show **ID cards** upon entering the Friends Center Lobby or stop and sign in if you don't have your card. This is an important security measure for the safety of our children. Additional ID Cards are available in the FCCC Office.

°Additional **Parking Placards** are available in the FCCC Office, 2nd Floor of the C space.

Just a reminder: There is no parking on Cherry Street. Please do not use it for drop-off and pick up.



School Closings:

- Monday, February 16 in celebration of **President's Day**.
- **Spring In-Service Day**: Friday, April 3.

Director's News (Continued)

sharing) or for good character (being kind, generous, fair). A parent shared a very thought provoking article written by Adam Grant, a professor of management and psychology at The Wharton School of The University of Pennsylvania, for the NY Times.

The article titled Raising A Moral Child shared research and outcomes for the effects of praising character vs behavior in order to cultivate good natured little people and later in life adults. This article and research is a must read and so I am sharing with you. Raising a Moral Child



[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/12/opinion/sunday/raising-](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/12/opinion/sunday/raising-a-moral-child.html?_r=3&utm_content=buffer5d02a&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

[a-moral-child.html?_r=3&utm_content=buffer5d02a&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/04/12/opinion/sunday/raising-a-moral-child.html?_r=3&utm_content=buffer5d02a&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

After many years of service to our school, Teacher Laura will retire on February 27, 2015. We are very honored and fortunate to have benefited from the care, compassion and love she imparted and touched so many lives with over the years. Our gratitude is immense and we wish her all the best.

The month of February is chock full of special dates to be acknowledged and celebrated in curriculums throughout our program!

National Children's Dental Health Month - A guest dentist is scheduled to visit the preschool on Feb., 6th

February 13th - Valentine's Day Center-wide Friendship Dance!

President's Day - February 16th

Chinese New Year - February 19th Sheep, a Yin Year - Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Ground Hogs Day - February 2nd (Oh. Please do not allow Punxsutawney Phil to see his shadow!)

February 26th - Family Spaghetti Social 5-6:30pm, Hope to see you there!

As always, we welcome family input into curriculum planning. If you would like to share ideas or provide feedback, please do!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raechel".

Raechel

Allergy Information & Health Policy

Classroom Allergy Alerts:

NUT FREE CLASSROOMS:

CUDDLE CUBS AND PUDDLE JUMPERS.

SEAFOOD FREE CLASSROOMS:
CUDDLE CUBS

»Please be sure to check the expiration dates on your child's epipens (and all other medications). All medications should move with a child into their new classroom when they transition.

»Please be sure to wash both you and your child's hands immediately upon arrival into your child's

classroom.

Illness Policy:

It is in the best interest of the children and staff that everyone participates in reducing the spread of illness and maintaining a healthy environment. FCCC bases its health and wellness policies in accordance with DPW Regulations and the American Academy of Pediatrics Caring for Our Children Performing Standards. Please call to inform us whenever your child will be absent due to illness. Your child may not be brought in for child care unless she/he is able to participate fully in all activities including outdoor play.

You will need a back-up plan you can use when your child is sick.

Please be alert for pre-illness symptoms such as lethargy, glassy eyes, diarrhea, fever, etc., and keep your child home if she/he seems to be coming down with something.

When a child has been diagnosed with an infectious (contagious) illness, FCCC issues an Infectious Disease alert via email to the affected classroom. If multiple cases occur throughout the Center, a center-wide notification will go out via email. The identity of the child will not be given and personal information will be kept confidential.

FCCC Website Information



Be sure to visit our website at www.friendschildcare.org to download forms, check out calendar events, and visit the classroom portal to see what is happening in your child's classroom. Parent Password is 'letmein.'

Thank you for helping to make FCCC the best it can be.

Meet Our Staff

Care Bears Teachers:

Markita, Toni, Erica, Kyra,
Nathalie, Robin

Bear Cub Teachers:

Michelle, Linda

Cuddle Cub Teachers:

Shannon, Barbara, Lea, Vickie,
Laura

Puddle Jumper Teachers:

Cordella, Jeanette,



Zakayah, April

Preschool Teachers:

Teresa, Susan, Missy, Bjay, Kiyana,
Laura

Floater:

Andrea Thomas
Ashley Osborne

Subs:

Gail Centola

Administration:

Raechel, Susan, Eileen

Fundraising at FCCC

Throughout the year, parents will be asked to support fundraising through volunteerism and participation. There are many ways in which you can be supportive.

Provide baked goods for bake sales.

Actively seek donations and company sponsorship for annual auction event.

Volunteer to be a fundraising

cheerleader for your child's classroom.

Seek to meet minimum family participation levels for small fundraisers held throughout the year.

Fundraising Events:

PNO; Bake Sales; Annual Fund Appeal, etc.

If you have any suggestions on



Fundraising ideas, please don't hesitate to let us know. Also, if you are interested in volunteering on the Fundraising Committee, please notify the office. We would love your help!

T-shirts are now available in the FCCC Office for \$12.00/each.

Parents Night Out (PNO)

FCCC holds a semi-monthly PNO (Parents Night Out) for Parents to have a night for romance, fun or just a little time to get things done.

We provide the baby sitting service in a familiar and comfortable environment with staff that the children know, and you get to have worry-free fun with your significant other

or a fun time with friends.

Each bi-month has a theme and special activities planned for the children, along with a nutritional dinner.

This is a fundraiser for FCCC. All proceeds go to support our Child Care Center and its programs.

Upcoming PNOs:

February 13—'Pajama Jam'

April 17—'Sports Expo'

June 19—'Dress Up Surprise'



Bake Sales

FCCC runs semi-annual bake sale fundraisers throughout the year to help offset programming costs. We look to our families to volunteer to help with these events.

Upcoming 2013-2014 Bakes Sale Schedule: weeks of

March 16-20

May 11-15

Families are asked to sign up to bake goods to be sold in the Friends Center Lobby to building tenants and visitors.

Bakes sales run from 8:00am-3:00pm daily. Please provide a list of ingredients in order to maintain safe options for all those with food allergies.

Parents are also needed to help table-sit during these bake sales.

We appreciate your support.





Friends CHILD CARE CENTER

Play to learn, learn to love



1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102
(215)241-7011 (tel)
(215)864-6973 (fax)
www.friendschildcare.org

FRIENDS CHILD CARE CENTER

Office	(215) 241-7011	fcccoffice@friendschildcare.org
Director	(215) 241-7108	fcccdirector@friendschildcare.org
Finance	(215) 241-7011	fcccfinance@friendschildcare.org
Care Bears	(215) 241-7013	carebears@friendschildcare.org
Bear Cubs	(215) 241-7012	bearcubs@friendschildcare.org
Cuddle Cubs	(215) 241-7027	cuddlecubs@friendschildcare.org
Puddle Jumpers	(215) 241-7007	puddlejumper@friendschildcare.org
Triangles	(215) 241-7012	triangles@friendschildcare.org
Quads	(215) 241-7012	quads@friendschildcare.org