



Classroom I Newsletter

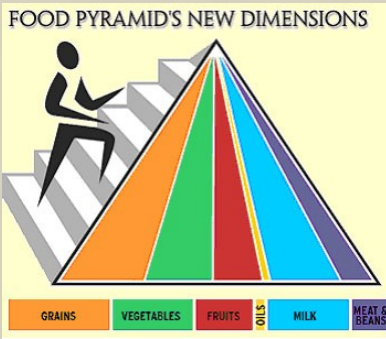
February 2009

Much has happened since we've been in school this new year. Everyone is glad to be back after the last few weeks of challenging weather. We hope you and your families fared well during the ice storm. It is amazing how the force of Mother Nature can make you appreciate the simple things in life!

The Latest

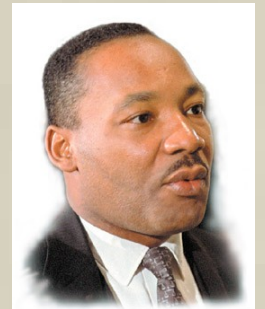
After returning from our holiday vacation, **Mrs. Young** took the children on an overseas journey to India. We were able to gather much insight from Srikant and Lakshmi, Sanat's parents, who are natives of South India. We learned about the culture, customs, clothing, and the colors of the country's flag. Indian women decorate themselves in beautiful jewelry to enhance their beauty. Lakshmi was generous enough to loan us some of her South Indian traditional jewelry for the children to see. Some pieces they were able to try on. Both boys and girls loved this! As the perfect closure to our study, Lakshmi came to the classroom dressed in a saree to perform a classical Indian dance. It was just lovely! It was great fun for the children as many chose to participate. To take part in Indian tradition, Lakshmi brought each child a Bindi to place in the center of his/her forehead for anyone who wished to do so.





Mrs. Spencer recently completed a unit on health and nutrition. She introduced the food pyramid and explained the importance of a balanced diet. In Practical Life, each child could choose samples from all of the food groups to create a healthy snack. It is always fun to watch the children's willingness to try new foods. Mrs. Spencer also presented an art lesson in which the children could paint a still life of fruit.

Because this is such a historical year, **Mrs. Kessinger** seized the opportunity to give lessons on the life and impact of Dr. Martin Luther King. She continued with discussions of our new president, his inauguration and the history of the United States flag. The older children had the opportunity to watch as Barack Obama was sworn in as our 44th president. It was powerful to listen to our next generation as they cheered in unison for peace and hope.



This week we will have begun a study of the earth's oceans. The children will learn their names and their location on the map. We will learn about plant and animal life with emphasis on the life cycle of a sea turtle. Activities will include: shell scrubbing, fish tonging, shell tracing, map making, and creating an *ocean-in-a-bottle*.

Thanks to You

To our generous parents for all your holiday gifts given to the classroom.

To Mrs. Conti, (Mrs. Young's Mommy!), for her many hours of classroom volunteer work! She has helped by coloring, cutting, laminating, and even dusting (reluctantly!!).

Reminders and Requests

Please, please, please, make it your priority to have your child at school by 8:25. We begin lessons at 8:30 sharp!

MISSING! Please check your house and car for a set of yellow sentence cards!

If you would like for your child to have pizza on Fridays, please remember to send in \$2.50.

Please send in one empty 16 oz. plastic water bottle with your child's name written on the bottom.

February 12th- Breakfast Cafe'- You are invited to start your morning by coming to Providence to share a delicious breakfast with your child. Breakfast is served between 7:30 and 9:00. Please be sure your child is back in the classroom by 9:00 as our daily lessons will begin at this time.

Valentine's Day- we will also be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 12th. Your child is invited to bring ***signed*** valentine cards to share with their friends. Please DO NOT address the envelopes. Each child will have a decorated bag to receive their cards. Before going to the breakfast cafe', please go to the Grandparents room to help your child pass out their valentine's. If you are not able to stay for breakfast, direct your child to his/her classroom on this day. A teacher will take your child down the hall to pass out his/her cards.

No school on February 13th, 16th or 27th .

As always, please feel free to call with any questions, comments or concerns.

Joan, Christie, and Diane



*"One test of the correctness of
educational procedure is the
happiness of the child."*

- Maria Montessori
