

MACC Phelan Preschool
February 2012 Newsletter
M-W-F Class
www.maccpreschool.org/preschool/phelan
Classroom Phone 408-260-0209

It's already February! Although this is a short month, it is packed with lots of activities. We'll start by talking about Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, and Community Helpers. Math, science, and cooking will also be related to these themes. Math will emphasize the numbers 14, 15, and 16. Science will touch on deep sea diving, planets, the Praying Mantis and butterflies.

LETTERS OF THE WEEK

This month we'll be learning about the letters **D, P and B**. We can always use stickers, foam pieces, etc. that start with these letters. SNACKS that start with the letters are also helpful. (Suggestions include: D=donut holes, dates and drinks; P=pears, pineapple, peaches, pretzels, popcorn, pumpkin bread, mini-pizzas, B=bananas, blueberry muffins, bread and butter, bean dip, broccoli and dip.) If you're bringing the snack to go with our letter, please sign up on the work schedule so all moms that week don't bring the same thing. Remember snacks should contain foods from at least **2 food groups**.

SHARING

For sharing we would like the children to bring something that begins with the letter of the week.

SATURDAY WORK DAY

Each family is asked to participate in one Saturday workday per year. Our second workday will be Saturday, February 4th from 10-12. Only one adult per family is asked to come, and please no children. A sign up sheet will be on our sign-in counter and this time we need a few men with shovels. We hope to level the area where we will put our new tuff shed.

COLD SEASON

Cold season is here and we continue to teach the children to cough or sneeze into their shoulders, use tissues to clean their noses and wash hands after doing this. Please help us by reinforcing these health procedures at home.

FIELD TRIP

Our field trip is on February 10 to the Sunnyvale Community Center. We will see Cinderella and we need to meet promptly at 10:40.

VALENTINE PARTY

Our Valentine Party will be held on Monday, February 13th. Please have your child bring 25 Valentine cards and **DO NOT ADDRESS THEM**. Just put "To a Friend" and sign them with "From" and your child's name. Please **DO NOT** have specific names on the envelopes. You are welcome to send treats to eat at snack time or little items to take home. A sign-up sheet will be posted.

PARENT CONFERENCES

We enjoyed our parent conferences and getting to visit with many of you. If you want another conference at a later date, you may contact us to schedule one for before or after school.

ANIMAL VISIT

After our winter vacation, we will begin our program in which each child takes a stuffed animal home for the night. This year, the stuffed animal will come home in a bag with two books and a notebook. Please read the stories to your child, include the animal in your activities, and have your child dictate a story to you about the animal's visit to your home. The parent should write the story in the notebook after the child tells it to you.

Please be sure to return all items in the bag at the next class. If your child cannot come to school the next time, please try to send the bag and animal and books back to school so the next child will not be disappointed. The children's first names will be listed in reverse alphabetical order so they'll know when their turn is coming.

KINDERGARTEN VISITS

It is always a good idea to visit at least one kindergarten before you register your child. Tour information for future kindergarten parents will be posted as we receive it. If your child is going to Kindergarten either this coming year or the following year, you should call the office and make an appointment to visit. It's always helpful to visit more than one school.

REGISTRATION FOR PRESCHOOL

Please help us pass the word about our preschool to neighbors, playgroups and even parents you see in the park or other places. Remember we offer a referral incentive. It is always hard to reach parents who do not already have a child of school age. We are happy to have parents of prospective preschoolers visit our classroom. Just ask them to call first so we're not over-loaded on any one day. Registration has started, but we still have openings in both of our classes.

PILLOWCASES

Each child needs to bring a standard size white or pastel pillowcase to class by Wednesday, February 29th. We will be using these for an art project. Please put your child's name inside on the edge with a permanent marker.

DONATIONS WELCOMED

1. Michael's Coupons
2. Stickers related to the letters
3. Valentine items: stickers, doilies, pom-poms, feathers, foam pieces, foil confetti
4. Housekeeping supplies: Clorox wipes, paper towels, wet refill for Swiffer Mop, 10 oz plastic cups.
5. Please sign up for Escrip if you haven't already.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, February 4th- Work Day
Friday, February 10th- Field Trip
Monday, February 13th- Valentine's Party
February 20-24 - SCHOOL CLOSED for Winter Vacation
Wednesday, February 29th- Pillowcases due

Julia and Jill