

Dear Parents,

We had a great January! There was lots of fun to be had reading and singing our nursery rhymes, and reading our classic books. Some of the nursery rhymes were familiar to us and some were brand new. We enjoyed the rhyming, rhythm, and repetition. The repetition fosters the development of expressive language skills, which was one of our goals and objectives for the month. The classic books we read, were very different from our normal toddler board books. There was actual text taken from the original classics in them. It was an opportunity to be introduced to words we haven't heard before. The babies have really been enjoying *The Raindrop* song. It's a Barney the dinosaur song. Look it up on YouTube and play it. They will love it!

February is about pets and love. We have a play set of pet animals that include a dog, cat, fish, rabbit, and hamster, that we will introduce to the babies. If you have a pet at home, please send in either a picture with the pet's name on it, or just tell us about your pet, so we can talk about them this month.

For Valentine's Day, we will be making a friendship snack to take home. Sitting on the floor together, we will take turns putting the snack pieces in. The children will love this! We will have fresh strawberries and cream as our Valentine treat :)

For the last week of the month, we ask that you bring in a pet stuffed animal for your child that we will play with and share with friends. We can put them in our doll stroller or shopping cart, and take them for a ride, or build them a little house out of boxes. So fun!

\*We will be closed Monday, the 18th for President's Day\*

\*Friday, the 22nd is the Big Saints Bash. You don't want to miss it! It's our only fundraiser of the year. Make plans to come!

Blessings, Peggy and Emily