



1st Quarter Newsletter

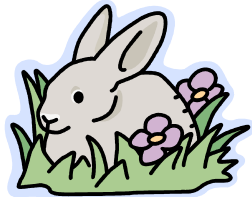
Rabbit Room

The Rabbit room would like to wish our parents the best in this year. The New Year came by very quick, but we are enjoying every-day in our room doing various aspects of learning.

We welcome our new friends who joined the rabbit group and wish the greatest for the friends who have transitioned to the toddler room. Our infants are excelling in their milestones. They are rolling over, crawling, pulling themselves up to furniture and some are taking steps for their

walk in life.

We have worked on many lessons, which include: exploring snow, where they played with snow in cups, learning rhymes and fin-



ger plays, exploring the country of Luxembourg, where we climbed castles. The infants enjoyed learning the colors and listened to color song CDs.

We will be fo-

cus on other areas as well. These include: pet play, learning opposites, acknowledging the upcoming Valentines Day.

Kudos to all our parents for keeping us updated with the needs and requirements for their infants. We strive to do our part to make the rabbit room a memorable experience.

Thank you,
Rabbit Room Team

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Deer Room

The deer room is off to a wonderful 2010. We have really enjoyed playing in the snow but we are also anxiously awaiting springs arrival. Thank you all for remembering to label your child's

hat and mittens. I hope at least most of them have found their way home!

January has been full of exciting activities in the deer room. Our themes for the

month of January included: penguins, transportation, families, and Martin Luther King Jr.

With the weather being so cold in January,

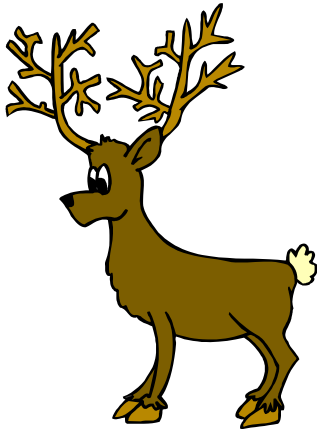
Special points of interest:

- * Welcome to all new families at ILC!
- * Please remember to punch your child(ren) in and out each day.
- * Important Dates to Remember:
April 9th-Teacher in-service...ILC closed
April 14& 15- Conferences 5:00-8:00pm

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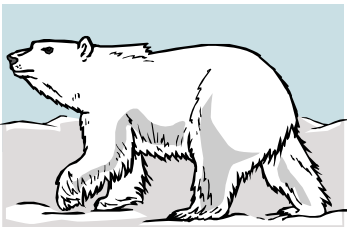
Deer Room con't...

we have gotten a lot of use out of our jumper as well as other indoor large motor activities. We know how important it is for toddlers to



"A child can ask questions a wise man cannot answer."

Author: Unknown



get their energy out.

After a two month break from visiting the commons (due to flu season) we will be starting up again in February.

Instead of the bear and deer rooms alternating every other week, we will now be going two weeks at a time and

then switching. In February the bear room will go on the 2nd and 9th and the deer room will visit on the 16th and 23rd. We will continue to go to the memory ward for activities. Some things we have planned are dress-up clothes, puzzle time, and create your own doll.

Some of our upcoming themes will include: ABC, Valentines,

On the farm, and lots more. We will also continue to learn about shapes, colors, letters and numbers through a variety of songs and activities.

Sincerely,

Andrea and Gina

Bear Room

It may be the middle of winter, but there has been no hibernating for these bears...we've been as busy as ever!

Over the past few months we've said goodbye to a few friends and welcomed new comers.

The bears are growing up so fast! We've witnessed children speak their first two word sentence,

become completely potty trained and even start to write their names. We want to let you know that we work hard to tailor our lessons to meet each child's developmental needs. As always, if there is something specific that you'd like us to work on, please do not hesitate to ask

In the next few months we look for-

ward to learning about themes such as: the farm, numbers, music, and creative art. We will continue to work on self-help skills, toilet learning, and color, shape, and letter recognition

Jami and Tonya

Squirrel Room

January was an exciting month for us as we prepared for the Holidays Around the World program. We chose to explore Greek Independence Day and it was an opportunity to learn about Greece past and present. We read about Greek architecture and it explained the columns we used for the pro-

gram. We read about art and made our own amphoras (an urn with two handles.) We also made coins with pictures of children on each one, earrings, and Greek flags. The upcoming winter Olympics have Greek roots so we had our own Olympic parade and baton relay, complete with Olympic

torches and gold medals. Some of the words we learned in Greek (counting, please, and thank-you) are still being used in the classroom. One of our favorite words was "pameh!" which is the equivalent of "let's go!"

February started out with ground hogs and

shadows and several songs about ground hogs and their burrow. We plan to make a couple trips to The Commons. On the first one we made a heart mobile and finished the project with the resident before giving it to them. We also used props to tell a story "Hugs and Kisses

Squirrel Room con't...

for Elbert Elephant” with children and residents. On the 12th, we will share valentines with our friends as well as exchanging valentine puppets with the residents. All across Minnesota, February is “I Love to Read” month so we are all (teachers and children) bringing our favorite books to share. At the end of the month we’ll read Dr. Seuss books as a prelude to

celebrating his birthday at the start of March.

The week of February 15th thru 19th will begin with a celebration of President’s Day. We will continue, with a safety theme, gaining knowledge of safe behavior and choices that help to keep us that way. We may have a special visitor to encourage us which could be lots of fun!

We’re awaiting the start of March to see how the winter is progressing. There has been plenty of snow outside to make pulling sleds a daily game. And ice in a few spots lead to pretend skating. Maybe we will be lucky and have leprechauns peeking into our room on March 17th!

Squirrel Staff



Fox Room

January was a busy month for the Foxes. We focused a lot on getting ready for our “Holidays Around the World” program. The children worked very hard to learn the “Dreidel Song.” We even added our own parts and movements for our special performance.

The Foxes showed a strong interest in learning about the celebration of Hanukkah. They had many hands-on opportunities to learn about and experience Hanukkah traditions. We read stories, played the Dreidel game, and even made our own latkes. We had a lot of fun studying this special holiday. During the month of February, we will be starting to visit our friends at The Commons again. The

grandmas and grandpas love these special visits and the children do too! Our first activity with them will be making bookmarks!

We will also be continuing to study the last half of the alphabet during these months. It has been very rewarding to watch the children recognize more letters and sounds and even words! The Foxes really enjoy writing and working with letters.

Counting and number recognition are also important skills we practice daily. The children strengthen their knowledge of numbers by playing games, participating in circle time, small group activities, and many other ways throughout the day! Keep up the

great work Foxes!

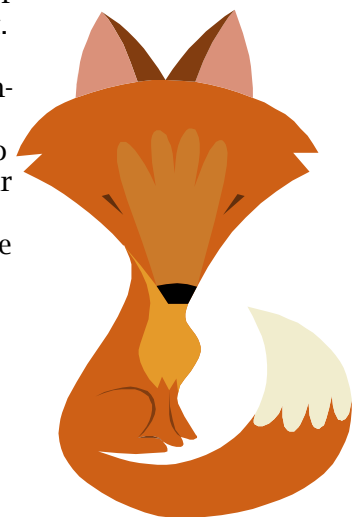
Just a reminder: please remember to have appropriate clothing for your child when going outside. It definitely gets cold out there. Also, please make sure your child has an extra set of clothes at school. You never know when a child may need them throughout the day!

Thank you for all of your love and support. Your children are growing fast and learning new things everyday. It is a pleasure to work with each of your children and families. We look forward to the warm months ahead and all of the fun things that spring brings!

Annie and Lisa

“Children are unpredictable. You never know what inconsistency they’re gonna catch you in next.”

~Franklin P. Jones



Loon Room

“Children seldom misquote. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you should’ve said.”

~Author Unknown



Wow! It is hard to believe that it is already 2010. The Loon Room has had a busy January learning about snowmen and the letters E, F, and G. We also had a fun unit on Cinco De Mayo, which was our theme for Holidays Around the World. The children explored the holiday by making and tasting traditional Mexican dishes, painting flags, creating their own maracas, and making and breaking a piñata. They were all very excited for the goodies they found inside! They also enjoyed learning the song “Buenos Días” and singing it all in Spanish.

The children continue to work their way through the alphabet by exploring a new letter

each week. The children enjoy creating a list of words that begin with each letter, and then counting up the words to see how many they have come up with. We are also working on our pencil use and learning to write our names.

On February 12th we will be going to the Commons for a Valentine’s exchange. The Loons also look forward to being able to visit the grandmas and grandpas again starting on February 26th. We haven’t been able to visit for awhile and can’t wait to make art projects to bring to them and listen to the stories they read us.

The loon Room has had a few new friends join our classroom as

well. Please welcome these new children and their families.

As a reminder, our Show and Share day is Monday. The item to bring is posted on the door the week before and we also try to write it on their Friday daily sheets. We do go outside if the temperature is above 10°, so please make sure the children have snow pants, boots, mittens, and hats everyday. An extra set of clothes is also nice to keep on hand in their cubbies. If you ever have any questions please feel free to ask and thank you for all that you do to make our Loon Room great!

Sincerely,

Ms. Amber and Ms. Kary

Frog Room

Notes from the Frog Pond: Well, in the Frog Room, we have learned about the Rain Forest, winter, the Arctic, and of course, Sweden with our Holidays Around the World performance.

The children enjoyed making Santa Lucia wreaths and star boy hats to wear for the event. We also made woven heart baskets to take home for candy treats. I enjoyed seeing the children figure out how to make the woven wreath, it was a little tricky, but with some

guidance, they soon caught onto the pattern. The blue and yellow paper symbolized the colors of Sweden, much like the Swedish flag. Gingerbread cookies are a famous holiday treat, and were definitely enjoyed by all, as only crumbs were left at the end of the evening. Ask your child if they can count to ten in Swedish. We learned how to do this, and gave a fine performance on January 26th.

I want to thank all the parents for bringing

their children to the Commons for the performance. I totally understand how busy lives can be, and making this extra effort proved to be a valuable experience with the children so anxious to perform for you..

In the next few months, we will be learning about Dr. Seuss, a trip to the dentist, birthdays, and of course Valentine’s Day. So next week, look for a heart made especially for you!

Amy

