

**LENEXA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
PRESCHOOL/CDO
MARCH NEWSLETTER 2019**

It's the time of year when new life starts magically appearing! Birds sing, gentle breezes blow, flowers bud, and fresh sprigs of grass burst forth as the earth replenishes itself in the spring. Our activities this month will be full of fun and the exploration of these new signs of life that surround us as we look forward to warmer weather **FINALLY** and happily "Welcome Spring!"

SPRING BREAK

LUMC PRESCHOOL/CDO will be closed for Spring Break March 11-19. School will resume on Wednesday, March 20.

IMPORTANT DATES

There are important dates coming up in our program that you will want to put on your calendar:

March 4,5,6	Preschool Lil' Angels Pictures
March 11	Spring Break Begins
March 20	Classes resume from Spring Break
March 30	Daddy/Daughter Dance
April 3 & 4	Vision Screening

LAST DAYS OF SCHOOL

We still have numerous fun school days remaining, but I know many of you are anxious to start planning vacations. The last days of school for this year will be as follows:

Enrichment	May 14
Pre-K /TK	May 15
CDO	May 15
3-yr.-old Preschool	May 16
All School Picnic	May 17 – 10:30-12:30

DADDY/DAUGHTER DANCE

Mark your calendars now to attend the Daddy/Daughter Dance here at LUMC on Saturday, March 30, from 6:00-7:00 pm. This fun event will be a small fundraiser for our school and a special night for our little girls and their dads. There will be a flyer and a sign-up genius emailed out to all families soon. Ask if you have questions!

PRESCHOOL PARENT/CHILD LITERACY BAGS

We are so happy that many of you are checking out and enjoying the literacy bags in your homes! So that everyone can continue to do so, please remember to use the books and items in the bag with parental supervision only. We also ask that you keep the bags only a few days at a time. Please try to keep the bags and their contents away from any contact with pets due to pet allergies from dander/pet hair! Please check that everything on the tag comes back with the bag, and if something is missing let us know in the preschool office. If you find something after the fact no problem, we LOVE to have lost items returned at any time!!!! Keep reading and having fun with the bags!

PRESCHOOL MUSIC & MOVEMENT

Yeah for March!! This month in Music and Movement we'll think warm thoughts and sing about different types of weather—wind, rain and clouds (everything EXCEPT for SNOW!). I will be introducing musical instruments to the Pre-Ks and T-Ks and we will do some focused listening as we distinguish different sounds. We will practice our gross motor skills while at the same time having to work together as a cooperative class. This will include the parachute for the T-Ks, the hula-hoops for the Pre-Ks and a really big ball for the 3-year-olds. Basically, we will have LOTS of fun!

T-K NEWS

This year has flown by so fast! We have approximately 13 weeks of school left, and it's going to be so much fun! This month we will study farm animals, their habitats, what they eat and more. Lots of learning to be had! Hopefully, I will have a surprise lesson as well, we'll wait and see. The class is doing great! I'm hopeful this month will bring less sickness. Soon we'll be marching into April!

Pre-K NEWS

We will begin March by introducing the zany world of Dr. Seuss. To get ready for our "Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss" celebration, the children will make their own Dr. Seuss hat and then enjoy some Green Eggs and Ham. We will then move onto reading and enjoying the classic fairy tales, Billy Goats Gruff and The Three Little Pigs. When we return from Spring Break, we will dive into our construction unit. Students will learn about blueprints and use them to construct their very own structure. This unit lends itself to many creative learning opportunities... mathematical concepts, problem solving and fine motor muscle building. Enjoy your Spring Break!

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY ENRICHMENT

Hello families! We are so excited to kick off the month with Dr. Seuss week! We have many fun activities and experiments to do to help celebrate Theodore Giesel's (Dr. Seuss) birthday! After spring break, we are hoping for warm temperatures as we learn about weather. We can't wait to get outside and see weather in action! We will predict what melts in the sun and see how rain clouds form. The students have loved the science experiments we have been doing lately, and we are excited for the many experiments in March!

3-YEAR-OLD PRESCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to our ZOO! We will begin our month with a look at zoos and the incredible animals that call them home. The delightful story of Elmer the Elephant will teach us lessons of tolerance and acceptance. We will make our own colorful and diverse patchwork Elmers. Hey! Not only is it OK to be different but it also makes our world a much more interesting place. After a relaxing mid-month spring break, we will read Charles G. Shaw's book, It Looked Like Spilt Milk and create our own "Spilt milk" pictures. This windy month would not be complete without a kite construction activity. We will cut out our own diamond shapes and decorate our kites with a variety of items including a ribbon tail. We will also have a unit on construction. The children will construct a house using a variety of shapes. This activity helps reinforce shape recognition.

TUESDAY/THURSDAY ENRICHMENT

March will be a fun month in Enrichment as we get ready for Spring! We will talk a lot about the things in nature that let us know Spring is almost here, like trees, buds and blooms, and the color green. We will have some fun with the story "Ten on the Bed" while we do more work with numbers, counting, and counting backwards. This month is going to go by fast! Happy soon-to-be Spring, and we hope you have a wonderful Spring Break.

FRIDAY ENRICHMENT/FASTASTIC FRIDAYS

We will kick off the month celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday. Our class will love reading a few favorite stories by Dr. Seuss. This month we will be learning about the rain forest and the jungle. We will discover both the similarities and differences between the two. We will discover what animals live in both. We will also be doing a weather unit this month. Exploring raindrops and clouds will be so much fun!

OLDER 2's AND YOUNGER 3's CDO NEWS

March is going to a "roaring" good time. Who doesn't love to play with dinosaurs? The month will fly by with spring break and our prehistoric classroom. We're crossing our fingers for some nice weather and no more snow days!

Week 1- Dinosaurs

Week 2- Spring Break

Week 3- Dinosaurs

Week 4- Zoo

Our shape this month is the oval and our colors will be green and gold.

TODDLER NEWS

Along with the month of March, come the anticipation of spring and the prospect of warmer days and being outdoors. Although we have Spring Break this month, we will have time for many fun activities. Bugs, creepy, crawly bugs will get us started this month. There will be plenty of toy bugs and bug puzzles to keep the toddlers busy. We will be painting, counting, sorting and learning about many types of interesting insects. Have a great Spring Break!

50 Books Your Child Should Read Before Kindergarten

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A reading list for kindergarten? Though they're not exactly required reading, these 50 books, both old and new, make a top-notch reading that young kinders shouldn't miss. They run the gamut from read-alouds that parents can share to early reading practice, and deal with topical subjects (like fear of school), skills kids should master (such as the alphabet), and, of course, flat-out fun! So, hunker down and get reading!

***Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst**
***Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock* by Eric Kimmel or *Anansi the Spider* by Gerald McDermott**
***Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer**
The Berenstain Bears series by Stan and Jan Berenstain
***Caps for Sale* by Esphyr Slobodkina**
***The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss**
***A Chair for My Mother* by Vera B. Williams**
***Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault**
***Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type* by Doreen Cronin**
***Clifford the Big Red Dog* by Norman Bridwell**
***Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judy Barrett**
***Curious George* by H.A. Rey**
***Danny and the Dinosaur* by Syd Hoff**
***Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* By Mo Willems**
***Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown**
***Frog and Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel**
***Froggy Gets Dressed* or *Froggy Goes to School* by Jonathan London**
***George and Martha* by James Marshall**
***Green Eggs and Ham* by Dr. Seuss**
***Harold and the Purple Crayon* by Crockett Johnson**
***Harry the Dirty Dog* by Gene Zion**
***How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?* By Jane Yolen**
***I Stink!* By Kate McMullen**
***If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura J. Numeroff**
***Ira Sleeps Over* by Bernard Waber**
***Joseph Had a Little Overcoat* by Simms Taback**
***Leo, the Late Bloomer* by Robert Kraus**
***Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* by Bernard Waber**
***Madeline* by Ludwig Bemelmans**
***The Magic School Bus Series* by Joanna Cole**
***Martha Speaks* by Susan Meddaugh**
***Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* by Virginia Lee Burton**
***Miss Bindergarten Gets Ready for Kindergarten* by Joseph Slate**
***Miss Nelson is Missing!* By Harry Allard and James Marshall**
***Mr. Popper's Penguins* by Richard Atwater**
***My Father's Dragon* by Ruth Stiles Gannett**
***Nate the Great* by Marjorie Weinman Sharmat**
***Owen* by Kevin Henkes**
***The Paper Bag Princess* by Robert Munsch**
***Pete's a Pizza* by William Steig**
***Pierre: A Cautionary Tale* by Maurice Sendak**
***Puss in Boots* by Charles Perrault**
***Rapunzel* by Paul O. Zelinsky**
***Strega Nona* by Tomie De Paola**
***Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon**
***Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig**
***Tough Boris* by Mem Fox**
***The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* by A. Wolf, by John Scieszka**
***Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak**
***Yoko* by Rosemary Wells**