

FEBRUARY

Brown Bear Families,

Chocolate, Candy and Sugar, Oh my! Chocolate, Candy and Sugar, Oh my! It is the sweet month of February. First, we would like to start by saying a big thank you to all of you for being so flexible and understanding with the change in our classroom. We are so thankful to have that flexibility with all of you. Thank you to those of you who brought in baby wipes, paper towels and card stock. We are still in high need for paper towels and card stock if anyone who didn't donate would still like to, we would greatly appreciate anything. J

This month we will be introducing the following new concepts to the kiddos. We will be talking about the letters Bb, Rr, Kk, and Aa. The children are doing a wonderful job of remembering the letters we are talking about, most can even recognize all of their friends' first letters in their names. It is great to practice the alphabet and recognizing the different letters, especially the ones in their own names. We will be discussing the numbers 15-18 this month and while they are higher numbers, it is great for the children to start getting early exposure.

Last month, we sent number booklets with stickers on each number home, this is an awesome way to practice recognizing the numbers and to practice counting the number of stickers on each number with your child; they loved making these books and were very proud. This month we will primarily focus on working on recognizing hearts and triangles and their attributes for our shapes. Along with that we will introduce a new color in Espanol each week of this month, Morado (purple), Anaranjado (orange), Café (brown), and Negro (black). We will have lots of fun activities to help the children associate these new concepts with items in the classroom and in their everyday surroundings.

The following dates are ones to mark your calendars for:

- Feb. 2: Mr. Stinky Feet Onsite Field Trip @ 10am
- Feb. 7: Bring favorite teddy bear to school
- Feb. 8: Bring a baby picture to school
- Feb. 9: Wear your beach clothes to school today
- Feb. 10: Bring your favorite book to school today

Important dates continued...

- Feb. 14: Valentines Day Party @ 3pm: Our party planners are: Amy Wacker, Suzanne Ahlstedt, and Guadelupe Mascote. Please watch for emails or sign-ups from these parents for your help on the party and providing supplies and such (if you would like parents notified of these things please feel free to send an email with an attachment to Ms. Bonnie and she will make sure it gets sent out).
- Feb. 15: Bring an Rr Item/ Picture of item to school
- Feb. 16: Wear Morado to school today (Purple)
- Feb. 21: Bring an item you would find in your kitchen that will fit in your back pack to school.
- Feb. 23: Wear Café to school today (Brown) and Feathered Friends Field Trip @ 9:30
- Feb. 29: Bring Aa Item/ Pictue of item to school today

This year, HTEEC will be hosting its first ever art show, featuring the work of our very own artists... your children! Each class will take some time to learn about the life and art of a famous artist. Students will get the chance to create their own masterpiece, using the style and technique of the artist. The artwork will be on display from 6:30-7:30 pm on Wednesday, February 29th. We will have a silent auction for the works of art, and every penny raised will go directly into sprucing up our outdoor playgrounds. More information will be sent home as the date approaches. Mark your calendars for this special event!

On February 21st, we will again kick off the season of Lent by celebrating Mardi Gras and having our own Mardi Gras parade. Each class will create their own float for the parade, but we want families to be included as well. Families are encouraged to work together to make their own floats out of shoeboxes. These will proudly be displayed in the halls of HTEEC. Our parade will be at 10:30 am, and parents are welcome to join us as the parade spectators.

As you can see, February is going to be a very busy month full of fun filled activities! We are so excited to continue watching the children grow and explore new concepts. Make a note: Ms. Bonnie will be out of the classroom March 2 and March 5. Ms. Cathy/ Ms. Allison and Ms. Carma will be helping in our classroom on those given days in place of her absence. Please continue to send weather appropriate attire for the children daily. Thank you for all that you do and for all of your support; you have no idea how much it makes our job easier when we have parent involvement and understanding! We are so excited to bake in another month of sweetness with our Brown Bears. J

With Chocolate Kisses and Hearts,
Ms. Bonnie and Ms. Liz