



First Step Newsletter

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR

We had fun with breakfast with dad. Don't feel bad if you couldn't make it. You can come any time you can and spend the morning with your child. THANK YOU to our room mothers for planning the children's Valentine party. Muchas gracias to all you parents for your donations. The children really enjoy these activities.

If you haven't brought in your paper towels for this year please do so. We are running really low.

This month we are starting the BOOK IT! Beginners Program, sponsored by Pizza Hut. Read your classroom news for more information regarding this reading program. Research has proven that reading aloud to a child is the single most important factor in raising a reader. We appreciate your support!

This month activity is going to be on Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday, March 20th and Friday, March 21st. The room mom's will send out information home on what is needed.

We are doing a Butter Braid Frozen Pastry dough fundraiser this month. Just on time for Easter!!! We are starting March 3rd. Orders are due on Monday March 17th. They will be deliver two days later on Wednesday March 19th. The school makes \$4.00 for every Butter Braid sold. We would like to purchase a Spring bouncer (teeter totter) for the playground. The cost is \$1,139.00. Thank you for your support.

Spring break is coming up! There is no school on March 24 through the 28. I hope you have a great spring break!!

We are currently taking enrollments for our preschool program for the 2008-2009 school year. We still have some openings available, so please stop by the office and pick up your enrollment form today!

You all make a difference in our preschool and community. God bless you all!

Ms. Geanina

First Step Preschool

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Reminders:

- ♣ March 17 Butter Braid Fundraiser orders due
- ♣ March 19th: Butter Braids will be deliver
- ♣ MARCH 26-30: SPRING BREAK/NO SCHOOL

FRIDAY FUN!!!!

- Sign-up begins each Monday morning by phone or in person.
- Pay per session on that day.
- Pack a lunch and an afternoon snack.

MARCH THEMES AND LETTERS:

THEMES: WEATHER, EASTER, RAINBOWS

- ♣ LETTER FOR WEEK OF: MARCH 3 is U
- ♣ LETTER FOR WEEK OF: MARCH 10 is X
- ♣ LETTER FOR WEEK OF: MARCH 17 is Y
- ♣ LETTER FOR WEEK OF: MARCH 31 is Z

BIBLE VERSES:

† MARCH 3 through the 12:

"Pray for each other" James 5:16

† MARCH 13 through the 21:

Pray to Him and He will hear you" Job 22:27

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NEWS FROM ALL-STARS CLASSROOM

March comes in like a lion and leaves like a lamb. Let's hope that's the case this year!

Thank you for all the support for our Valentines parties and Breakfast with Dads! The kids enjoyed sharing their classrooms with you! We are looking forward to Easter Parties this month.

If you haven't picked up a March calendar, they are in the classroom. As we get to the end of the alphabet, letter-appropriate show and tell can be more challenging! If your child wants to paint/color/draw the letter of the week—that is a great show and tell, or an alphabet book with the page of the letter marked. We love to see their creativity!

We will be putting cutout pages in the children's cubbies for you to fill out and return as part of the BOOK IT program. We will hang each one you return. At the end of the month, your child will earn a free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut. By working together, we can prepare children to be successful at reading and enjoy it for a lifetime! Thank you for continuing to send warm clothes, hats, gloves and snow boots!

Blessings, Miss Dana and Miss Maeve

NEWS FROM WHALES-CLASSROOM

March is here! Maybe we'll actually have some Spring weather!

Thank you so much to Kristyn Fabela and Jen Fletemeyer our room mothers who made the Valentines parties so special! Thank you to all of the families with your donations for the party. The kids also LOVED sharing and getting all the Valentines!

Breakfast with Dads was a great success as well! Thanks to all the Dads who came and spent some time with their children in the classroom. The children really appreciated it!

We are participating in the Pizza Hut BOOK IT program again this year! As you read with your children, they can color a picture and return it. If they read so many books, they can earn a free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut! Enjoy reading together!!

The children are doing a great job with show and tell on Thursdays and Fridays. Please continue to try to find something from home that starts with the letter of the week for your child to share. They really enjoy sharing with their friends!

Remember to bring mittens/gloves, and hats and coats with your child. Many times the Black Forest is much cooler than other parts of town. Don't forget—we LOVE having parent volunteers! Ms. Marva and Ms. Kim

HEALTHY SMILES

Happy spring to all children and families at First Steps!!!! I thought I would take just a few minutes of your time this month to discuss the importance of preventative dentistry in children. The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recommends that children see a dentist between 1-2 years of age. Definitely a dentist should evaluate a child by age 3.

Preventive dentistry in children includes brushing, assessment of dental development, flossing, fluorides if recommended by your dentist, parent involvement, proper diet and establishing good oral habits. The dentist will examine your child's teeth. Cleaning, fluoride treatment and X-rays may also be included in the visit depending on the child's age. They will instruct you and your child on proper brushing and flossing and a healthy diet to help prevent tooth decay.

Children with healthy mouths learn to speak more quickly and clearly. They have a better chance at good general health throughout their life times. A healthy mouth is more attractive providing children confidence in their appearance. Also, early preventative dentistry means potentially less extensive and less expensive treatment for your child, as they grow older.

To locate a dentist in your area, check with your insurance carrier if you have dental insurance to obtain a list of providers, speak with your primary care physician for referrals, speak with friends and family or visit the AAPD website at www.aapd.org for further assistance.

Donna Meier RN BSN, First Steps School Nurse