



Newsletter

February 2023

February is a month where we get to display our love, gratitude and friendship to one another. The theme for this month is “Honoring Different Cultures” and our character trait is “I am caring.” The children will experience fun learning activities in the classroom that will encourage them to practice their social-emotional skills by displaying their love, and caring skills to their family, peers and teachers.

Valentine’s Day

Valentine's Day is a great time to celebrate love and kindness toward people we care about. We like to give children an opportunity to think about what it means to love and care for someone and how to show it. Each class will have activities and crafts to celebrate love, friendship and caring as well as decorate-design our Valentine’s Day bags (to take home our valentines). If you would like to send valentines for your child’s classroom, please note the following number of children for each classroom:

Room 1	15
Room 2	20
Room 3	20
Room 4	19

Please have your child sign their own name, but do not put a classmate's name on each card. The teachers will distribute the Valentines in class. Look for a SignUpGenius link coming soon from your room parents to help with our celebrations.

Black Trailblazers

February is **Black History Month**. We will celebrate the month with books, and learning experiences that encourage the children to learn about the Black History, and diverse people who have contributed to American culture and progress.

Summer Program

Summer program forms are due **Friday, February 3rd**. The last day of school will be **May 31st**. Please be sure to meet the deadline, as we've had a surge in interest but want to make sure our existing families are accommodated. The following sessions will be offered from June 12th to August 3rd.

Session 1: African Safari-12-June to 23-Jun	Session 3: Beach Days-10-July to 21-July
Session 2: Grow a Garden-26-June to 07-Jul	Session 4: Fun on the Farm-24-July to 03-Aug

2023-2024 School Year Enrollment

Enrollment information and paperwork for the 2023-2024 school year will be available soon. If you'd like an application for a younger sibling please see Ms. Kim. Our first day of school will be Thursday, August 10th.

Birthday Celebrations Update

Birthdays are a memorable time for children. Dayspring staff will celebrate your child's birthday with special stories, activities and a crown. In addition, parents may bring non-sugary, nut-free, store bought treats. If families choose to bring cupcakes, please ensure they are the small ones. The treats will be served during snack time. If you do not want your child to eat a cupcake/treat please communicate that to your child's teachers or the administrative staff. Due to allergies, we require parents to inform us about classroom treats three days prior to the birthday, so we can advise all families in the classroom.

COVID Updates

We no longer have access to free COVID test kits in bulk to distribute to our families, Below you will find resources to obtaining free kits:

- **COVID.gov/tests:** Every household in the United States is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID tests from the federal government. [Go online](#) or call [800-232-0233](tel:800-232-0233).
- **County mail-order program:** Contra Costa residents can order two COVID kits (4 tests) by filling out [this online form](#) or by calling [833-829-2626](tel:833-829-2626). Limit one order per household.
- **For Kaiser members:** Kaiser members can order up to 8 at-home tests a month directly from Kaiser at kp.org. People with other health coverage besides Kaiser can also request free home test kits through their providers.
- **Contra Costa County Libraries:** Free test kits are available to county residents at all [26 county-run library branches](#). Limit two per household. While supplies last.

As you might be aware, masking is not a requirement, but preferred to promote the health and safety of all, and therefore we will continue to do the following:

- Encourage all families to carefully review their activities and determine if testing is appropriate for their particular circumstances. We (the staff) are also testing as needed.
- We will not accept children for care who have any symptoms, especially respiratory symptoms. If your child has any ongoing runny nose or other symptoms from a resolved illness, please bring in a doctor's note for return to school.
- We will continue to monitor the health of our children throughout the day. Families will be expected to pick up children within one hour of being called, as per our usual illness protocols.

A Big Thank You To:

- Our families for purchasing books at our book fair in the fall. We used our Scholastic dollars to buy lots of new books for the classrooms – they will be arriving soon!
- Pastor Todd for reading to us in January

Important Dates:

- **Groundhog Day - February 2**
- **Summer Enrollment Deadline - February 3**
- **Valentine's Day - February 14 - wear red or pink**
- **Storytime with Pastor Todd – February 15**
- **Presidents Day Holiday - February 20 - Dayspring Closed**

Concepts of the Week:

Week of January 30	Groundhog Day, Ff, 7
Week of February 6	Black History Month, Review Ll/Uu/Cc, I am caring
Week of February 13	Valentine's Day, Ww
Week of February 20	Presidents Day, Yy
Week of February 27	Gg

End of Year Statements

If you need a statement of tuition paid for 2022, you can print it from your Brightwheel account. Here are the [detailed instructions](#).



Snack Menu February 2023

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3
			graham crackers applesauce	Ritz crackers string cheese	trail mix fruit salad
Week 2	6	7	8	9	10
	Cheerios bananas milk	animal crackers apples	toast fruit spread	Wheat Thins apples	trail mix fruit salad
Week 3	13	14	15	16	17
	pancakes fruit spread	friendship fruit salad cookie	vanilla wafers bananas	pretzels raisins	trail mix fruit salad
Week 4	20	21	22	23	24
	Presidents Day Holiday Dayspring Closed	Cheerios raisins	animal crackers cucumbers	graham crackers applesauce	trail mix fruit salad
Week 5	27	28			
	Cheerios raisins milk	yogurt bananas			

We serve fresh fruits and vegetables whenever possible. Substitutions may occur based on availability.
Fat free or 1% milk is provided at lunchtime. Children bring their own lunches from home.