



The Sun Times

Vol. 10, Issue 5

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Dates To Remember:

Happy 2012 everyone!!

Having our two grand sons in our lives sure made our holiday the best ever!! It's so wonderful to have them around to enrich not only everyday, but the holiday season just felt that much more special this year. Truly, we feel blessed!

Our teachers have so much planned for this year! I feel so excited to see everyone progress with leaps and bounds. Be ready parents. Your children are our future and they will learn so much!!

Just so you know, we will be OPEN on January 16th (MLK day), but it is a federal holiday for the banks , mail and government.

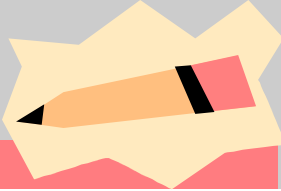
We say goodbye to some of our special parents who are relocating to different parts of the country and welcome new parents that are joining the La Luz family. Thank you for always recommending us to others.

On behalf of Pat, Lisa and myself, a big thank you to all the parents that showered us with holiday gifts. We appreciate so much your thinking of us and always making us feel so special. Sure makes me feel happy to show up daily!!

With that said, hope your 2012 is everything you wish for. Please stay healthy and happy! We're here for you if you need anything!!

Carol

Enrich the day, brighten the future.™



INFANT NEWS

Alison's News

Happy New Year!! We hope you all had a very happy holiday season. Congratulations to Miles, Natalie and Ian who all got a tooth!!

As we enter the new year we have some schedule changes for our older babies. We will be working on one long nap instead of two naps per day. This will take some time but we will start by trying to help them stay up for longer periods of time in the morning. Morning nap will move from 9:30 to 10:00 then gradually get later and later eventually from 12-3. We will still make sure they get the sleep they need.

Keep an eye out for our penguin art that will be in the window soon!!

Thank you and happy 2012!!

Ms. Alison

Ms. Leeza

Ms. Mable

Jennifer's News

Happy New Year! I hope everyone was able to get some rest over the holidays. We missed the babies so much over the break!

With the new year, we have a change in the classroom. We will be working on transitioning our older ones to one nap a day. Instead of our naps being at 9:45 am and 1:45 pm, we will try to keep them up until after lunch (around 11:30 am). We have tried this for a few days and they are all doing awesome. With one nap a day we have had better luck getting the kids to sleep longer.

This months' curriculum includes stacking cups, texture crawl, an obstacle course and finger painting. The babies really enjoy making a mess with the paint.

Please make sure you label your child's bottles with their name, the date, and the amount. Also, please label the lid with your child's initials.

Happy Birthday to Jeyla who turned one year old on January 5th, to Ms. Angie who turns one year older on January 15th, Gemma who turns one year old on January 26th, Amelia turns one on January 28th and Luke turns one on January 30th. Have a great 2012!!

Ms. Jennifer

Ms. Angie

Ms. Nicole



YOUNG TODDLER NEWS

Arlene's News

Happy New Year to all! Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. We have exciting news! All the boys are being introduced to the potty and we have had some success with a couple of them. They are doing well and as long as we are all on the same page, we will see continued success.

We are working real hard on teaching the boys how to "play" with the toys in our class. At this age, EVERYTHING is thrown. We want them to learn that blocks are for building, puzzles are for putting together, and food goes on the table (play food). It's a difficult transition when there are nine boys all doing the same thing. If you could reinforce this at home, we would greatly appreciate it.

Happy birthday this month to:

Charlie 1/9

Gavin K. 1/10 and Ms. Maria 1/6!

A big thank you to everyone for all the wonderful gifts during the holiday season!

Ms. Arlene

Ms. Maria

Ms. Joslyn

Ms. Mona's News

Happy New Year! We would like to start by welcoming everyone back. We hope you had a great winter break! We sure missed our kiddos! They all seem to have grown during that week off.

Speaking of growing children, we would like to remind you to please check their cubbies and make sure their extra clothes still fit. We would also like you to check their blankets they use for naptime and make sure they are large enough to cover them. I know that some children don't sleep with blankets at home, but for some reason at school they seem to want a blanket; perhaps it's just part of the routine or their comfort away from home. It does make naptime easier when they are comfortable and content.

Our curriculum for this month is free art, penguins, snow, bears and... POTTY TRAINING!! You will be receiving a memo soon regarding our approach on potty training.

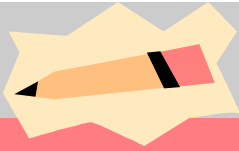
Finally, we wanted to let you know about our FIRST field trip. We will be going to Explora on February 17th. We will meet out front at 9:00 am and return to La Luz ECC around 1:00 pm We hope everyone will be able to make it!

Happy 2012 everyone!!

Ms. Mona

Ms. Mercedes

Ms. Ramona



OLDER TODDLER NEWS

Danielle's News

We are off to a fast paced start for 2012. Within the classroom, we are starting classroom management: perfecting our listening and other skills that are essential to our advancement in self help skills.

Parents, please bring in clearly labeled hats and gloves/mittens for your child. Without them being clearly marked, it is difficult to keep items together and with the right child. Also, having these items allows the entire class the opportunity to explore the wonders of winter from outside the classroom.

Please, parents, always sign your child in and out not only in our class, but up front as well. Not only is it a state regulation, but in case of an emergency or fire drill, we use the classroom log to confirm who is here and who is not.

We would like to acknowledge Alicia and Evan who have recently begun to wear big kid underwear. Also, great job to Heath, Jacquelyn, Isaiah and Nate who are doing amazing and having very little accidents. Our themes for the month are celebration of the New Year, keeping warm, winter animals, snow & ice, groundhogs and shadows.

Hope 2012 is all you hope for and January goes smoothly!

Ms. Danielle

Ms. Lindsey

Ms. Nikki

Ana's News

Welcome back friends! It's nice to see all our amiguitos after a week off. We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday with their families. "Gracias" to our parents for all the wonderful gifts we received. We appreciate your generosity so much.

This coming year is full of new adventures. We are planning different field trips, classroom social reunions, fiesta time, water play and cooking projects. Last month Connie brought in a karaoke machine and the children thoroughly enjoyed singing and dancing. We all had a great time!

Please make sure your child has enough pull-ups, wipes, diapers and extra clothes for each week. This month's curriculum we will be working on body and dental health, nursery rhymes and food nutrition.

We would like to wish Chay and his family the best of luck in their new adventure back east. The children and teachers are really going to miss you Chay!

Happy birthday to Gage, who will be turning 3 on January 29th!

Have a great year!!

Ms. Ana

Ms. JoAnn

Ms. Connie



PRESCHOOL NEWS

Lynsey's News

First of all, congrats to all of you for surviving the holiday season. We all made it!

Next, we would like to congratulate Charlie's family! Baby Jimmy was born on December 28, 2011. Charlie is going to be a fantastic big brother!

This month in class, we will be starting to study the alphabet, one letter per week. The children will be practicing writing (both upper and lower case), recognizing and identifying the sound(s) of the letters. Please encourage your child to bring an item each week that begins with the respective letter. This will help the children to personalize their letter/sound recognition.

We will be having "Share your Favorite Story" on Thursday, January 19th. Please help your child select their favorite book, label it with their name and bring it to school on or before the 19th.

Last, but not least, happy birthday to Grant who will be 4 years old on Wednesday, January 18th. Happy new year!

Ms. Lynsey

Ms. Diana

Emma's News

Happy New Year everyone! Glad to see your smiles again. The winter break was great for all of us but now it's time to get back into the routine of the new year.

There is a reminder note on the front of the sign in/out book regarding pick up time. We especially need for you to remember to take art work home. Our kids like to show off their efforts.

We did not have a formal class celebration in December, however, we did enjoy our pajama day and cookie bake day. Our class will celebrate the New Year with a class party on Thursday, January 26th at 3:00 after nap time. Everyone is encouraged to bring a traditional dish or something their family enjoys. We have been discussing traditions as well as different places around the globe. There will be a sign up sheet out soon for you to decide what you would like to bring.

Our curriculum for this month includes:

Letter of the week R—January 4-6

U—January 9-13

B & N—January 16-20

H—January 30-31

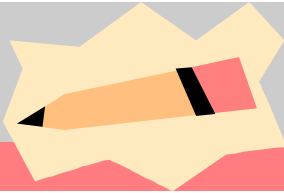
We will continue to discuss trees and will also start writing in journals. The journal writing will include practicing our names, letter of the week and word walls that pertain to our curriculum. Wow! We certainly are going to be busy having fun learning! Thank you everyone for the wonderful gifts. We sure appreciate your generosity.

Looking forward to a wonderful year with your child!

Ms. Emma

Ms. Vicki

Ms. Tessa



PRE-K NEWS

Angela's News

Happy new year everyone!

2011 was a great year but we are all so excited to start a new one! Ms. Angela's class would like to thank Calvin and his mom, Jennifer, for the amazing ginger bread house activity they did with the kids. We would like to thank Ms. Emily, our dance teacher for a great year. She is due to have another baby next month and we wish her the best. Good luck Ms. Emily!

We would like to wish Matthew's dad a safe trip. He is being deployed and wish him to hurry back safe and sound.

The children have come such a long way. They have continually improved on their writing skills, pre-reading, cutting and recognizing their sounds.

We really appreciate all the beautiful gifts we received from the parents and the children. Thank you!!

Ms. Angela

Ms. Joann

Ms. Lorraine

Ms. Amelia

Mary Jo's News

Dear Friends,

The beginning of a new year means the start of new adventures. We hope you all had a wonderful, restful holiday season. The teachers want to thank you again for the wonderful presents you gave us. It was extremely thoughtful and generous of you. After the holiday hustle and bustle, it will take an adjustment period to get back into our regular routine.

Here is what we are planning for the month of January:

January 3—6	Fun & Games "Pp"
January 9—13	Cold weather animals "Qq"
January 16—20	MLK, Snow & Ice "Rr"
January 23—27	Chinese New Year "Ss"

We will continue to work on our sight words daily. The words are on the wall in our "circle area" for you to look at.

A special thank you to everyone who helped their children contribute to our St. Jude Children's Fund. We collected \$50 in our class alone. The children talked about how their money was going to help the sick children get medicine to make them feel better.

Please remember that if you ever have anything to contribute to our themes, or just want to stop by, you are always welcome! Happy 2012!!

Ms. Mary Jo

Ms. Natasha

Ms. Susan