

CREATIVELY SPEAKING

Loving, Nurturing & Educating Children Since 1968

March 2020

CREATIVE PLAYROOMS

Vol. 3



MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

- March 2:** Read across America (Dr. Seuss Day)
- March 13:** Kindergarten Progress Reports Sent Home
- March 17:** St. Patrick's Day
- March 23-27:** Spring Break Week for Parma, Solon & Strongsville Kindergarten and Montessori classes. (center is open, and childcare is available)

**ELA Creative
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&
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From Regional Director ~ Debbie Pack

Creatively Speaking - MARCH 2020

This month begins with Read Across America. The National Education Association (NEA) annually sponsors this awareness program on or around Dr. Seuss' birthday. It focuses the country's attention on how important it is to motivate children to read. Be sure to read with your child every night.

We are now accepting registration for Kindergarten and Summer Camp. Please stop in the office for more information. Be sure to sign up early and tell a friend! Remember our referral bonus - check with your Center Director for details.

Please check that your child has weather appropriate clothes in their cubby as the weather is always changing at this time of the year.



What's Happening Around Us...

Submitted by Center Directors

Independence Montessori - Donna K.

Spring is almost here! March 2nd is Read Across America! Take an extra few minutes and read a special book with your little ones! We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday with ice cream and reading Dr. Seuss books. We will be wearing our pajamas to school for a PJ party.

Our March employee of the month Brandy Parsons. Brandy has been working in the Infant room since April 2019. She is always willing to go over and beyond in anything she tries to do with the children. In her spare time, she likes to spend time with her two children. Thanks for all your hard work and dedication Brandy!

Infants

Sensory-Color Easter Egg
Gross Motor-Easter egg hunt
Fine Motor-Paint the Easter Bunny

Toddlers

Theme: Spring
Language-Matching Easter Eggs
Practical Life-Coloring Easter Eggs
Gross Motor-Bunny Hop
Art-Watercolor Kites
Science-Magnets

Montessori

Theme: Spring
Sensorial-Sensory Box
Geography-United States Puzzle
Language-Identifying Letters
Math- Counting Butterflies
Practical Life-Washing our Hands
Science-Butterfly Garden
Art- Tissue Paper Flowers, Bunny Puppet



Maple Heights - Lisa W.

The month of March celebrates Read Across America on Monday, March 2, 2020 as well as Dr. Seuss' Birthday. Reading to your child stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word. We encourage you to read to your child as well as using the local libraries. Fact: Cuyahoga County Library is the top-rated library system in America ten years running. Picture Day is March 13, 2020. Prepay envelopes are available. Happy St. Patrick's Day to all our families and friends.

We would like to welcome & say a big Hello to Janice working with the infants and toddlers. We always enjoy new additions to our team!

Infants:

Theme: St. Patrick's Day/Green, learning and Growing
Small Muscle: Painting with green pudding, thumbprint art, feet art.
Large Muscle: pass the Shamrock, roll the ball, bowling.
Language: board books

Toddlers:

Themes: St. Patrick's Day, Green
Art: clover collage/leprechauns Language: color green, Letter B
Gross Motor: ball toss and catch Science: sensory bottles
Math: counting pom poms

Preschool:

Math: sorting clothes by category, counting buttons, stringing beads
Language/Literacy: discuss different types of clothes, for what season do we wear different clothes, how are clothes made? Read: The Mitten & The Girl that Wore too Much.
Art: cutting material, making lines with rulers, making paper bag vests.
Gross Motor: Dancing with scarves, walking the balance beam, bubble play.
Science: Forming bubbles with soap powder, how to make the color green

Pre-Kindergarten:

Language: Journals, letter P, retell the story, cause and effect, rhymes, letter stamps.
Books: Caps for Sale, A Pocket for Corduroy, The Mitten.
Match: Matching Mittens, #9. Science: Mixing colors, soap and water, the color green.
Art: Body tracing, fabric scrapes, design your own t-shirt, paper dolls.
Gross Motor: Clothing sorting game, shoe race, coat race.



PARMA- Melissa L.

March will bring celebrations of Dr. Seuss and Read Across America week, as well as St. Patrick's Day. As we gear up for some warmer weather, please remember we try to go outside twice per day. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the daily weather conditions. We are now accepting registration for Summer Camp.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Ms. Rose for being chosen as Employee of the Month for March. Ms. Rose has been with the company since June 2019 and works in our Infant room. She always has a smile on her face and a positive attitude. Thank you, Ms. Rose, for your continuous dedication to our families. Please help us congratulate her!

Infants

Sensory: Shape basket, color the shamrock, shakers

Gross motor: Parachute play, riding toys **Fine Motor:** Stacking blocks, painting, puzzles

Toddlers

Themes: Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day, Spring

Practical life: Set the table, dress up clothes, folding blankets

Gross Motor: Freeze dance, tunnel time **Language:** Memory game, color book, shape puzzle

Science: Sensory bottles, hot and cold **Art:** Stamping, chalk art, shamrocks

PS/PK

Themes: Shapes and sizes, Rainbow of colors, Spring

Gross Motor: Walking around the rainbow, Bunny hop

Language Arts: Memory game, color basket

Science: Feather collage, mixing colors **Art:** Shape collage, painting rainbows, shamrocks

After School

Themes: Go in like a lion, Go out like a Lamb

Cooking: Making pizza, Shamrock cookies

Games: Hula Hoop pass, Uno, freeze dance **Art:** Weave a basket, clay nests, sponge paint

Montessori

This month our class will travel across the Atlantic to visit Ireland! We will learn where it is located on the globe, the country flag, and magical myths and legends.

Themes: Dr. Seuss, Read Across America, St. Patrick's Day

Sensorial: Color words **Geography:** Ireland **Language:** Sight words

Math: Counting coins **Practical Life:** Water transfer

Science: Dinosaurs **Art:** Pots of gold, rainbows, Leprechauns

Parma Pool News

This month we will be working on holding our breath under water. We will also be working on diving to the bottom to retrieve objects and kicking front to back.



SOLON - Kathleen M.

March goes in like a lion and out like a lamb! We will be celebrating Read Across America in our classrooms to kick off the month. Our classes will also be celebrating St. Patrick's Day and wearing our festive green. We hope that Spring starts off great for everyone!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

This month we would like to thank Miss Cindy. Miss Cindy recently took over our older Montessori Toddlers. She takes the time each day to greet and talk to all families. There is always a fun art project or game going on in the classroom. Miss Cindy has been a great asset to our team!

Infants

Sensory: Shakers, colorful pictures

Gross motor: Ball rolling, tummy time, playing on the slide, blocks

Fine Motor: Pick up toys, reading books, use instruments

Music/Movement: Use instruments, singing nursery rhymes

Toddlers

Practical life: Kitchen play; the children will use play pots and pans and pretend to cook. They will use the chef costumes and set the tables.

Gross Motor: Indoor bikes, ball play - rolling and throwing, balance beam and tunnel

Language: Llama, Llama stories, Alphabet puzzles

Science: Make play-doh, use food coloring to change water or snow colors

Art: Shamrocks, pot of gold, rainbows

PS/PK

Gross Motor: Pack the suit-case relay, outdoor ball - throwing/catching

Language Arts: Caps for Sale, tallying (who's wearing green clothes, who's wearing red), Echo Clapping, Alphabet cards

Science: Ice Cubes, hot or cold shapes, "I Spy"

Art: Create your own shirt, shamrocks, tie-dye with watercolors

Reading: Texture Letters, Simon Says, Little Red Riding Hood, Who Wears What?

Montessori

Sensorial: Hot or Cold Shapes,

Geography: North and South America

Language: Texture Letters **Math:** 100s Board

Practical Life: Dress for the seasons - pack like a vacation (pack a suitcase or backpack)

Science: Sink or Float and dress the weather frog

Art: Create your own t-shirt, shamrocks, rainbows

After School

Cooking: Pretzel and Hershey Kiss shamrocks, Spring Fruit Rainbow

Games: Marble Race, St. Patrick's Day treasure hunt, obstacle course

Art: Hot air balloons, water mixing shamrocks, painting cubes

Pool News

This month we will be learning how to call in an emergency.

Strongsville- Stephanie A.

Spring is nearly upon us! This month we will be participating in Read Across America on March 2nd for Dr. Seuss Day. There will be a Montessori parent meeting Thursday, March 5th from 6:30-7:30. Wear green on March 17th for St. Patrick's Day! We are looking forward to warmer weather, but we all know in Ohio anything goes! Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for outdoor play.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Ms. Lora for being March's Employee of the Month! Ms. Lora is a newer member of our Strongsville Montessori family and has taken on the role of our Montessori 1 teacher. Ms. Lora has a warm and caring nature and always has a smile on her face! She enjoys planning activities and reading to the children. Thank you, Ms. Lora, for your dedication to our children and families!

Infants

Sensory: Discovering the colors of Spring through ice cube painting.

Gross motor: Infant One will be working on rolling over and holding up their heads during tummy time. Infant Two will be working on balance skills using pull toys.

Fine Motor: Match the shape to the hole.

Toddlers

Themes: Dr. Seuss, Shamrocks and Rainbows, Spring Is on the Way, Umbrellas and Raindrops

Practical life: Flowers in a vase **Gross Motor:** Follow the leader, Jumping in puddles

Language: Dr. Seuss books, St. Patrick's Day books, books about Spring

Science: What is a rainbow? **Art:** Shamrocks, Rainbows, Umbrellas, Raindrops

PS/PK:

Themes: Dr. Seuss, Buildings, St. Patrick's Day, Spring

Gross Motor: Coin hunt, Indoor puddle jumping, Hop on Pop hopscotch, Freeze Dance

Language Arts: Red Fish Blue Fish letter matching, Pot of gold rhyming, Flower letter sound match

Science: Fizzy Green Eggs and Ham experiment, sink the pot, rain cloud in a jar

Art: Cat in the Hat marble painting, bubble rainbow prints, play dough bugs, coffee filter shamrocks, building collage

Before & After School

Themes: Spring Break, St. Patrick's Day

Cooking: Decorating cookies with green sprinkles

Games: Finding Louie the Leprechaun **Art:** Getting our green on for St. Patrick's Day and Spring!



Strongsville (continued)

Montessori

Spring is around the corner and the students are very busy. We continue our study of buildings so construction is on our minds. We will put our knowledge to work building a trap for the leprechaun! We are also studying Asia and jungle life. The warmer weather will bring nature walks...watching for signs of Spring!

- Monthly Themes:** St. Patrick's Day, Buildings, Spring, Dr. Seuss
Sensorial: Color box 3, spatial relationships, bi and trinomial cubes
Geography: Asia jungle life
Language: Dr. Seuss, rhyming words, vowel sounds
Math: Time, shapes, decimal system
Practical Life: Tools, water work
Science: weather, life cycles, Spring
Art: Seasonal art, color blending, painting

Kindergarten

Please mark your calendar with these important dates...March 13th- Progress reports sent home, March 23rd-27th is Spring Break; no classes, however childcare is available for your child this week, March 30th- classes will resume.

- Themes:** Dr. Seuss, Dinosaurs, St. Patrick's Day and Shamrocks, Community Helpers
Math: Geometry and shapes
Language: Letters W, X, and Y, Word Family, and Blends
Science: Dinosaurs
Social Studies: Ireland, Community Helpers
Art: Leprechauns



WESTLAKE- Sarah M.

We'll start this month off by celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America Day on March 2nd—we'll read our favorite Dr. Seuss stories and have a fun treat! We'll also get to celebrate Ms. Sarah's favorite holiday—St. Patrick's Day—details to follow. As the weather starts to (hopefully) warm up, we'll be going outside more often, so please sure to dress your child appropriately, and keep two extra sets of clothes in their classroom. Spring may just be arriving, but it's not too early to start thinking about summer—be sure to stop in the office and get info about our summer camps!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Join us in congratulating Ms. Erin—our Employee of the Month for March! Ms. Erin joined our Pre-K classroom last summer and quickly became loved by all her students. In addition to being a great teacher, Ms. Erin is also a valued and dependable employee. We are so thankful to have her as part of our team!

Infants

Sensory: popping bubbles with our hands

Gross motor: riding toys and push toys

Fine Motor: practice using our spoons at mealtime

Toddlers

Theme: Transportation, the color green

Practical life: create a train station; pretending to cook green things (peas, green eggs & ham, green apples)

Gross Motor: Jumping 4 times

Language: transportation books, telephone game, ABC's & counting, 5 Green Speckled Frogs

Science: sorting cars game, green frogs, green water sensory bin, watering our green plant

Art: police car craft, food art (green cucumber circles)

PS/PK

Themes: St. Patrick's Day, Spring/Change of seasons

Gross Motor: jump like "springs", dancing/Irish jigs

Language Arts: Dr. Seuss's Birthday/Read Across America

Science: plant cycles—planting seeds and watching them grow

Art: paper plate leprechaun, print making with various materials like celery, apples, clovers, etc.

Montessori

Monthly Themes: Dr. Seuss, reptiles & dinosaurs, St. Patrick's Day, Spring

Sensorial: grading shamrocks, patterns, bells

Geography: Europe puzzle, map, and flags

Language: the letters U, V, W, X; blends, rhyming

Math: fruit fractions, subtractions

Practical Life: doll clothes, sewing, packing a suitcase

Science: rainbows & prisms, parts of a turtle

Art - Mosaic flags, shamrocks, flowers

Westlake (continued)

STEAM

Monthly Themes: Dinosaurs, Spring, St. Patrick's Day, Reptiles

Science: dinosaur fossils, t-rex footprints, reptile classifying, growing lima beans

Technology: turtle Q-tip painting, reptile coding

Engineering: building a Lego rainbow

Arts: pasta dinosaur skeleton, spiral snake, yarn-wrapped tulip

Math: reptile sorting, graphing, jellybean math



Pool News — Ms. Carolann

This month we will be working on front floats and back floats. I am proud to say we have a great group of students who love to swim!



~~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!



BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

CORPORATE

Brian H. 03/2

Debbie P. 29 Yrs.

INDEPENDENCE

Samantha R. 03/04
Brandy P. 03/20

Ashley D. 6 Yrs.

MAPLE HEIGHTS

Robert H. 03/24
Lakisha H. 03/02
Yvonneda N. 03/01

None

PARMA

Kandice L. 3 Yr.
Miaya S. 15 Yrs.

SOLON

Maria H. 03/08
Cynthia B. 03/14

Nicole M. 7 yrs
Ileen M. 19 yrs.

STRONGSVILLE

Heidi M. 03/23

Julie R. 7 yrs.

WESTLAKE

Carolann B. 03/08
Marisa D. 03/13