

CREATIVELY SPEAKING

Loving, Nurturing & Educating Children Since 1968

January 2019

CREATIVE PLAYROOMS

Vol. 1



JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

January 1:	New Year's Day Observance (Centers Closed)
January 7:	Kindergarten & Montessori Classes Resume
January 21:	Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Centers Open)
January 16:	Teacher In-Service Meetings (6:30)
January 25:	Kindergarten Report Cards Sent Home



**ELA Creative
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Montessori Schools
&
Child Care Centers**
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From the Regional Director's Desk ~

Happy New Year! With half of the school year behind us, it is time to focus our efforts on the remainder of the school year. The directors and teachers will work together to ensure we are providing the best program possible and helping the children to be successful. We will be implementing our new SmartCare software and payment program this month. Please watch for more details at your center.

Watch for upcoming information regarding our Kindergarten Open House next month.

- Please observe the 5MPH speed limit in our parking lots and use caution during snowy weather. Also, be sure to enter/exit using the appropriate driveways.
- Do not leave cars running in our parking lot while you enter the building.

What's Happening Around Us...

Submitted by Center Directors

Independence ~ Donna Kupiecki

The parents were very generous in donating hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves to the giving tree for the children less fortunate to help keep them warm this winter season. We are planning a Winter Wonderland Week. This will be a week consisting of fun winter themes and activities to break up the cold month of January. A few of the activities planned will be: mitten match, snowball basketball, frozen slushies, musical snowballs and penguin puppets. We will celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 21st.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Camilla Tyrpak, employee of the month. Ms. Camilla works in the Montessori classroom and the children adore her! She loves to do art projects and brings all kinds of fun activities and lessons to the classroom. Then she is not at work, she loves to spend time with her son Lucas. Three words parents would use to describe her are kind, loving and caring. Congratulations, Ms. Camilla! Your hard work, dedication, and commitment are always greatly appreciated.

Maple Heights ~ Lisa Woodward

With January comes a New Year! A year to make positive changes in our lives, at home, work, school, and relationships. We have been thrilled and our still learning our changes with our new phone system, cameras, and so many new things going on. We look forward to more positive changes in the new year. We wish to remind everyone to PLEASE make sure you are parking in a parking space with your car turned off.

Employee of the Month

Our employee of the month is Lakisha Humphrey. She has been helpful with many of our new technical changes, and put on a wonderful holiday program last month. Ms. Lakisha is helpful to so many. She has a talent for providing the children with awesome art projects! Thank you, Lakisha, for all your hard work and dedication to our school. Happy 11th Anniversary!

Parma ~ Melissa LaHowe

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a great holiday! This month we are planning fun-filled activities around our winter theme. We would also like to thank the parents who donated to our "Holiday Giving Tree." Please remember with the change in weather to drive cautiously through the parking lot.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Mrs. Dee for being chosen as employee of the month! Dee is our lead teacher in Sr. Toddler 2 room. Every day you walk by you can always see Mrs. Dee interacting with the children and providing fun activities for them. Thank you Mrs. Dee for your services to the center and families! We appreciate everything you do!

Solon ~ Kathleen Milliken

Welcome 2019! This month we will be learning about winter and snow. Solon schools are closed on January 18th and on January 21st, so please be sure to sign up if your afterschool child will be here. Come and see our school as our updates are completed. Please be sure to send in warm clothing for outside play and also a change of shoes if your child is wearing boots.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Angela McConnell for being January employee of the month! Angela has worked for Creative Playrooms for over 8 years! As the center Assistant Director, Angela is dedicated and committed to providing a quality service to the families and children. She always has a bright smile and is willing to help wherever needed. Thank you Ms. Angela for the many things that you do!

Strongsville ~ Stephanie Annes

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a great holiday and we are excited to start off a new year! The child did a fantastic job with their winter programs. Thank you to all parents for helping make the night special for the children. In January, the new software program, Smartcare, will be in full swing and online payments will go into effect. Please be sure to clock your children in upon arrival, and out upon departure. If you have any questions, please stop in the office. Winter weather is just ahead, just a friendly reminder to drive extra SLOW in the parking lot, and walk carefully to the building.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Jessica for being employee of the month! Ms. Jess works in our Infant room, and occasionally helps out in other classrooms. She loves giving the babies extra snuggles and singing fun, upbeat songs with them. Ms. Jess can brighten up a room and put a smile on anyone's face with her fun bubbly personality. Thank you Ms. Jess for all that you do, we appreciate it!

Westlake ~ Toni Regula

Happy New Year 2019! I hope that all of you have a great Holiday Season with your families. Thank you to all the families that donated books, pajamas, gloves, hats and scarves to the community. We had a great turn out for our Holiday Show, we hope you enjoyed it as much as the children. This month we will be celebrating Martin Luther King's Birthday. Prek, Montessori and Kindergarten will be celebrating 100 days of school.

Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Julie Copenhaver!! Julie has been with us since the start of the school year in our Montessori program. Ms. Julie has really bonded with her students and truly enjoys learning the Montessori techniques from her colleagues. Ms. Julie has been a great addition and we look forward to all of the great lessons she's going to teach.

January Curriculum Ideas & Classroom Themes

Infant Info

Sensory:	Taste Cold Popsicle; Smell Peppermint; Touch Sticky; Sensory Blocks
Gross Motor:	Roll the Ball, Riding Toys, Rocking Horse, Bowling Snowmen
Fine Motor:	Touch the Snowball; Paint the Snowman; Stack the Blocks; Puzzles
Audio/Visual:	Silly Songs; Puppet Show; Listen to a Story; Row, Row, Row Your Boat



Jr. Toddler Tidbits - Themes: Snowflakes, Playing in the Snow, Mittens



Practical Life:	Make a Snowman; Shovel the Snow; Zip your Coat; Put on Hat & Gloves
Gross Motor:	Pass the Snowball; Musical Mittens; Snowman Bowling; Parachute
Language:	ABC Book; Number Puzzle; Shape Basket; Color Matching
Science:	Hot or Cold; Frozen Balloons; Science Trays; Icicles
Art:	Snowman Puppet; Watercolor Mittens; Paint with Ice Cube; Paper Snowflakes

Sr. Toddlers - Themes: Snowman, Playing in the Snow, Mittens, Winter



Practical Life:	Shovel the Snow; Make a Snowball; Roll the Snowball; Zip Your Coat
Gross Motor:	Snowflake Bowling; Pass the Mitten; Tunnel; Musical Snowflakes
Science:	Science Trays; Icicles; Hot or Cold; Frozen Balloons
Art:	Lace the Mittens; Paint the Sled; Paper Snowflakes; Winter Collage



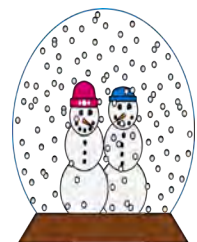
Preschool/PreK - Themes: Study: Buildings, Clothes



Language/Literacy:	Bookmaking, Letter Stamps, Thank You Cards
Physical Movement:	Clap the Beat, People Pattern, Words in Motion
Math:	Coupon Match, Secret Numbers, Patterns
Books:	Build it from A-Z, Changes Changes, Building a House, Caps for Sale
Mighty Minute:	Riddle Dee Dee, Dinky Do, Step Up, Moving through the Forest
Art:	Lines, Painted Mittens, Shape Hunt, Craft Stick Building, Magazine Cut

After School - Theme: Cultures of the World

Drama:	Reader Theatre, Creating Props, Mini Play Try-outs
Math:	Making a Date, Hands Up, Multiply this
Language/Literacy:	Book - Something Beautiful Activity: Why I am Beautiful, What goes in a Basket? What's a Fable?
Rec Activities:	Take Away One, Chinese Checkers, Star Wars, Dragon Dodge
Art:	How to Draw Animals, Water Colors, Erasers



MONTESSORI MATTERS

Independence Center

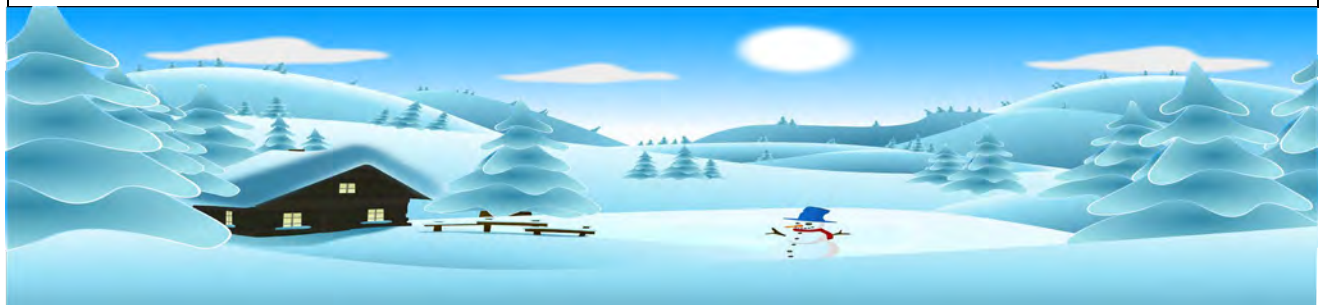
Themes: Types of Penguins, Antarctica, Buildings, Construction Jobs



Happy New Year to everyone! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday. This month we will continue our study of Antarctica and different types of penguins. We will talk about construction jobs, tools, learn measurements using rulers and measuring tapes. Students will construct a small building using recycled boxes, cans, and other materials.



Sensorial:	Touch Boards
Geography:	Continents, Land Forms, Islands, Lakes
Language:	Moveable Alphabet, Build Short Vowel Words
Math:	1-100 Board, Teen Board
Practical Life:	Pouring - Wet and Dry
Science:	Life Cycle of a Penguin, Experiments with Blubber, How Antarctica Animals Stay Warm
Art:	Creating Buildings, Structures with Foam Cut-outs



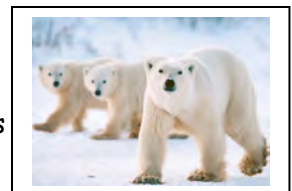
Parma Center

Themes: Winter, Arctic Animals; Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Winter is upon us and it's time to stay warm. We will be working on amazing science experiments, learning about animals in the arctic, and creating some pretty "cool" winter art. In addition, we will learn about Dr. King and his many contributions, and the importance of being good friends.



Sensorial:	Constructive Triangles
Geography:	Arctic Animals
Language:	Moveable Alphabet
Math:	Introduction of Time
Practical Life:	Nuts and Bolts
Science:	Melting Snow
Art:	Igloos; Penguins; Snowflakes; Polar Bears



MONTESSORI MATTERS

Solon Center

Themes: The Study of Buildings, The Study of Clothes



Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a great start to our year with many fun activities. Our art projects will be focusing on winter themes this month, with Practical Life skills tying in. The study of the U.S. Presidents and our money system is an activity all of the kids enjoy.



Sensorial:	Cylinder Blocks; Pink Tower; Brown Stairs; Red/Blue Rods
Geography:	Flags of the U.S., U.S. Presidents, U.S. Money
Language:	4-Letter Words with I, O, U Sounds, Colors
Math:	Decimal System with Beads, 100-Board, Number Cards
Practical Life:	Scissors, Cutting, Glue
Art:	Winter Frozen Pond, Snowflakes, Penguins in the Snow

Strongsville Center

Themes: Building, Clothing, New Year, Winter, Martin Luther King Day

Happy New Year! We wish everyone all good things in the new year. May 2019 bring much happiness! We turn our thoughts to winter, Antarctica, and the cold. What does it take to live in the cold? This moves us to discussions of shelters and basic needs: a nice segue from buildings into clothing. Our class is busy and we are looking forward to a great year!



Sensorial:	Sewing on a Button
Geography:	Shelter, Antarctica, Polar Animals
Language:	Spanish Fruits & Vegetables, Sign Language Colors and Animals
Math:	Ten Board, Fractions, spatial relationships
Practical Life:	Polishing a Penny, Sandpaper, Tools
Science:	Snow, Ice, Fruits, Vegetables, Living in Cold/Hot Regions
Art:	Cityscape, Clothing Collage, Seasonal Art, Tone and Gradation



Westlake Center

Themes: Winter, Fish, Dinosaurs, Happy New Year, Buildings



Happy New Year! Montessori will start a new study on buildings and construction. We will explore artic regions & animals. We will learn about fish. The class will jump back into letter sounds, word families, and sight words. We will measure liquids, dry goods, and explore length, height and weight.

Sensorial:	Block center, punch out work
Geography:	Antarctica vs. Artic, animals of the Artic
Language:	Letters, O, P Q and R, Vowel sorting, chalkboards
Math:	#16, 17, 18, 19 / measurement / time
Science:	Parts of a Fish; life story sequence, night day cards
Practical Life:	Playdough, dinosaur eggs, tool table
Art:	Polar Bears, Dinosaurs, Rainbow Fish



KINDERGARTEN KORNER

Parma Center ~ Samantha Hager

Themes: Winter Weather, Polar Animals, My Healthy Body, Winter Activities



January brings a new year and a fresh start. We will be celebrating our 100th day of school. We will also be talking about how to care for our bodies to be healthy. Report cards will be sent home on January 25, 2019.



Math: Patterns and Sequencing, Counting to 100, Telling Time
Language: Journal Writing, Sentence Structures
Science: Winter Weather, Arctic Animals
Social Studies: Find Arctic/Cold Places on the Map
Art: Create a Winter Wonderland using Paint, Paper, and Glitter

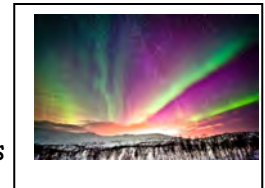


Solon Center ~

Themes: 100 Reasons We Love School

This month we will be celebrating the 100th day of school. The children will participate in a day of counting fun! The class will also be learning about Martin Luther King, Jr. and friendship.

Practical Life: Handwashing, Packing, Taking Care of Me
Language: Sounds -ouch, -ate, 'ove, Addressing an Envelope
Math: #11-20, Addition within 10, Patterns
Geography: Antarctica, Explore Arctic Animals, The Northern Lights
Art: Sandpaper Snowman, Snowflake Art, MLK Handprint



KINDERGARTEN KORNER

Strongsville Center ~ Mrs. Sue Kemp

Themes: Penguins; Snow & Polar Bears; Martin Luther King, Jr.; Healthy Bodies



I am so excited to start a new year with the Kindergarten class. Happy 2019! I am so proud of the children for their success with sight words and reading so far this year. Please continue to work on letters and sounds with your child daily.

Math: Finish up Unit on graphing, and look at #11 to 20
Language: Letters O, P, Q, R, New Sight Words, Word Families
Science: Explore Penguins & Polar Bears, Look at Snow
Social Studies: Talk about Martin Luther King, Jr.
Art: Arctic Animals



Westlake Center ~ Ms. Diane Runner

Themes: New Year, Penguins; Snow, Polar Bears, Martin Luther King Jr, My Healthy Body

Welcome back! January is a busy month - we are talking about arctic animals, the habitat of Antarctica, and Martin Luther King Jr. We will continue to build on our reading and sounding out skills. It is very important that your child is reading the Guided Reading book to you each week, as well as practicing sight words - remember we add three new words each week! We practice all these skills and more each day reiterating it at home helps a lot. Thank you for your support! Stay Warm!



Math: Penguin Patterns, addition to 10
Language: Letters O-P-Q-R; Guided Reading, Word Families
Social Studies: Antarctica Map; MLK Jr. Mini Book
Science: Arctic Habitat Animals, parts of a penguin
Art: Walrus puzzle, snow globes, nutritious foods collage



Pool News

Parma ~ Solon ~ Westlake



Parma This month we will be working on going under water and retrieving objects from the bottom of the pool. We will work on kicking our leg as we move our arms to swim.

Solon The children will be learning how to put on a life vest and learn to be safe near water. Please make sure that your child has completed a swim waiver so that he/she may be in the swimming pool. We will be checking swim suit sizes this month, so if your child's suit is too small we will let you know.

Westlake During January we will reintroduce and review pool rules. We will learn how to use a pool noodle, kickboard and water wings safely.





~~HAPPY BIRTHDAY~~



MAY TODAY BE AS EXTRAORDINARY AS YOU!



~~HAPPY ANNIVERSARY~~



SHARING THE JOYS THAT BLOSSOM EACH YEAR IN YOUR DEVOTION TO CREATIVE PLAYROOMS MONTESSORI & CHILD CARE CENTERS!



JANUARY



BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

CORPORATE

INDEPENDENCE

Susan Stoika 01/08

Donna Kupiecki 28 Yrs.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

My' esha Parker 01/04
Keyona Yates 01/23

Lakisha Humphrey 12 Yrs.
Michelle Spencer 19 Yrs.

PARMA

Jessica Campbell 01/09
Joe Wasen 01/23
Delores Byrd 01/02

Eileen Panza 2 Yr.
Rachel Costella 1 Yr
Kaylee Downing 1 Yr.
Victoria Rowinsky 1 Yr.

SOLON

Christina Martinez 01/28

Maggie Yu 5 Yrs.

STRONGSVILLE

Julia Blystone 01/31
Mary Fuerst 01/26

WESTLAKE

Jessica Panter 01/30

Cynthia Cutter 5 Yrs.