



St. Peter's Lutheran Early Childhood Center

January 2019



Winter Wonderland



Snow, snow, snow for fun, fun, fun is on our wish list right now. This week brought the first day of sledding at the ECC and the kids got to enjoy plenty of

quality outside time with the teachers in two different places on the property. All our great outdoor space is a huge blessing! It's a bit of an adventure to get everyone into their gear and out the door - getting dressed independently is a big skill! (Not gonna lie - sometimes we feel like we're in the middle of an episode of I Love Lucy as boots and mittens go on and off and on and off.) It is completely worth it to see the joy on everyone's face once we hit the fresh air and the adventures begin.



We love to go outside whenever the weather permits. If you're going to live in Wisconsin, you don't want to miss out on any of the seasons! We monitor the temperature and wind chill and plan our outside time accordingly based on the ages of the kids. You can help your child have a grand time by being sure they have a warm coat, boots, snowpants, hat, and mittens every day. Even when there isn't snow to play in, we put on snowpants for warmth.

Caterpillar Chat

We are completely convinced that we have the most adorable and brilliant babies anywhere. Sue and Lauren take great joy in nurturing and encouraging them, and watching their progress from week-to-week. One of our littles is newly all over the place with a very inventive and effective crawl. Our big girls are excited to have welcomed a new friend to share their days. Never a dull moment in the Caterpillar room.



Butterfly and Monarch

Morning activities continue to be a fun way to start the day for all our kids, big and small. We're beginning 2019 with a Happy New Year theme that has lots of exciting activities in store. Later this month we'll have fun with Winter

Wonderland and Penguins.

The Monarch room got a bit of a makeover with some rearranging and reorganizing over break. It's great to change things to make them work even better for all of us. Different toys and activities get the creativity going, too.



Our Bible lesson time is a highlight of each day. We spend the week looking at a special part of God's Word and talking about our amazing Savior. Of course, there's always singing! Projects and activities also help us think about the message each day. We hope you enjoy the story sheet that comes home each week, so you can talk about the lesson with your child and do some activities together.

Wisdom from the Word



Though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow.

Isaiah 1:18

Wash me and I will be whiter than
snow.

Psalms 51:7



Happy Birthday to You!



Bowen	1/9
Matti	1/10
Reagan	1/14
Titus	1/25
Riley	1/26
Aubrey	1/27

Thank you to the families who joined us on
Christmas Eve so the kids could sing Away in
a Manger. It was wonderful!

We were overwhelmed by
the kindness of so many of
you who remembered us at
Christmas. We love your
kids and are so glad your
families are a part of our
lives - we are truly blessed.

**Thank
You!**

Thanks for special gifts for the ECC:

- ⇒ Kate Harley - Walmart gift card
- ⇒ Sharon and Wayne Roth - Ben Franklin gift certificate
- ⇒ Kelly Vogel and family - Teeth and Hats books

Looking Ahead...



1/23 February schedules due
1/23 St. Peter's School Friends
Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Parent Corner



We work hard to provide a variety of skill-building choices for your kids every day in the ECC. Here are some tips for all of us from an article by the NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children).

Many of your child's daily activities—like getting dressed, eating, and writing—require control of small muscles in the hands. We call these skills fine motor skills. Your child can do more things for himself when he has opportunities to practice these skills. There are lots of activities that can increase muscle strength and coordination, preparing children for more advanced skills, from writing with a pencil, using a computer mouse, or playing a musical instrument. Help your child build fine motor skills at home by providing opportunities to...

- Set the table
- Hold knives, forks, and spoons to eat
- Pour juice into a cup
- Wipe the table with a sponge
- Help with meals—stir, shake, chop, cut, and mix
- Get dressed—button, zip, snap, buckle, and fasten
- Use Velcro tabs
- Open and close containers with lids
- Cut with child-safe scissors
- Finger paint
- Use a paintbrush
- Draw, scribble, or write with crayons, pencils, and markers
- Play with playdough and clay—roll, smooch, pat, pound, and use tools like popsicle sticks or stamps
- Put together puzzles
- Place pegs in a board
- Build with small blocks
- Play board games
- Play with puppets

You can find the article here: <https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/help-your-child-build-fine-motor-skills>