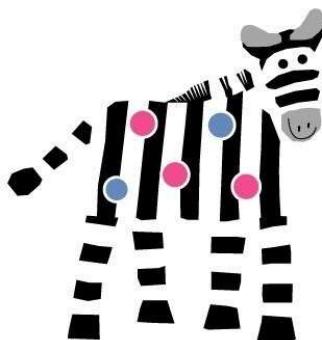


THE SPOTTED ZEBRA Learning Center

February 2026

Reminders:

- ❖ The Center will be closed on 2/16 in observance of President's Day
- ❖ The Center will be closed on 2/17 in observance of Lunar New Year
- ❖ There will be no Special Education or Kindergarten programming from 2/18-2/20 in observance of Mid-Winter Recess



Admin News

Happy February! We hope everyone is staying warm and enjoying a cozy winter.

As a reminder, the center will be closed on 2/16 and 2/17 in observance of President's Day and Lunar New Year respectively. The rest of the week (2/18-2/20) is Mid-Winter Recess and as such there will be **no Kindergarten or Special Education Programming, but we will be open for preschool/daycare.**

Since we are in a peak of the flu season, we ask that families are conscientious of the health of their children, their classmates, and our staff. If your child is ill, please keep them at home until they are well enough to return to school and participate comfortably in all routine activities, including outdoor play if weather allows.

We are now implementing a more in-depth daily health check at drop-off. This will include closer observation, temperature checks as needed, and brief questions related to symptoms that may have emerged overnight or that morning. This enhanced check is intended to support early identification of illness and reduce the spread of flu and other respiratory illnesses within our classrooms.

As a reminder, our Health Policy requires that children be symptom-free for 48 hours without the use of medication before returning to preschool. This includes symptoms such as fever, vomiting, and diarrhea.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns please reach out via phone, email, or comment box in our back vestibule!

Ms. Sheri, Mr. Matt, Ms. Shannon, Ms. Rachael, Ms. Jenna, and Mr. Derek

What is Happening in the Classrooms...



Teal Room News

Hello Teal Room Families,

We're excited to welcome February and all the learning and connection it brings! This month, our classroom themes will focus on friendship, sharing, and kindness, exploring emotions and feelings, and learning about dental hygiene.

Throughout the month, children will engage in activities that encourage building friendships and practicing kindness with others. Through stories, group activities, and cooperative play, children will learn about sharing, helping friends, and what it means to be a kind and caring classroom community. Valentine-themed projects and activities will give children so many opportunities to work together and strengthen social skills!

We'll also be spending time exploring emotions and feelings after our Winter Break. Children will continue to learn to identify different emotions, various ways to communicate how they're feeling, and recognize feelings in others. Using books, songs, mirrors, and expressive art activities, children will build emotional awareness and communication skills in a supportive and fun environment.

In addition, we'll be learning about dental hygiene and healthy habits. Children will explore why brushing our teeth is important, practice brushing techniques through hands-on activities, and learn how taking care of our bodies helps us stay healthy. These activities will support independence and self-care routines in a fun and engaging way.

Throughout February, we'll continue to emphasize cooperation, empathy, and respect for one another. Whether children are sharing materials, expressing feelings, or learning healthy habits, they'll have many opportunities to grow socially and emotionally while having fun together. We're looking forward to a month filled with friendship, learning, and lots of smiles!

Best,
Ms. Heather, Ms. Sara, Ms. Kaitlin, Ms. Kelly,
and Ms. Alli



Violet Room News

Winter is in full swing here in The Violet Room! It was so much fun celebrating the new year and other holidays in January. This past month seemed to fly by as we learned about hibernation, winter clothing, and snowmen. We've also enjoyed exploring other themes that surround early winter, especially animals and weather. We have enjoyed the added responsibility of classroom roles, pushed for independence, and continued to explore social themes of self-help and emotional well-being of ourselves and others.

During the month of February, we will continue to explore seasonal themes including dental health, Valentine's Day, friendship, and feelings. We will be sending home information about Valentine's Day festivities separately. We look forward to further developing independence and strengthening peer-to-peer relations through social-interaction and emotional health focused story time and cooperative activities. We will also continue to move forward in literacy and strengthen connections surrounding letter concepts as we keep up our focus on a new letter each week.

We are hopeful for more tolerable weather during the month of February, and will be venturing outdoors if this is the case. Please ensure that your child has labeled weather appropriate clothing, accessories, and footwear for both indoor and outdoor activities each day. Please take note that the center is closed on February 16th for President's Day, and February 17th for Lunar New Year. The remaining days of February 18th, 19th, & 20th comprise our Non-Program Week.

Lastly, We'd like to wish a Happy Birthday to Juliette (9th), Ms. Allison (15th), Robbie (17th), and Sophia (22nd).

Ms. Brittany, Ms. Terry, Ms. Laura, and Ms. Allison



Blue Room News

Hello Families,

It's hard to believe it is already February. Throughout the past month, we have had so much fun learning and exploring all things snow-related. We made our own snow using conditioner and baking soda, created snowy trees, created snow trails for cars with shaving cream, and began learning about hibernation. Students have also been working hard to pack up their own belongings at the end of the day.

This month, we will celebrate Valentine's Day, mainly focusing on friendship and being kind to ourselves and others. We are currently planning a class ice cream party to celebrate (details will be sent home soon). This month, we will also learn about dental health, where students will discover the importance of having healthy teeth. We will continue practicing tracing and writing names as we continue exploring new letters of the alphabet (this month- J, K, and L). Please note that Spotted Zebra is closed February 16th and 17th for Presidents Day and Lunar New Year, and February 18th-20th is a non-program week.

Happy Birthday this month to:

- Valentino: 2/22

As always, we thank you for your continued support in our classroom. Stay healthy!

Best,

Blue Room Team- Ms. Jackie, Ms. Katina, and Ms. Khrista



Green Room News

The Green Room has settled nicely into the new year, and our classroom is buzzing with learning, laughter, and play! As we wrapped up January, we explored arctic animals and finished the month with our final theme—hibernation. The children loved learning about which animals take a long winter's nap and which ones stay active during the colder months. We made predictions, shared ideas, and even talked about whether we'd rather sleep all winter or stay awake and play—what a fun discussion!

February is shaping up to be an exciting month! Our upcoming themes will include friendship, Valentine's Day, and a special week focused on community helpers. Valentine's Day will be extra sweet with an ice cream social followed by fun, themed games. More details will be coming soon, along with a list of student names to help with Valentine's cards. We're keeping our fingers crossed for warmer days ahead so we can enjoy fresh air and outdoor playtime. Please keep an eye on Teaching Strategies for announcements about days we plan to go outside, as snow gear may be required for outdoor time.

Wishing everyone a wonderful February!

Warmly,

Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle, and Ms. Jennifer



Orange Room News

Happy February! We're excited to begin a new month in the Orange Room. The children continue to grow in confidence and independence, and it's been so special to watch their friendships deepen. February gives us many opportunities to talk about caring for ourselves and caring for one another in meaningful ways.

This month, our learning will center around kindness, healthy bodies, and understanding emotions. Through play, stories, art, and hands-on experiences, the kids will explore what it means to be a good friend, how to take care of their bodies, and how to recognize and express their feelings.

As Valentine's Day approaches, we'll focus on friendship and kindness. We'll talk about helping others, using kind words, and showing care for our classmates. Children will enjoy heart-themed art projects and activities that encourage cooperation and connection while celebrating the many ways we show love in our classroom.

February is also Children's Dental Health Month. We'll be learning why brushing our teeth is important and how healthy habits help keep our smiles strong. Through stories and playful activities, children will begin to understand how caring for their teeth is part of caring for their bodies.

Alongside dental health, we'll continue conversations about staying healthy in other ways. We'll talk about moving our bodies, eating foods that help us grow, getting rest, and listening to what our bodies need. These discussions support children as they begin to build lifelong healthy habits.

We'll also spend time exploring feelings and emotions. Children will practice naming their feelings and learning simple strategies to work through big emotions. These experiences help build empathy, self-awareness, and strong social skills within our classroom community.

As always, our days will include plenty of play, creativity, and outdoor time whenever weather allows. Please continue sending your child with warm layers and extra clothes so they are comfortable during outdoor play.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. We're looking forward to a kind, healthy, and connected month together in the Orange Room.

Warmly,
Ms. Katie, Ms. Tami, and Ms. Daphne
The Orange Room Team



Yellow Room News

Can you believe that it is almost the 100th day of school?! We have loved counting the days of school, which has helped us practice how to count to 100 by 1s, 10s, and 5s. We are now counting the last group of 10 with our crayon boxes! We will celebrate with a 100th Day Fashion Show, as well as making a snack of 100, doing 100 exercises in sets of 10, and other fun activities. A note about the 100th Day of School shirt has already been sent home; please reach out with any questions. In addition, a request for Valentine's boxes and a class list will be forthcoming. We will exchange Valentines and have a special snack on Friday, February 13th.

This month's themes will be Winter Olympics, the 100th Day of School, Valentines Day, Dental Health, and Lunar New Year. When we return from February break, we will explore Black History by "learning to fly a plane" with Ida Van Smith, the invention of the three-color traffic light with Garrett Morgan, and going to school with Ruby Bridges.

In math, we will continue finding and representing number pairs that make 6-9 (i.e. 3 and 3 make 6, 4 and 3 make 7). Then, we will be working on replacing 'and' with the plus sign to solve addition equations. Addition practice will first occur within 5, and then within 10. Identifying, showing and writing teen numbers will follow after establishing a good understanding of addition. Letters Ee, Vv, and Uu come next in the Learning Without Tears curriculum. With each new letter, the children enjoy meeting new characters and exploring their feelings, learning about letter sounds and letter formation, thinking about problems and their solutions, and telling the story in order using the setting and other key details.

Happy Birthday to Autumn, George, Liam and Greyson this month!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, and Ms. Chris

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

Ms. Juli	Psychology
Ms. Marlis	OT
Ms. Shawna	Speech (Teal)
Ms. Kaylyn	Speech (Yellow)
Ms. Caitlin	OT (V, B, O)
Ms. Rachel C	Speech (Orange)
Ms. Rachel M	Music
Ms. Carla	OT (Y, G)
Ms. Allison S	Speech (Violet)
Ms. Wendy	Speech
Ms. Cindy	PT (B, G, O)
Ms. Allison R	PT (Y, V, Teal)
Ms. Jesse	Speech (Blue)
Ms. Olivia	Speech (Green)
Ms. Kelly	OT (Teal)
Ms. Kaitlin	Speech (Teal)

Offsite Therapists

Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Nicole Ge	Speech
Ms. Kathi	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Nicole S	SEIT
Ms. Sarah	PT
Ms. Wendy	Speech
Ms. Laura D	Speech
Ms. Debbie	PT
Ms. Claire	Speech
Ms. Kaitlin	Speech

Floating Teachers

Ms. Alaina
Ms. Karen
Ms. Emily
Ms. Allison K
Ms. Nicole Gr
Ms. Tristyn
Ms. Josilyn
Ms. Cadence
Ms. Jennifer S

Admin Team

Ms. Sheri
Mr. Matt
Ms. Shannon
Ms. Amy
Ms. Victoria
Ms. Rachael
Ms. Jenna
Mr. Derek

