

# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

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JANUARY 2022



## What is Happening in the Classrooms....

### VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy New Year! The Violet Room Team hopes everyone had a fun-filled and peaceful holiday break.

The themes for the month of January are winter, snowman (small, medium, and large) forest animals/ hibernation, and Arctic Animals.

We will introduce the letter of the week during the second week of January. The letters that we will be focusing on during the month of January are L, F, and E. Each day upon arrival your child will trace the letter of the week taped to the classroom door. Also, a list will be going out with what letter is assigned to each Violet room friend. Each child will have an opportunity to fill a special alphabet bag with items from home to show and tell to class.

During the last week of January, the Violet Room friends will start to Velcro the individual letters of their names upon arrival, in addition to finding their name sticks.

Now that winter is here please send in LABELED snow clothes (hats, mittens, snow pants, boots etc...) for your child on a daily basis. We go outdoors as long as the temperature is above 32 degrees.

We would like to wish a special "Happy Birthday" wish to Raymond, Scarlette, Michael, Emmie, Thea, and Sonny!

Ms. Danielle, Ms. Chris, Ms. Katina, and Ms. Heather



## Blue Room News

Happy New Year!! We welcome you back to school and are excited for the New Year. We had fun learning about all the holidays that all of the other cultures celebrate! The children enjoyed participating in all of the pajama parties this past month. We are working hard to earn more marble towards another party!

This month we will be learning about the season of Winter and Artic Animals/ Hibernation. We will focus on the weather, clothing and all the activities (inside and out) that we can do during the winter months. We are going to concentrate more on letter recognition as well. We will be reading a bunch of books about winter: The Snowy Day, There was an Cold Lady Who Swallowed Some Snow, Snowmen at Night. We will be practicing sequencing the events of the story, recalling details and making predictions about what might happen next.

As the winter continues, we will try to go outside as much as possible. Please send in the appropriate clothing for the weather and label all items. We do our best to be sure that items do not get sent home with the wrong child and having it labeled will help. Lastly, we would love to introduce Ms. Brittany to the Blue Room Team!

Happy Birthday to Henry, Roswyn, and Ms. Brittany.

Ms. Erica, Ms. Jenna, Ms. Kathryn, Ms. Brittany & Ms. Karen



## Bizzy Beez News

Happy New Year! Bizzy Beez is excited about the new year and all the amazing growth all of our kiddos have made over the first half of the school year! More great things are ahead!!

January is all about wintertime. We will read some of our favorite Jan Brett books and get ready for winter. Our friends will dive into snow and ice and have fun with snowmen. The month will wrap up with an expedition to the Arctic to learn all about polar bears and penguins.

We want to wish Veda and Harper a very happy birthday this month!!

Ms. Carrie, Ms. Christina, Ms. Mary, Ms. Ang, Ms. Marlis and Ms. Megan

### Upcoming Dates to Note for Holiday Closures

- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: January 17, 2022
- Presidents' Day - February 21, 2022

## Orange Room News

Happy New Year! We hope that everyone had a rejuvenating holiday break.

Overarching themes for this month are: New Year goals; Martin Luther King, Jr., justice and fairness; frozen water – ice and snow; arctic animals, continents and Bio-Domes; and, Lego Engineering. Within those themes, the following skills will be introduced and practiced: addition and subtraction within ten; teen numbers; patterns; “stretching out” words using beginning, middle (medial), and ending sounds; digraphs (sh, ch, th, wh), and basic sentence structure, including punctuation. Simultaneously, writing instruction and practice will begin. Much more will be added as the children grow.

Leveled reading groups will continue and build upon skills previously learned. We will also continue to learn about rhyming and phonics (letter sounds). Sound spelling will help practice and extend the concept of phonics.

This month we will also change our daily schedule a bit to accommodate hungry morning-bellies. Historically we have combined morning greeting, morning message, calendar, weather, and number of the day activities. This year we will try having snack in between morning message and calendar/weather activities to access optimal attention and participation. This change will help everyone to practice flexibility, which we have learned and practiced a lot so far this year.

Before we close, Happy Birthday to Rocky this month (1/10)! Happy New Year to all!!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Sbardella, Ms. Casey & Mr. Jason



## Green Room News

Happy New Year!! We hope that everyone enjoyed their holidays and their time off! Thank you again for sending in all the goodies so we could decorate our Christmas Trees, they were a big hit with all your kiddos!

When we return from the holiday break for a short first week, we will have themed days of sensory day, and choice day. Winter will be our over encompassing theme for January and within that we will cover the following topics: Kindness, Snow and Snowmen, Staying Warm (featuring Jan Brett's books), Winter Sports and Activities, and Animals in the Snow. We will also talk about Martin Luther King Jr. and tolerance using a wonderful book called, The Crayon Box That Talked by Shane DeRolf. The story is about a box of colorful crayons that do not get along...that is, until a little girl brings them home and shows them how they can all work together to draw a beautiful picture.

The Green Room kiddos are very familiar with the concept of teamwork and this will, no-doubt, expand upon that!

Before we close, we would like to wish Niko (8th) and Chloe (24th) a very Happy Birthday!

Ms. Kim, Ms. Elle, Ms. Christiana & Ms. Liz

