

'ROUND ABOUT SCHOOL CIRCLE CENTER NEWS



Circle Center for
Child Development
847-746-8607
circlecenter@ccczion.org

February 2016

Dear Parents,

January has come and gone and we've had a few opportunities to play outside. Please, remember to send winter gear (boots, hats, mittens, etc.) for your child each day, because we will be going outside to enjoy the fresh air as much as possible. Please encourage your child to put on their winter gear by themselves. This would be a great help as we get the children ready to go out to play.

We have parent conferences scheduled on February 4th & 5th. Teachers have been evaluating the children in preparation for the meetings with parents. Each classroom has sign-up sheets out for you to schedule a conference time. You may also call the Circle Center office at (847) 746-8607 to schedule a time. Just a reminder, children should not come with you to the conferences. This is a time for parents and teachers to meet alone. If it is not possible for you to come on February 4th or 5th, please contact Lisa or your child's teachers to make other arrangements. We look forward to meeting with you.

This month we will also begin registration for the 2016-2017 school year. We will be sending home registration forms soon, to give currently enrolled Circle Center children first chance to register before our Open House that will be Tuesday through Friday, March 8 - 11. If you have friends with preschool age children, please invite them to come to the Open House.

Until next month...

Mary King

This Month's Highlights

Feb. 1 -5

Reminder: Monthly fees are due

Feb. 4 & 5

Parent Conferences – **No School**

Feb. 10 & 11

Library Days

Feb. 11, 12

Valentine's Day Party

Feb. 15

President's Day, **No School**

Vision & Hearing

A representative from the Lake County Health Department will be here February 8th & 9th to test each child's vision and hearing. The fee is \$4.00. If you have any questions please talk to Lisa.

Registration

Circle Center families have an opportunity to **register children before we open registration to the public** during our Open House the week of March 8 - 11. As always, registration is on a first come, first served basis. The fees will remain the same for next year. The registration fee is \$40 for a currently enrolled child. There are **5, MWF**, spots available for **returning** 4 year olds in **room 2** (Please note that registrations are first come, first served.).



Culver's Fundraiser

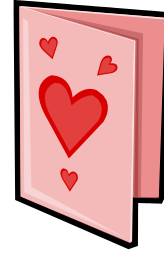
We will be holding a fundraiser at Culver's in Zion on Tuesday the 23rd of February. We realize how valuable your time and finances are and decided that this type of fundraiser would work best for all of us. I will be sending more information home shortly. The best way to support us right now is to help get the word out! We have flyers and cards for you to hand out and share wherever you are during your busy day. Stop by the office to pick them up. I will also be emailing a flyer and posting on Facebook for you to share. Anything over \$3501.00 gets us 20% of the sales for the evening, so the more who attend the better!

Scholastic

We will be doing another Scholastic book order during the month of February. They will be passed out during conferences. This pack will have many spring and Easter books. Thanks to all who ordered last time!

Clothes:

Please be sure to bring your child's outside wear. We will try to go outside every day that it is 19° or above.



Valentines

Valentines may be brought for the party. Please encourage your child to sign his/her own name on the cards. The children will be walking around a table putting the valentines into bags that they have made at school. **No names are necessary on the outside of the cards.** (This helps us not leave anyone out and it makes them easier to distribute.)

Room 1 MWF – 7 Children, 2 Teachers
Room 1 T-Th – 10 Children, 2 Teachers
Room 2 – 13 Children, 1 Teacher

Open House

We have available, invitations to the Open House, March 8 - 11 for you to pass along to a friend or family member who is thinking about having a child come to Circle Center. We also have 8 ½ x 11 flyers available to post at churches, businesses and work places. Please take one if you know of a place where these can be posted. Thank-you for your help in getting the word out about our Open House.

Attached sheet:

➤ Writing & Preschoolers



Writing and Preschoolers

Learning how to write involves more than learning the letters of the alphabet:

1. Learning to write letters
2. Learning how writing and speech relate.
3. Learn how form and style vary
Depending on the situation (i.e., lists, letters).
4. Learn to predict how a reader will react to what you have written.

Learning to write letters

Making letters

- Scribbles are first attempt.
- Drawing and writing are distinguishable.
- Actual letters though mostly scribble.
- Letters from the children's name mixed in with scribble writing.
- They see lines are combined to form letters so less scribble writing and more mock writing.
- Actual letters are not without error: orientation, number of lines in letters, accuracy in making lines of letters touch are still not all under control.
- Aside from practice, some children need to stretch letter writing to the extreme.

Organizing print in 2-dimensional space

- Spatial concepts (i.e., next to, in front of, up, down).
- Problem with leaving space between words.

Learning how writing and speech relate

Discovering the basic unit of representation

- Learn each letter represents a sound (phoneme).
- Different letters make different sounds.

Learning to write words

- When children first create words in terms of sounds it does not resemble conventional print.
- Certain letters have similar sounds according to how the sound is formed in our mouth (i.e., ch=t: chre for tree).

Learning to write for the situation

- Learn through their experiences different forms of print.

Learning to think about an audience

- Writing differs from talking because the sender and receiver of the message are usually separated from each other.

From: Much More than ABC's: The Early Stages of Reading and Writing. Judith A. Schickedanz 200

