

Tam Preschool Newsletter: February 2026

We are celebrating Valentine's Day this month. Please keep an eye out for activity information from each class. As part of our celebrations, on Thursday, 2/12, each class will have their own bubble show with The Bubble Lady!

*The Garden and Ocean Room class will have a Valentine exchange on 2/13. Please make sure the cards has your child's name only, not their friends, to help with the exchange.

*The Creek Room class will not have a Valentine exchange, but they will have treats and fun activities.

Teacher Update:

Christian and Leslie are now married. We have become aware that married couples need to have their own space and don't usually supervise each other. Having a couple working at the school is a first for us, so now that we are aware of couple protocol we plan to have it in place moving forward. Leslie will continue to work in the Creek Room, and Christian will move to the Garden Room. They will work the early morning shifts in separate areas and go home after the first afternoon blocks when the afternoon group combines. Monica will lead the last afternoon block to make sure our students have a familiar face supporting them.

Gina and Christian switched positions to make sure we follow our new procedure. Even though they are not new to the school, they have been training in their new position and I'm overseeing the change. I wanted to make sure everything was going well before announcing it. Gina worked in the Creek Room for a couple years in the past, she was the Lead Teacher before Leslie, so she was the obvious choice to switch. Kids are already connecting with her, and she is great at helping to lead the class. Christian was a classroom teacher for many of the Garden students last year and the group is happy to reunite. Louise, who supports the Garden Team is helping Christian transition into the class.

We hired a couple new teachers at the school to help cover Morning Care, Aftercare, and to give extra support to the Creek Room. The Creek Team has five teachers now: Leslie, Gina, Reina, Glendy, and Lilian. Four teachers and one aid was our goal because we like to have an extra pair of hands. I'm helping Leslie train and support the team, so please let me know if you have any questions.

Reina comes from a Montessori school. She has 3 children and is an amazing cook, so she is already planning cooking activities in the next few weeks. Reina got her teacher permit alongside Glendy. Glendy is sweet and artistic, so the kids gravitate towards her for extra comfort. Reina is our new aid. She has a 4-year-old at home and is working on becoming a teacher. We are glad they are all part of our team. They all bring something new and complement each other. They already know the classroom routine and the children in the class. You may have seen Lydia walking about. She is our sub and former Lead Teacher. She has been on long term maternity leave, but we hope to have her back a couple days a week this Spring.

-Creek Room: Leslie (Lead), Gina (Teacher), Reina (Teacher), Glendy (Teacher), and Lilian (Aid).

-Ocean Room: Monica (Lead), Jacky (Teacher), Sara (Teacher), and Gris (Teacher)

-Garden Room: Mimi (Co-Lead), Michie (Co-Lead), Christian (Teacher), and Louise/Lydia (Teacher)

***Break Giver/Floaters for all 3 Classes:** Amy (Teacher), Erica (Teacher), and Marcela (Director)

Specialist Activities:

***Jamaroo with Michi: 2/2 (rescheduled date), 2/9, and 2/23.**

***Capoeira with Coach Diego: Wednesday 2/4, 2/11, and 2/25.** Children should wear sneakers and comfortable clothes for running and climbing on coach days (please avoid boots, sandals, or dresses.)

***Thursday, 2/12: Bubble Lady (Students Only)**

Each class will have their own bubble show time, as part of our Valentine's Day celebration activities. Students will be able to get close and participate in this amazing bubble show: <https://thebubblelady.com>

***Friday, 3/20: The Lizard Lady (Students Only)**

This is a school favorite yearly activity. Each class gets to learn and touch amazing reptiles from snakes to tortoises. Teachers usually create a dinosaur theme around this reptile visit: <https://lizardladyreptiles.net>

***Friday, 4/24: Petting Zoo (Students Only)**

We are looking forward to our spring petting zoo visit. The zoo sets up in our outdoor learning lab, and every class will have a scheduled time to visit. More information will be available as we get close to the event.

<https://allaboutafarm.com>

***Friday, May 8: Insect Discovery Lab (Students Only)**

Students get to hold and learn about some amazing insects during this visit. Again, each class will have their own time for this event, so everyone gets a chance to ask questions.

<https://www.savenature.org/insect-discovery-lab>

Thank you for your contributions to our Equipment and Enrichment Fund and our Halloween Fundraise! The money is used to benefit children directly by purchasing toys, classroom equipment, as well as pay for our weekly and monthly specialist activities.

Fall 2025 Registration:

I'm saving a Fall spot for families who registered in January. In March, families will be asked to finalize their registration by signing the Fall Admissions Agreement and paying the deposit on Brightwheel. Please make sure you turn on notification, so as not to miss any information or deadline. Classroom information will be available once registration is complete and all adjustments are confirmed. Please let me know if you have any questions.

*Summer camp information will be available very soon and registration will stay open until all spots are filled. Camp will start on June 15.

Billing:

For billing questions, please message "Administrator" on Brightwheel and Rose will reply.

Tax info can be found on Brightwheel after 1/31/26: Payments >> Statements >> Export >> Family 2025 Payer Tax Statement. You will need to export a separate list for each child. Here is an article also: [How payers can pull year-end tax statements | Brightwheel Help Center](#). If you need help or have any questions, you can always reach out to Rose (under Admin on BW).

Invoices are sent through Brightwheel on the 5th of the month and are due on the 25th, a late fee will apply after that. Please let Rose know if you have any questions or difficulties.

If you have questions about childcare charges, you can view your child's attendance in Brightwheel. Students entering school from 8:00 to 9:00 am are charged for morning care, and those picked up after 1:00 pm or staying in aftercare will be charged for the corresponding aftercare hour(s). **Please make sure you pick up your child on time, as late charges will apply.**

Important Reminders:

*Hope everyone is feeling better now, I know December was rough for many. Please keep your child home if not feeling well. Symptoms can worsen as the day goes on. If children come to school sick, not only will they spread germs, but your child will not enjoy their day at school feeling sick and recovery may take longer without proper rest.

*As part of State requirements, if a child starts to show illness symptoms at school, a teacher will isolate with the child away from the rest of the group and contact the family for pick up. Parents must have an emergency plan, that includes people in the emergency list who can come pick up a sick child within a short time. Children who are sent home with a symptom must check with the director to make sure the illness is not contagious. The health department has a list of contagious illness we are required to report.

*We follow a 24-hour health policy: If your child is home sick, or was sent home due to illness, your child needs to be symptom-free and/or on antibiotics for at least 24 hours before he or she can return to school. This guideline helps ensure everyone is healthy at school and exposure is kept at a minimum. Thank you for helping to keep our school community healthy!

*If your child suffers from allergies, please inform the teacher. Even with allergies, children may not be at school with severely runny nose or cough, as it can bring discomfort to the child. When allergies are acting up and are not under control, children are just not well enough to participate in school activities.

*Students must be lice and nit free to attend our preschool. Lice and nits are not a health risk, but they are highly contagious, especially in preschool where we play close to each other. Lice and nits are hard to get rid of at schools, as well as at home, so we do our best to prevent spreading it. Thank you for your diligence and support as we try to prevent more cases.

Hope you have a wonderful start to the holiday season!

Marcela and the Tam Teachers

Dates to Remember:

***Thursday, 2/12:** Bubble Lady (Students Only)

***Friday, 2/13:** Valentine Exchange in the Garden and Ocean Class, with Valentine treats in the Creek Room (no exchange)

***February 16 to 20:** Mid-Winter Break (No School)

***Monday, 3/16:** Teacher In-Service Day (No School)

***Friday, 3/20:** The Lizard Lady (Students Only)

***Saturday, 3/28:** Tam Spring Party at 10:00 am (Family Event, Board will send info)

***Friday, 4/24:** Petting Zoo (Students Only)

***April 6 to 10:** Spring Recess (NO SCHOOL)

***Friday, May 8:** Insect Discovery Lab (Students Only)

***Monday, 5/25:** Memorial Day (NO SCHOOL)

***Tuesday, 6/9:** Graduation and Last Day of School (School open all day)

***June 10 – 12:** End of Year Teacher In-Service Days (NO SCHOOL)

***Monday, 6/15:** First Day of Camp