



February 2023  
Volume 19, Issue 6

# The Smile

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## Teaching Staff

### Director:

Elizabeth Denis

### Teachers:

E. Denis

D. Mayberry

D. McDede

M. Schafer

### Teaching Assistants:

D. Mayberry

J. McCloskey

### Administrative Assistant:

J. McCloskey

## Letter from the Director

Elizabeth Denis

Dear Parents,

No matter how you look at it, whether or not the groundhog sees his shadow, there are only about six more weeks of winter. The days are already growing longer and hopefully warmer. Keep those hats and mittens in your school bags. As long as there is no snow on the playground and we have a day when the temperature reaches about 40 degrees, we will go outside to play.

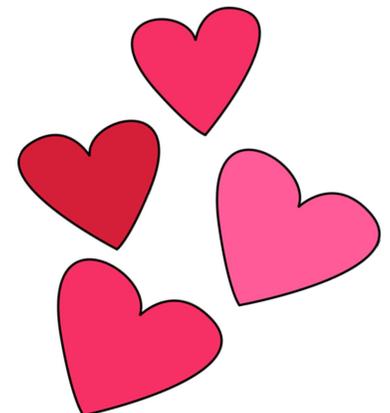
Parent/Teacher conferences for the 3s and 4s are scheduled for March 7<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>. In order to make it more convenient for you, we will be using Sign-Up Genius again this year to schedule conferences. You will receive an email with more information soon. Conferences give you the opportunity to meet one-on-one with your teacher and discuss your child's development and the program best suited to his/her needs for the following school year.

During the month of February, the children will do lots of Valentine projects in the first part of the month, then move on to "transportation/travel" (3s) and our "music" theme (4s) during the second half of the month. For more information about our topics and themes for February, see the Month in Review section of this newsletter.

Have a great February! Hope to see most of you at the Sweethearts Breakfast on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-9AM. Don't forget, school is closed for President's Day on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Keep Smiling,

Elizabeth



## Board of Trustees

### President

Brynna McGinnis

### Director

Elizabeth Denis

### Vice President

Cheryl Ann Brown

### Secretary

### Public Relations

Jessica Keyes

### Room Mom Coordinator

Whitney Wilding

## Members At Large

### Scholastic Book Club

J. McCloskey

## Updates from the Board of Trustees

Meeting held January 5, 2023

In attendance: E. Denis, B. McGinnis, D. Davis, D. McCloskey, W. Wilding, J. Keyes,  
D. Mayberry & J. McCloskey

Please attend our  
next board meeting  
Thursday, February  
2, 2023 @ 7:00 pm  
@ Happy Face

**All are  
Welcome!**

- Now enrolling for the 2023-2024 school year
- Budget
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary committee/capital campaign
- Fundraising:
  - ShopRite Gift Cards
  - Dessert of the Month
  - Plant/Flower Sale - partner with Stony Hill Farms

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## 2023-2024 Enrollment

Open registration has begun for ALL students  
(current, siblings, and new students).

Please spread the word about our registration dates to those who  
may be interested in our school, but do not receive our newsletter  
or mailings.

Send your friends and family to [www.happyfacenurseryschool.org](http://www.happyfacenurseryschool.org)  
for more information.

**Thank you!**





## Valentine Exchange

### When

2 ½'s and 4's – Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup>

3's - Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup>

### Important Information

Children can bring in valentines (candy, small toy, stickers, etc.) Cards are acceptable and encouraged. Please remember we are nut free school.

All children will make a Valentine's Day bag at school to collect their cards. Bags will be sent home with the children on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Children will not be allowed to open the bags at school.

**Happy Face wishes you a Happy Valentine's Day!**





## Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Parent-Teacher conferences will be held the week of March 7<sup>th</sup>** for students in the 3s and 4s. Be on the lookout for an email via Sign-Up Genius to sign up for a time that is convenient for you to meet with your child's teacher. If the scheduled March dates are not convenient, please feel free to meet with your teacher at a different date.

For children in the 4s and Fab 5s programs, teachers will address kindergarten-readiness topics, such as:

- ☑ The ability to understand the concepts of *more than*, *less than*, and *same*
- ☑ Maturity to cope with the world/environment, and learn at the same time
- ☑ The ability for listening to directions without interrupting and to stories & poems without restlessness
- ☑ The ability for hearing words that rhyme and words that begin with the same or different sounds
- ☑ The ability for seeing likenesses and differences in pictures/designs and letters and words that match
- ☑ The ability to understand the relationships among words such as *up/down*, *left/right*, and classifications of words that represent nouns
- ☑ The ability to communicate clearly, staying on topic in class discussions, retelling a story/poem in sequence, and telling a story or relating an experience of his/her own
- ☑ The ability to think and give the main idea of a story, unique ideas and important details, and reasons for his/her opinions
- ☑ The ability to adjust: to changes in routine and new situations without becoming fearful; to opposition or defeat without crying or sulking; to the necessity of asking for help when needed
- ☑ The ability to obey classroom rules as established by a teacher, safety rules on the playground and fire-drill rules quickly and quietly
- ☑ The ability to play cooperatively with other children, and to share, take turns, and assume his or her share of group responsibility
- ☑ The ability to work without being easily distracted, to follow directions, to complete each task, and take pride in his or her work
- ☑ The ability to recognize letters of the alphabet and numbers 1-20
- ☑ The ability to understand the concept of letter sounds and numerical value.

For children in the 3s programs, teachers will address general topics such as:

- ☑ Maturity to cope with the world/environment, and their social interaction with teachers and fellow students
- ☑ The ability to recognize different shapes and colors
- ☑ The ability for listening to directions without interrupting and to stories without restlessness

## February in Review

Children will spend this month reading literature and investigating several themes and topics including:

- ❖ Love
- ❖ The color pink
- ❖ Shadows
- ❖ Heart shape
- ❖ Letters T, U, V, W, X  
(sound and recognition)
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Music sounds and instruments
- ❖ Presidents Lincoln and Washington



The author of the month for the 4s is:

- Leo & Diane Dillon**  
(Authors of **Rap A Tap Tap**)

The nursery rhymes of the month for the 2 1/2s are:

- The Three Little Pigs**
- Queen of Hearts**

To extend learning at home, you may wish to read books related to these themes, such as the following:

- Love, Splat** by Rob Scotton
- Valentine Surprise** by Corinne Demas

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**Happy Face will be CLOSED**  
**Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> and Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**  
**for Presidents' Day Weekend!**

