



## FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2019

How do you celebrate Valentine's Day with your family? When I was growing up, my mom and dad would set a special table and cook a special breakfast of heart shaped pancakes or waffles. We would exchange Valentine's Day cards that we made and would often find ¼ lb. of our favorite candy on our plate (to be consumed after school). It was a lovely beginning to a fun day. Other families celebrate by putting affirmations on bedroom doors, talking about what they love about each other, making chocolate covered strawberries, counting down to Valentine's Day with Hershey kisses, doing a special activity, watching a love filled movie, or by celebrating all things red and pink. There are so many ways we can celebrate love within our families. I hope you will find a way to celebrate Valentine's Day that fits your family well and allows you to feel loved.

Blessings to you and yours,  
Judith Goodrum

### Reminders/FYI

**Open Registration: Began on Friday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.** The AM Rainbow class is full with waiting lists. There are still spots available in the Otter, Teddy Bear, PM Rainbow, and Penguin classes. To register a child, friends or family members will need to stop by and fill out a registration form and pay a non-refundable registration fee of \$130.00. Ms. Judith is happy to give tours to people who are interested. Have them call the preschool office to schedule a time.

#### **Staffing Updates for the 2019 -2020 School Year**

Miss Shawna (Teddy Bear Teacher) is stepping away from New Horizons after teaching here for 8 years. She will be spending her time traveling with her husband and visiting with her children. Miss Shawna has been a wonderful part of the New Horizons team and will be greatly missed. If you are interested in teaching at New Horizons, please talk to Ms. Judith.

**Valentine's Day at Preschool:** Children will have the opportunity to exchange valentines with each other here at preschool. Please bring in enough valentines so that all of your child's classmates receive one (Ducklings 20, Teddy Bears 33, AM Rainbows 33, PM Rainbows 28, Penguins 27). You may want to help your child "autograph" them, but we prefer that you do not address them to individual students. It will be much easier to deliver them if they are not individually addressed. When you arrive at school on the 13<sup>th</sup> (Rainbows) or 14<sup>th</sup> (Ducklings, Teddy Bears, Penguins) you will help your child deliver their valentines. Walk around the tables and place a valentine in each valentine bag during arrival time. Please do not attach a food treat to your valentines. With so many different food issues, special health concerns, and allergies throughout the preschool it really makes extra "treats" difficult. Thank you in advance for complying with this policy.

**Valentine's Day Food Drive:** This year we will be doing a Valentine's Day food drive to benefit the Children's Lunchbox program. Watch for bags to come home this week. You may bring food donations in beginning February 11th. Donations will be delivered to the Lunchbox program at 1 pm on Friday, February 15<sup>h</sup>.

**New Horizons Preschool Annual Scholarship Silent Auction:** Our annual spring silent auction is right around the corner: April 1<sup>st</sup> – April 9<sup>th</sup>. This is our one major fundraiser for our scholarship fund; proceeds from the auction will fund next year's scholarships. There are many ways that preschool families can help. The first is procuring auction items. If you have connections to businesses that might be willing to donate items or if you would be willing to put together a basket, everything helps. Sarah in the office has a list of businesses, check in and see if there are a couple businesses you frequent that you'd be willing to ask for a donation. Everyone helping just a little bit makes our auction a huge success. Another way you can help is by donating to a class themed basket. The class basket themes and coordinator for each class are listed below. As you are going about your daily routines, please keep your eyes open for items that would be good in your class basket, everything helps.

**Ducklings** – Coffee – Blair Robinson [blairchenoweth@aol.com](mailto:blairchenoweth@aol.com)

**Teddy Bears** – Gardening/Outdoor Fun - Katie Ziolkowski [K2ziolkowski@gmail.com](mailto:K2ziolkowski@gmail.com)

Holly Esping [holly.esping@gmail.com](mailto:holly.esping@gmail.com)

**Rainbows** – Camping – Melanie Williams [melaniewilliams@gmail.com](mailto:melaniewilliams@gmail.com)

**Penguins** – Movie/Game Night – Laura Hughes [LJ\\_Ak@yahoo.com](mailto:LJ_Ak@yahoo.com)

Start thinking about donations now, but we'd appreciate not receiving items into the preschool until the last week of March. Auction preparation will begin the week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. Auction set-up is March 29<sup>th</sup> – there will be a signup sheet to help with set up. Our goal for this year's preschool is to raise \$10,000 for our scholarship fund. Everyone helping just a little bit makes our auction a huge success.

### **School Picture Days at New Horizons:**

TSS will be at the preschool taking school pictures of each child on March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Picture forms will be turned in to teachers as students arrive for the day. Children will go with their classes to have their pictures taken. If you want a picture of a sibling, or of a student and their siblings together, please come a little bit early and have those pictures taken prior to dropping your student off in their classroom. Forms will be put in your student's tub closer to our picture days.

**Spring Break:** As you think about spring and maybe heading someplace warm, I wanted to remind families that New Horizons has a two week spring break – the week before Anchorage School District spring break and the week of ASD spring break. This year NHPS spring break will be March 4<sup>th</sup> – March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Helpers:** Please look at the helping calendars and make sure that if you are scheduled as a helper you note it in your calendar. If you have a conflict on a scheduled helping day, please call others in your child's circle group to swap days. The office can provide additional copies of the class lists with phone numbers if you've misplaced yours.

**Helping Calendars:** We will be putting together the helping calendars for April and May. Look for an upcoming email from us asking you to submit any preferences for helping you may have.

**Summer Camp:** Summer Camp and New Horizons is back again! Ms. Vicki and Ms. Gail will once again be offering a wonderful camp for our children. Please mark your calendar and watch for registration information. Camp for Duckling & Teddy Bear age children is a three day camp and will

be offered from May 28<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> Camp for Rainbow & Penguin age children is a five day camp and will be offered from June 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Visit ASD schools in February:** Remember that every Tuesday in February is school open house day at 9:30 am throughout the Anchorage School District. You are welcome and encouraged to stop by the school that you are interested in to learn more about the school. You may want to call the school to make sure that they are offering these tours in February.

**Heard Around School:** Student - "Oh, is that a spaceship? Is it from the 80's?"

Teacher - "Who'd you bring with you?" Student - "That one."

Student - "Sometimes when I run, my heart actually beats."

Teacher - "What's a baby eagle called?" Student - "A cutie pie."

## **We Couldn't Do It Without You**

Thanks once again for all the wonderful help with the office To Do basket. Thanks to Olivia Sims, Lena Pyle, Tony Freeman, and Lauren Langley for cutting, hole punching, die cutting, and organizing ...birch bowls, Bear bodies, elephant trunks, beaver tails, turtle bodies, moose, walrus, windows and doors, sea stars, sea horses, contact paper hearts, and hearts. We really appreciate all the ways our families are involved in our program.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

If you would like to help with take home To Do projects, stop in the office. Frequently we have projects that can be prepped at home for teachers.

## **In The Community**

There is a Tuesday Play Group hosted by St. John United Methodist Church in the Giant Gym. The group usually meets from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm. This group is open to all.

St. John Family Fun Night - 5:30-8 February 8<sup>th</sup> - Free Pizza and Open Gym for families

St John Baby Boom - 12:45-1:45 Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. If you're expecting a child or have welcomed a baby in the last two years, please join us to meet other St. John families of young children, meet St. John's children director, and St. John's Pastor Andy.

## **Calendar**

Wed, Feb 13 <sup>th</sup>	Rainbows celebrate Valentine's Day
Thur, Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ducklings, Teddy Bears, and Penguins celebrate Valentine's Day
Mon, Feb. 18 <sup>th</sup>	President's Day; Preschool closed
Fri, Feb. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Preschool closed
Friday, Mar 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rainbow Potlatch
Mon, Mar 4-Mar 15	Preschool Spring Break - No Preschool
Tues, Mar 26 <sup>th</sup>	Picture Day for Ducklings, Teddy Bears, and Penguins
Wed, Mar 27 <sup>th</sup>	Picture Day for Rainbows

Fri, Mar 29<sup>th</sup> Auction set up  
Sun, Mar 31-Tue Apr 9 at noon: Preschool annual silent auction fundraiser  
Tues, Apr 9<sup>th</sup> Silent auction closes at noon  
Thur, Apr 11<sup>th</sup> Penguin and Rainbow parent teacher conferences. No Penguin class  
Fri, Apr 12<sup>th</sup> Rainbow parent teacher conferences. No Rainbow class  
Thur, May 9<sup>th</sup> Penguin Mothers Tea  
Fri, May 10<sup>th</sup> Rainbow Art Show  
Thur, May 16<sup>th</sup> End of the Year picnics and last day for Ducklings, Teddy Bears, and Penguins  
Fri, May 17<sup>th</sup> End of the Year picnic and last day for Rainbows