



Discovery Tree (DT) Monthly February 2007

Director's Corner

Dear DT Families,

POLICY REMINDERS

This month's newsletter is filled with lots of information on what is happening at Discovery Tree and reminders on our school policies.

Please remember:

- To sign-in your child each day. Sign-in on the main (daily) page as well as the individual page.
- To use the last column in the sign-in book if you are not reachable at your usual daytime number. We want to always be able to reach our parents.
- Tuition is due each Monday. A late fee of \$10.00 will be posted to your account each Tuesday that payment is late.
- Valentine's Day is fun and special, but DT's holiday policy applies to this special event. We ask that you do not send any candy to school. The children will do some special activities with their teachers.
- Please no food from home, we have allergies that we need to watch out for.



- Look for information on our Parent Board, it is a great way to get involved and meet other parents.
- Please feel free to communicate with me anytime by phone, stopping in, or by leaving me a note in the communication binder.

FLU SEASON

This flu season is being taken very seriously at DT. The staff and I are going above and beyond our usual cleanliness



habits and are encouraging you to do the same. On the front counter you will notice hand sanitizer—we are providing this to parents to use on the way into and out of the school. We are also sanitizing phones, push bars on the doors, and handles twice each day. As always, we continue to sanitize classroom surfaces and toys daily. We also ask that you encourage your children to cough into their elbows or the neck of their shirts at home like we have shown them to



do here at school (the coughing sleeve). Thank you for your help during this germ-infested season. We are try-

ing very hard to get the flu out of our school. If your child has recently recovering from the flu, remember that our health care policy states that children need to be 24 hour symptom-free before they may return to the school. This helps us in protecting other children as well as our teachers from getting sick.



BACK TO BASICS

Over the last couple of months, we have learned about the first three of the four stages of cognitive development Piaget described. The third stage of development is the Concrete Operational Stage (elementary and early adolescence). In this stage (characterized by 7 types of conservation: number, length, liquid, mass, weight, area, and volume) intelligence is demonstrated through logical and systematic manipulation of symbols related to concrete objects. Operational thinking develops (mental actions that are reversible). Egocentric through out diminishes. This means that even though children in this stage may be selfish they tend to put others ahead of themselves.

~Becca

Important Dates:

DT Closed	12th & 19th
Tuition Due	Feb. 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th
Gymnastics	5th & 26th
Share Days	7th, 14th, 21st & 28th
Tuition is Late	6th, 13th, 20th, 27th
Kid Ease Board Mtg.	8th
Pajama Day	14th
Piano Man	16th

Learning Themes

The shape of the month is a *heart*.



The color of the month is *purple*.

Our learning themes for the month are *Head to Toe* and *Me, Me & Me*. We will review :

- letter *U* the week of 2/5
- Letter *C* the week of 2/12
- letter *O* the week of 2/19
- letter *S* the week of 2/26

Preschool News

LEARNING THEMES

This month the themes are *Head to Toe* and



Me, Me, & Me. We will be talking about nutrition, exercise, and all about emotions and social skills. We will be learning about the color *purple*. The shape for the month is the *heart*. The letters for the month are *U, C, O & S*.

SMALL GROUPS

Chickens — This month is all about me! The Chickens will be exploring our feelings and emotions, talking about the best ways to



express ourselves when we are happy, sad, mad, and appropriate ways to treat our friends. Next we will be learning about our bodies and how to take care of them — eating growing food and getting exercise. We will continue our writing, cutting and letter recognition. Last but not least, we are excited to welcome Cooper and Kyler.

Little Foots — The Little Foots would like to welcome a few new members to the group, Grace, Juliet and Thomas Z. We are all super excited to be working together writing our names, letters and numbers. This month we will be learning all about ourselves as well as working with the color purple and the shape of a heart. Keep checking your little

'Foot's art folder for a lot of fun projects.

Nemos — We are now writing every Wednesday. So, keep a look out for the writings on the wall. They are all very proud!!!

Giraffes — Welcome to our group Thomas G. We will continue with our writing and math. The giraffes have been showing great improvement with control and recognition of letters and shapes. This month we will be working hard on our social skills and talking about the importance of good nutrition and what it does for our bodies. I would like to plan a trip to the Crocker Art Museum. Please let me know if you would be available to join us, Teacher Laurie

Infant and Toddler News

INFANT NEWS

Well, along with welcoming a new month, we will be welcoming a new friend. Mark Biggins will start this month. We are very excited to get to know him. We will miss our friend Arwyn very much, as she has moved onto the Toddler program.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS — Our infant friends have been working hard this past month. Ike is scooting. Emmett, Jacob and Rachel are standing and cruising the cub-



bies and fence. Katelyn and Gavin D. are taking steps. Ben is climbing the stairs on the toddler loft and pulling himself up to stand. Great Job!

TODDLER NEWS

Arwyn has transitioned to the toddler program and is doing a great job. Nolan is very excited about his new brother and talks about "Baby Dalton" throughout the day.

LEARNING THEMES — We will be introducing the shape of a heart and the



color purple this month. We will be incorporating these new concepts into our art and cooking projects.

REQUEST — Our paint shirts for protecting the children's clothing during messy art projects are starting to show their age. If you have any 3-5 sized T-shirts that an older sibling has outgrown and would like to donate we would greatly appreciate it.



Thank you!!!

Kid Ease Parent Board

SILENT AUCTION FOLLOW-UP

We are able to translate our HUGE success with the 2006 Silent Auction into direct benefit to the children, teachers and the child development center. Kid Ease is working with DT to purchase many of the items listed on the teacher wish list. For example, Kid Ease is presently working on obtaining a copier for the school to help the teachers and Becca to more efficiently create awesome projects for the children. Thank you for making this happen!!!



BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be held at 12 pm February 8, 2007, in Training Rm. 2 (in the CalEPA building). If you are not a CalEPA employee, please check-in at the security desk. The meeting agenda will be provided via the Google Group e-mail list. Additionally, the agenda & December meeting minutes will be posted on the bulletin board to the left of the sign-in binders.