



CHESTERBROOK

BULLETIN BOARD

279 Egg Harbor Road Sewell, New Jersey 08080

♥ February 2016 ♥

Dear Chesterbrook Families,

The new year is off in a full swing and January breezed by us very quickly! February is an even shorter month but don't worry, it will be a fun and educational packed month, with new activities and themes! ♥

- ❖ We have many exciting activities for this month including our Parent's Night out and our Valentine's Day Semi-formal Dance Party! Parents and families are welcome to chaperone, and join our little sweethearts! See details below for dates and times.
- ❖ As we all know, winter is definitely here and it will be much colder outside as our month continues! Please make sure that your child has an extra pair of weather appropriate clothes in their cubby. Also, make sure that you are sending in warm coats, gloves, hats, etc. for them to wear outside when or if we go out. We try to utilize our playground during the winter months even if it is only for a 15 minute interval. Once the temperature goes below 40, we do not bring our little ones outside! ☺
- ❖ Also, just a reminder that in the event of excessive snow, there are several ways to check if we are open. We will send an email by 5:30 am stating a closure or delayed opening. It will be on our Chesterbrook voicemail. Channel 6 (ABC) and Channel 10 (NBC) will also list updates. Look for Chesterbrook Academy Sewell. Our school website will also have this posted!
- ❖ sewell.chesterbrookacademy.com

Our warmest wishes,

Stacy & Thien



Inside this issue...

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- Parent's Night Out
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- Kindergarten and Pre-k field trip to the Pitman Theater to see The Wizard of Oz

Infants

Welcome February! We are excited to Welcome Aishani, Christian, and baby Carter, to our class this month. We will be making some lovely Valentines Day projects and our Semi Formal will be on Friday, February 12th, we cant wait to celebrate with our friends!

Toddler A

February is the month of Music! Our color this month will be purple and our shape is a heart. Music helps with gross motor skills and practice their growing vocabulary. We will be using Musical Instruments, singing songs, while doing fingerplays and emotions. Thank you for your support of Share A Book Day and daily activities. ☺ A busy and exciting month is ahead of us!!

Toddler B

Hello Sweethearts! It's time to share updates for our room! First, we'd like to welcome Dominick! Also, birthday greetings go out to Maggie and Liam this month! Caroline, Danny, Sammi, and Roman are all trying open cups. Pink is our color of the month. Some of our LTL skills for the month will be using dress up props, using words to describe size, and drinking from an open cup. Hope to see you all at our Valentine Semi-formal!

Beginner A

Welcome to February in Beginner A! Some skills we will focus on this month will be making horizontal lines on paper, naming shapes and colors, and Spanish. Our February Spanish vocabulary is "adios" (goodbye) and "rectangulo" (rectangle). We will also be practicing recognizing our names in print. We will be having a Valentine's Day Semi-formal and we hope to see you there! As always, thank you for allowing me to teach your children and watch them grow as young learners!

Beginner B

Welcome to February in Beginner B! This month we will continue to work on previous skills as well as new skills. For Spanish this month we will learn "adios" (goodbye) and "rectangulo" (rectangle). We will continue to have fun indoor activities such as parachute play and dance parties! We will celebrate Shaye and Rosey's 3rd birthday this month! Our Valentine semi-formal will also be this month, see you there!

Intermediates

We welcome our new friends to our Intermediates class: Jayden, Jocelyn, Adriana, Ella, and Ben. Our class is very excited to have new friends. We will be celebrating Ben Paster's Birthday and Valentine's Day! In Math we will begin to interpret data presented in bar graphs. We will be working on compound words in Communication and daily we continue to work on Social Emotional skills such as self-help skills and social interaction skills.

Pre K

January was a wonderful month for Pre-k! We welcomed a new friend to our class, Parker Pine. Also, the students worked very hard preparing for Kindergarten. Pre-k is excelling at sight word identification and greater than vs. less than. February is filled with work and fun. Pre-k will be going with Kindergarten to the Pitman theater this month to see the "Wizard of Oz" on February 19th. We will have our class Valentine's Day party on February 10th. Along with all of this fun, Pre-k will be working on skills, such as: the foundations for subtraction, inventive spelling in writing, and animals around the world. February is going to be an exciting and fun-filled month. We look forward to seeing the students grow and succeed. Congratulations to Miss Bre! She will be off 2/11-2/15 for her wedding. She becomes a misses on 2/12!☺

Kindergarten

Happy February! This month we are focusing on blending initial, medial, and final /f/, /o/, and /h/ sounds, reading text based comprehension such as plot, drawing conclusions, main idea, and sequence, learning the writing process (plan, draft, revise, edit, share), learning measurement, classifying objects, and position in Mathematics, celebrating Black History Month, learning about the U.S.A, Earth Science, and much more! We are also celebrating Taylor and Ariana's birthdays this month!

Calendar of Events:

- ❖ 2/12-Valentines Day Semi-formal Dance Party 3:30-4:30 pm
- ❖ 2/15-Closed for Professional Development Day
- ❖ 2/19- Pre-k/K field trip 9:15-12 pm
- ❖ 2/26-Parents night from 6-9 pm

* Don't forget to visit our *
website for the lunch menu,
special event dates,
reminders and so much
more...

sewell.chesterbrookacademy.com



Helping Your Preschooler Develop Positive Friendship Skills

Are you puzzled by some of your child's social behaviors? Have you noticed that your toddler doesn't interact with other children very often? Does your three-year-old get frustrated when a classmate won't play with him? Will your four-year-old only play with her best friend?

These are all normal social behaviors for preschoolers. Learning how to develop friendships is a lifelong process. Children's social behaviors evolve from smiling and cooing at others, to engaging in parallel play, to eventually forming friendships and playing together.

Below are ways we help develop friendships in the classroom, as well as ideas for you and your child to do at home.



INFANTS:

In the classroom: Before they can communicate verbally, infants build connections by smiling, cooing and crying. By two months old, they might turn toward other infants, and by twelve months, they begin to imitate their peers. Teachers help facilitate this relationship by sitting infants near each other during activities such as story time and tummy time.

At home: Even though infants don't really play with one another, they still benefit from "play dates" with other infants. Sit your infant face-to-face with another infant or in close proximity to an older sibling, and provide each child separate toys. Note when your infant watches the other child and what captures his attention.

Recommended reading: *Friends* by Helen Oxenbury and *Let's Play* by Leo Lionni

TODDLERS (ages 1-2):

In the classroom: Many young children tend to engage in "parallel play." They play near other children, but each child is doing something different. This is a natural phase of development. As children get older, they begin to enjoy more shared activities with their peers. For example, they might enjoy splashing their hands at the water table with others, looking at books while sitting close to a friend, and dancing to music with their classmates.

At home: Invite another parent and child to your home for a play date. Blocks, balls, dress up clothes and toy kitchen sets are great toys for children at this age. Don't force them to play with each other. Instead, let the children decide on the level of interaction.

Recommended reading: *Do You Want to be My Friend?* by Eric Carle and *I Can Share* by Karen Katz

BEGINNERS (ages 2-3):

In the classroom: In the Beginner classroom, teachers refer to classmates as "friends." Students learn about personal space and begin to practice good manners by saying please and thank you.

