



# THE HELEN G. MUIR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

“Love is the rule in our school!”

March 2009

March is here and our school year is quickly passing by. It’s been a great year of learning and growing. We still have so much more to do!!

Open enrollment has begun for the 2009/2010 school year. Don’t delay registration as spaces are limited. We’ve also been busy planning for the upcoming summer months. We’re excited to be announcing soon a brand new “Summer Fun Program” that everyone will love! We’ve had such a good time planning it and are anxious to share our plans with everyone. Look for this exciting news in your child’s book bag over the next few weeks!

Our annual Scholastic Book Fair begins on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Book sales will be available the entire week through April 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Fellowship Hall. We will also begin a new “Book It” Beginners program in each of our classes on March 2 – April 24. The teachers will be reading at least 60 minutes per week for eight weeks to their students. The books they read are recorded on a chart in their classrooms and at the end of each four-week period every student is presented with a Reading Award Certificate for their very own FREE personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut! What a great way to positively help our preschoolers and pre-kindergarteners develop a love for books and reading.

Some important dates to remember in March –



- March 2 Spring Portraits (Lifetouch)
- March 13 Center Closed for staff to attend the Virginia Association for Early Childhood Education conference.

Norma Topping,  
Director

Is it Spring yet?



## TERRIFIC TWO AND ½S

The Terrific 2 ½’s had a Valentine’s Day full of love! We made beautiful pink hearts learning to mix red and white finger paint. We also discovered how pink marshmallows go sticky when melted to hold those tasty rice crispy treats together.

Our class would like to send out a big “Thank You” to the parents who provided all the goodies for our Valentine’s Day party!

We found our shadows for Groundhog Day, such a discovery! Who knew that they followed us everywhere! Our new favorite classroom toy is a big cardboard box! This box is teaching the children to share and take turns, as only one of three mini flashlights will gain entrance to the enchanted box!

Our class is looking forward to March and celebrating Dr. Seuss’s Birthday by making Green Eggs and Ham, St. Patrick’s Day with sparkly green shamrocks and helping the little leprechauns find their hidden treasure.

Look out for these mischief makers! They often look just like small children!

Mrs. Debbie Wheelless  
Mrs. Chandra Washington-Parker



## THRILLING THREE’S

*Never mind, March, we know  
When you blow  
You’re not really mad  
Or angry or bad;  
You’re only blowing the winter away  
To get the world ready for April and May.*

We will say goodbye to winter this month and give a warm welcome to spring. The world inside our classroom will go from winter white to spring green.

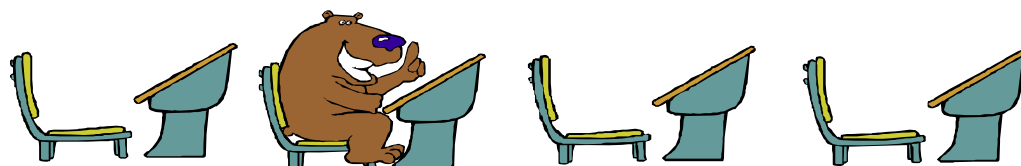
A heart-felt thanks to our parents for making our Valentine's Day party a success. The children made mail bags and delivered valentines to all of their friends. We played games like *Pass the Valentine* and "Ya Gotta Have Heart!", which is a Valentine's Day version of musical chairs. We even did the heart hop! February was our celebration of hearts, and not just valentine hearts, but the hearts inside our bodies. We read a story called Jamie's Heart. Jamie taught us that the key to a healthy heart is a healthy lifestyle which includes exercise, lots of sleep, a healthy diet, and last but not most important to not smoke. Some facts we learned about our hearts: our heart beats 90 times a minute; it is a pump that keeps blood flowing through our body. Your heart is a muscle that sits in your chest and is behind your ribs. Make a fist. Your heart is about the size of your fist.

What will March blow in? The wind of course and kites, lions and lambs and lots of green. Shamrocks, leprechauns and rainbows with pots of gold at the end of them.

Put on O in front of any name... You're suddenly Irish!

Mrs. Michele Aravich

Mrs. Ashley Wright



### THE MAGNIFICENT FOURS

We began February learning the groundhog saw his shadow and predicted 6 more weeks of winter weather. Looks like we will be wearing coats and hats a while longer.

Our Doors to Discovery has taken our class on a tour of Tabby Tiger's Discovery Street with fun stories of Tabby and all her friends and the work they do in their community. We also read about a visit to the park and the library.

Our school had a visit from Dr. Bobby, a local dentist, who discussed with us the importance of caring for our teeth. We would like to thank him for taking time out of his busy schedule for us.

We celebrated Valentine's Day with a party and had a great time delivering our valentines to our friends. A big thank you to our parents who brought the special treats for our class.

Our month ended with a field trip to the Virginia Air and Space Center. We were able to explore airplanes, spacecraft, and many hands-on experiments. We also rode the yellow school bus, what fun!

March begins with a tribute to Dr. Seuss and that zany Cat in the Hat!

Mrs. Susan Minter

Mrs. Heather Secrist

### THE FANTASTIC FOURS

February was a short busy month with many hearts fluttering! We continued our letters O-T and numbers 15-20. The children are making great progress with their small motor skills.

Tabby Tiger took us to her neighborhood where we learned about our community and the people and places in it.

Al continues where Tabby left off last month. Al and his friends are teaching us how to stay healthy and safe.

Our Valentine's Day party was a lot of fun. Thank you to all the parents for sending in the special treats!

Our field trip to the Virginia Air and Space Center was a blast!

Thank you for sharing your children with us!

Mrs. Kate Radermacher

Mrs. Nicole Kelly