

# Milestones Child Development Center

February 2012



## Director's Welcome

Greetings to all our Milestones Families:

We are happy to have a 29<sup>th</sup> day this month with Leap Year because February is shaping up to be a busy month. Everyone will be "Feelin' the Love" throughout the Center as we celebrate Valentines' Day. Please watch for more information from your child's classroom as the party plans come together. We invite our families to participate in the classroom party as the kids love to have special guests and it's a great opportunity to get involved in the classroom, meet the other friends and families, as well as just spending some quality time with your child.

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We will also be making plans and preparations for child and classroom transitions toward the end of the month. We will be determining child placement after consulting with Lead Teachers and will notify families of transition plans and exact timing of classroom visits and transition in the next couple of weeks. If you have questions or input regarding a classroom transition for your child, please do not hesitate to discuss things with us and/or your child's teacher.

Thank you for your continued support, and, as always, if you have any questions or issues you wish to discuss, please let us know. We are here to help!

Warmest Regards,  
Andrea Richards & Emily Dunn

## Family Corner

Barry Great Start Parent Coalition is looking for members!

As part of the Barry County Great Start Collaborative, which is focused on promoting and advocating early childhood education and high-quality childcare, the Parent Coalition (PC) was formed. The PC is an opportunity for you to be part of their "grass roots" effort to spread the word about the needs of children ages 0-5...after all you as parents know what your child needs the most. If you are interested in participating or learning more about the Parent Coalition, please see Andrea or Emily for more information or just stop in to one of the Parent Coalition's monthly meetings to learn how you can become involved. Free Dinner & Childcare is always provided.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 8<sup>th</sup>  
GSC Parent Coalition

February 14<sup>th</sup>  
Valentine's Day

February 17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>  
No School (Hastings)  
MidWinter Break

February 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>  
Gun Lake WinterFest

February 20<sup>th</sup>  
No School (TK Schools)

## Employee of the Month

Congratulations to our February Employee of the Month.....

*Ashton Snore*  
*(Infant Room Assistant)*

Ashton is consistently nominated by her co-workers for her positive attitude, flexibility, and overall willingness to help out wherever she is needed. In the Infant Room, Ashton has been integral in the training of new staff and is a huge asset to our team.

Thank you Ashton for all your hard work and for taking such wonderful care of our babies!



## February Birthdays

5<sup>th</sup> Kori (PreSchool)  
 8<sup>th</sup> Jonathon (Infant)  
 9<sup>th</sup> Addison (PreSchool)  
 13<sup>th</sup> Grace (K-Enrichment)  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Raegen (K-Enrichment)  
 24<sup>th</sup> Sophia (School-Age)  
 26<sup>th</sup> Preston (Toddler)

## Infant Room News

Happy February! We have seen some wonderful additions to our Baby room lately and there are just a couple things I want you to share with you. We have started Zoo phonics with the babies and they love it! Most of the infants would love to do them repeatedly if we could sit there all day with them. ☺

In the month of February I would like to focus on a few well-known books: they include The 3 Little Pigs, Goodnight Moon, Baby Bear, Baby Bear, What Do You See?, and possibly a few others. Right now, I am planning a book a week, with activities focused around the books.

Lastly, just a quick reminder on how to label bottles. We need them to be labeled with your child's first & last name, the date, how many ounces, and either breast milk or formula.

*Ex: Jane Doe, 1/21/12, 5oz, Formula*

Please remember this is a licensing requirement that we must comply with and it is also extremely helpful so we are able to accurately document your child's feedings throughout the day. Thank you in advance and have a great month!

~ Ms Emilee, Ms Ashton, Ms Sarah, and Ms Kaylee

## Toddler Room News

I have a crazy feeling that this whole year is going to fly by, just like January did! With that said the children are developing quickly and with that it is time to learn the basics. During February we will work on learning our **Colors**, **Shapes**, and **Letters**. Also, we will talk about **Valentine's Day** and hopefully touch on **Winter & Snow** because the last time we tried to talk about it, we didn't have any yet.

I will be sending a note home soon in regards to a Valentine's Day party. Also, don't forget to submit your Scholastic book orders by **Friday, February 10** if you are interested in purchasing either online or bring in the paper order and your money.

During the month of January, we welcomed Kaysen back!☺ However, we are sad that Jaden has left us. This month we will be celebrating Preston's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday! Happy Birthday!

~Ms. Nichole & Ms. Jessica

## Early Preschool Room News

This past month, I've really enjoyed getting acquainted with the Center and especially all the Early Preschool children and families. I am very excited to part of the Milestones Team. I'm taking the time to get to know your children and their development and needs. Thank you for letting me part of their lives.

This month, I will be introducing the ABCs, numbers, cutting, writing, and much more daily. Please feel free to ask any questions and tell me any concerns.

Happy Learning!

~ Ms Denise

## PreSchool Room News

Dear Preschool Families,

As January comes to an end, we look forward to what February has in store for us. In the very near future I will begin planning our preschool Valentine's party. Keep your eyes open for a little note about the party and a class list if you wish to send in Valentines. We wrapped up January with penguins and mittens. It was exciting to see the imagination and creativity of all our little friends. Feel free to wander in the room to check out all the art ☺.

We will be kicking off February with a post office/mail theme. We will then have a Valentines theme and round out the month with Dental Health. We will hopefully have a special visitor from a local dentist office to share some healthy teeth skills with us.

~Miss Jenni and Miss Lyndsey

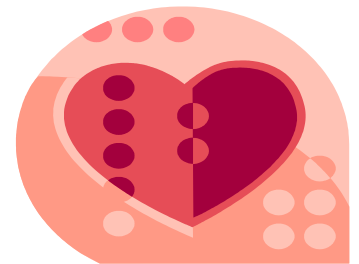
## Pre-Kindergarten News

Can you believe that it is already February and yet we have hardly had any snow? Once the snow actually stays for a period of time we will explore it and questions such as, "What makes snow?" and "What activities can we do with it?" During the month of February we will be exploring love, pets and families; including extended family and pets! I sent home a cardstock for a family activity; please fill both sides with family pictures and return as soon as possible, this will open up a variety of language development activities.

On Tuesday 2/14, we will be having a Valentine party around 4:00 pm. If you would like to send in a special treat you are more than welcome. Also if your child wants to bring valentine cards there are 15 children in our class.

Thank you for your patience as we are getting to know and learn about each other and rearranging our classroom and figuring out what works best for all children.

~ Ms Tari



### Welcome to Milestones!

#### *Returning/New Families & Children!*

- ♥ Collin Fouty (School-Age)
- ♥ Carson Fouty (School-Age)
- ♥ Kaysen Lenz (Toddler)
- ♥ Alan Li (K-Enrichment)

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#### *Staff*

- ♥ Denise Kavanagh  
*(Early Preschool Lead Teacher)*
- ♥ Tari Rauser  
*(Pre-K Lead Teacher)*

## Kindergarten News

Hello School Age Families,

As we say 'goodbye' to January, we also jump into one of the busiest months of the year! During the month of February, we'll be celebrating not only Valentine's Day (2/14), but also Groundhog's Day (2/2) and Marti Gras (2/21). Additionally, throughout the month, we'll be discussing dental health and African American history. As always, I welcome any ideas/suggestions you may have that will enrich our curriculum plans.

Our class Valentine's Day party is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> (everyone is welcome!). I'll post a sign-up list for party goodies later in the month. This year, we will be making our Valentine's Day mailboxes during class and I will supply the boxes/decorations for this activity. I am asking that all students make cards for each of their classmates, as this is a fantastic and fun opportunity to practice our writing skills. I'll send home a current class list with each child. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Finally, I'd like to welcome our newest friend, Alan. We are so excited to have him join our class!

As always, thank you for all you do!

-Ms. Christina



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### REMINDERS AND NOTES:

- WE NEED EVERYONE'S COOPERATION IN OUR EFFORT TO KEEP CHILDREN & FAMILIES HEALTHY. PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILD AT HOME IF YOU THINK HE/SHE MAY BE SICK OR CONTAGIOUS. KEY SYMPTOMS TO WATCH FOR INCLUDE FEVER (EVEN LOW-GRADE), EXCESSIVE YELLOW/GREEN DRAINAGE, PRODUCTIVE COUGH, AND VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHEA.
- A REMINDER THAT THE \$50 PER FAMILY EQUIPMENT/SUPPLY FEE WAS ASSESSED TO ACCOUNTS ON JAN. 23<sup>RD</sup>. IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY PAID THE EQUIPMENT/SUPPLY FEE FOR YOUR FAMILY, PLEASE DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- WATCH FOR INFORMATION FOR UPCOMING CLASSROOM VALENTINE'S DAY PARTIES. AS ALWAYS, FAMILIES ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND WE LOVE TO HAVE THE VISITORS!