

BCP News & Notes



Bally Community Preschool
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“A quality Christian preschool education for the Bally Community and beyond.”



From Mrs. Bowman

We love winter! This has been a cold month. Although we really miss being able to play outside regularly, the Pre-K class has enjoyed all our winter activities. The story of The Mitten by Jan Brett captured our imaginations. We also enjoyed learning about birds in winter and the life of a penguin.

Martin Luther King's holiday gave us an opportunity to talk about God's love for everyone and ways that we can be good friends and show love for each other.

There will be a transformation in our room for Valentine's Day in February. The children will be decorating Valentine bags in anticipation of receiving cards from their friends. We will be making a Valentine surprise for our parents and having a visit from the Postmaster at the Bally Post Office. We will also be learning about our famous presidents.

In March we hope for a break in the weather. In like a lion and out like a lamb? We will learn about spring, the wind, and fly some kites. St. Patrick's Day will give us a chance to learn about maps and flags.

I see a lot of interest and growth in learning the letters and the sounds. Thank you so much Pre-K parents for helping your child remember to bring an item representing the "Letter of the Week" for show and tell, and for the good work in the ABC Journals. Many children are now able to write their own sentences. Good job!

It is a pleasure to spend our days with these wonderful children and to watch them learn and grow. They are becoming more independent, responsible and sensitive to the others.

Mrs. Noska, Mrs. Gehman, and I thank you all so much for your friendship and support. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mrs. Bowman

Dates to Remember

- ~ **Wednesday, February 3**
Mom's Morning Out ~ 9:15-10:15 AM
- ~ **Monday, February 15**
No School ~ President's Holiday
- ~ **Saturday, February 27**
4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser
More information on the following page.
- ~ **Week of March 1**
Play & Learn classes for 2-year-olds begin
More information on the following page.
- ~ **Week of March 8-11**
Spring Parent Teacher Conferences
- ~ **Sunday, March 14 - Open House**
From 2-4 PM ~ Please spread the word!
- ~ **Wednesday, April 7**
Mom's Morning Out ~ 9:15-10:15 AM
- ~ **April 1-5**
No School ~ Easter Holiday
- ~ **Sunday, May 2**
Spring Program - 6:30 PM



4th Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser ~ Saturday, February 27th from 4:30 - 7 PM



These dinners are a lot of fun and have been a very successful way to support our school. The evening will include a delicious meal (take-out will be available), homemade desserts, a photo-gallery slide show of our preschool, and tour of the classrooms. Please plan to attend and invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us.

The event is organized by the BCP Board of Directors, but we are counting on the help of school parents and church members. We will need greeters, help with setting up, serving, clean-up, baking, etc. This is a great way to support the preschool, meet other parents, and to interact with other families in the community.

There will be sheets in the classroom giving you an opportunity to sign-up to help. Please check it out. We really appreciate your assistance and look forward to working with you.

Three-Year-Old Class

~ Mrs. Roma

We're half way through the school year and what a busy place our classroom has been. We spent the month of December preparing for Christmas and finished our work with colors. The children enjoyed learning rhymes and making puppets to go along with each color. Our room was crowded on Grandparent's Day. Thank you to all the grandparents for arranging your schedules so you could visit with us. It was a great morning!

In January we started learning a new shape each week. The children are working on a shape book which they will bring home at the end of February. January's cold temperatures made it difficult to go outside, but they were perfect for talking about winter. We learned how to dress for the cold weather and made some fun art projects including snowflakes, snowmen and finally some snow with shaving cream and glue.

Christine Gephart from the Green Lane Nature Center visited our classroom and read a story about animals in winter. She brought a box of different types of nuts, berries, deer antlers and other natural



things for the children to explore. I encourage you to visit the nature center or attend some of the family events in the brochure the children brought home.

We had fun with Jan Brett's beautifully illustrated stories *The Hat* and *The Mitten*. There were a surprising variety of hats and the children were happy to use their language skills to share something about their special hat.

In February we will be learning about the groundhog, the post office, how to mail a letter and bears. Information about exchanging Valentines and a teddy bear picnic will be coming home soon. Your children have grown so much and I am looking forward to the second half of the school year and talking with you about your child's progress during our conference in March.

Music & Spanish Classes

~ Mrs. Martin

It is hard to believe that we are halfway through our school year. We have established some great routines in Music and Spanish classes, and each session is new and exciting.

During the month of January, our music classes were spent learning about the different families of instruments - percussion, wind, string, and keyboard. We had a lot of fun exploring actual instruments, and listening to different kinds of music using each family. Upcoming themes in our music classes will be rhyming words in songs, and opposites, such as loud and soft.



We have covered the basics in Spanish - colors, numbers, and shapes - and it is delightful to watch the students as they master the words we use in class, and to hear them using their Spanish color, number, and shape words in their classroom as well as mine! Now we are exploring words for the things we see around us. Right now we are talking about our house and the things we see in

it. Look for your children to come home with words about their faces and their clothing in the next several weeks.

Play & Learn Class

We are excited to once again be offering a 2-year-old class beginning March 1. Mrs. Ann Longacre has been teaching this class for the past 2 years and has done an incredible job with the help of parent volunteers. Class size is limited to 6 students per session (Monday, Thursday, or Friday) with sessions running for 8 weeks. If you or someone you know is interested in this program, please contact Mrs. Bowman as soon as possible since spaces are filling up quickly! Need more information on this program? Visit our website or call the preschool.



Ongoing Fundraisers

Thank you for continuing to save your Redner's Save-A-Tape receipts. We have been able to collect several hundred dollars from this program!

Campbell's Labels For Education has been another big opportunity for us to "purchase" some new scooters using points we submitted. These have been great fun for inclement days when we have had recess indoors.

Unused cell phones continue to be collected for Pace Butler who refurbishes the phones and distributes them to persons who can make 9-1-1 calls in an emergency calls.