



Rock Spring Reporter

January 2009

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From the office...

Happy New Year! We hope that you all had a great break! I know that we all returned refreshed and ready to start the new year with a bang! Just a couple of reminders from the office:

-1- We have had great success in having current parents attend our open houses. The feedback from the perspective families has been very positive about being able to interact and ask current families questions. We have the following open houses during the month of January. Thursday, January 8th from 6 to 8 and Thursday, January 22nd from 6 to 8. We provide babysitting and

dinner for any families that are able to stay. Please let the office know if you are able to join us.

-2- Hot lunch forms: We are going to chalk it up to the holiday madness but we had a ton of people turning their hot lunch forms late. We are going to let it slide for this month but will be strictly enforcing the due date for February. If you do not turn the form in by the due date, your child will not be able to receive hot lunch! Thank you for your cooperation.

-3- There will be a parent workshop on January 15th. The presenters are coming from CORE, a group of child develop-

ment professionals that have been a great resource to the center for over a year. Please let the office know if you are going to attend and if you will need babysitting. Finally, we are so thrilled to have you at RSCC and love each and every child that walks through the door! We look forward to watching your children grow and mature for another year!

Sincerely,
Carrie, Betsy, and Sandra

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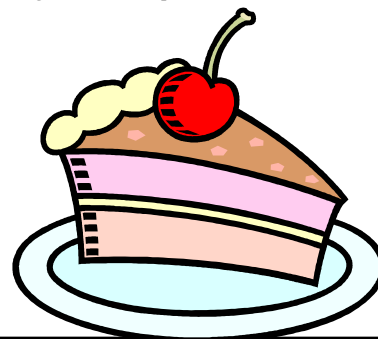
Upcoming Events Cont. 8

Happy Birthday...

Charlene: January 6th
Heather: January 25th
Jessica: January 26th

Happy Anniversary...

Carrie: January 2nd- 13 Years!





Guppies



Happy New Year! We hope that you and your family's had a wonderful holiday and that the new year brings nothing but greatness.

Our new baby Michael has begun in the Guppy Class. We would like to welcome him and his family. We are so happy to have you here with us! Michael is a sweet and happy boy!

With the addition of Michael, Katherine is no longer the youngest baby! She is a big girl now! She is moving all over the floor mat and is able to reach for toys. Katherine likes to watch all that is going on around her and is a very good observer! She is a very sweet little girl and

always responds with a huge smile whenever her name is called!

Alessandra is doing great! Now she likes to play with Drew and Mason even though they are a bit older. She is much more mobile now and is trying her best to crawl. We expect it to happen any day now!

Rachael is also doing great! She is so proud of herself because she can sit-up by herself. She loves to play sitting on the color mat with her favorite toys.

Our big boy Drew is growing everyday. He is very social and extra friendly! He seems to really enjoy playing here. He and Mason love playing on the carpet together. We are trying to get them

how to understand how to share but they are a bit young!

Mason is also doing wonderfully! He is exploring each corner of the room and is a very busy little guy. He is trying his best to be a proficient crawler! He is also pulling himself up on the rocking chair in the room. He continues to be the leader of the room.

As always, feel free to call us with any questions or concerns. Thank you so much for everything that you did and continue to do!

We love you,
Dilruba, Rosa, and Nanda



Tadpoles



The Tadpoles have made huge progress this month! Four of our babies began walking! We are not sure what they did over break but three children came back walking and are loving their new found freedom.

Wills was the first to begin walking before the break. He loves being independent and is moving a lot. He has discovered so many new places in the classroom and in the indoor play area that he never knew existed.

Little Diana is standing up crawling everywhere! She has gotten very big and may be

the youngest but is trying to do all that the others are doing.

John Robert returned from the break walking! We are so proud! Though John Robert doesn't talk very much he is very good at showing us what he wants. We love his little laugh!

Sydney was the other baby that decided it was time to start walking. She is getting better at it everyday! She loves to read books and is very happy because now she is talking and laughing.

William started to walk after the break as well! He didn't want to return to school and not be able to keep up with the others! He loves his new found Independ-

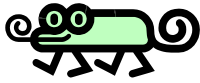
ence and is always on move.

We would like to welcome Leah and her family to the tadpoles. She is a beautiful little girl and has adjusted very well to the new classroom.

During the month of January we will be taking stroller rides, or walks now that we all are mobile, and will sing many songs, read tons of books, and even explore using hand puppets. Menike will return at the end of the month!

Happy New Year!

- Maria, Maritza, and Menike



Salamanders



It was a wonderful holiday and everybody was in a very festive mood. Houses and streets were illuminated and it looked like everybody was enjoying the holiday season! We had our center holiday party on a grand scale and had great fun!

In the Salamander's we spend most of the time doing various projects like manipulative activities in the water. They love to do that and have great fun. During circle time we sing songs and do finger plays. We also teach them to draw on the paper and recognize colors. We would like to welcome to the class the twin Sara and Julia. We



We had a very exciting month last month with all of the holiday fun. We spent most of our time doing holiday projects. We used lots of glue, sparkles and glitter. What a fun!

We would like to thank all parents contributed to our classroom holiday party. The children, teachers and parents had great fun during this day. We would like to welcome Owen and his family to our classroom.

During the month of January we are planning to introduce the name of fruits and vegetables. Also we will be learning about colors. All of our frogs are very smart. They are very busy

are very sad to say goodbye to Clare as she has moved on to become a Dragonfly.

We have had a great time going on wagon rides around the building. The older children like to help by pushing the wagon with the other children in it! They are very helpful!

We love all of our kids in the class and it is a great pleasure to stay with them during the school day. We want to thank all the parents who gave us holiday presents and greetings.

Frogs

with communicating to the teachers and each other.

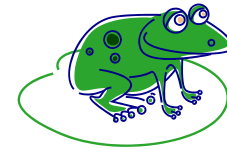
We all are excited winter is here, and that means snow. We love to play in the snow. Please bring boots and snow pants on snowy days. Please check your child cubby and make sure they have appropriate clothes for the season. Also make sure that all articles are label or they will surely get misplace.

As always feel free to call us to any questions or concerns our extension number 236, it will connect through to our classroom.

We wish you a Happy New Year!

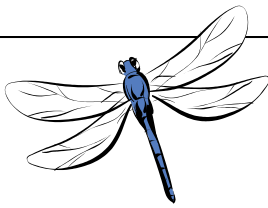
We love you,

Dulari, Susan, and Chandi

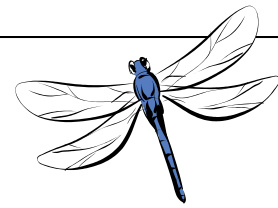


Thank you for your cooperation!

We love you.....
Sunilka, Nirosha and Asoka



Dragonflies



We would like to wish all of our parents and children a prosperous new year!

We are very grateful to our parents for their kind contribution to all of the teachers of the center. We highly appreciate your kind gesture.

We welcome Clare who has moved from the Salamander Class into the Dragonflies and new students Josephine and Kaan. We are so glad to have you and your families.

It is winter time and your children will experience the season not only with the cold weather but by learning, drawing, talking, and listening

about the changes taking place in nature. The theme of the month will be based on the winter season and the environment.

We hope to do a variety of activities with the kids such as identifying the first few letters of the alphabet, shapes and colors.

We have also been working on good habits in the classroom. We talk about sharing with our friends and caring for others. We are also encouraging the use of words such as please, thank you, sorry and excuse me.

To develop their gross motor skills we will take them to play outside if the weather

permits, and if not the, we will play in the indoor play area of do projects in our room.

Your kids are well looked after by the three teachers Mrs. Roxana, Mrs. Chamida, and Mrs. Padma. We always create a home in the classroom for your child!

We request that you feel free to contact us at any time regarding your child or if you have any concerns.

Thank you!

Mrs. Roxana, Mrs, Chamida, and Mrs. Padma

Butterflies

We had such a fantastic time getting prepared for holiday fun. We spent most of our time doing projects.

We would like to thank all of you that contributed to our classroom holiday party. During the month of January the Butterfly Class will be learning about winter and how we dress for going outside. We will also be learning and celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday. Please bring in boots and snow pants on snowy days! Please check your child's cubby and make sure that they have appropriate clothing for the season Please make sure

that they are labeled or they may get misplaced.

We would like to wish happy birthday to Bora on January 8th and Alexandra on the 12th!

Sadly, at the end of the month we will be saying goodbye to Abby and her family as she will be moving to Canada. She will be missed very much!

As always, feel free to call us with any questions or concerns. Our extension number is 228.

Happy New Year!

Asha, Doris, and Dee Dee



Otters

Happy New Year! To start off, we would like to welcome everybody back and hope everyone had a great vacation. This year we want to start with big goals for our wonderful children. One of the goals is to potty train our kids. We are going to start on January 12th. Parents please make sure that your child always has extra underwear, and clothing because they are going to be a lot of accidents. We are very excited to see our kids moving up. We will be introducing new books such as Everybody Poops and Sara's Potty to get the children motivated about this new experience.

Last year we had a great time and the children made many positive improvements, such as recognizing letters and colors. This month we will be

on working on our letters from g-h, manners, numbers, and shapes. We will be using materials such as popsicle sticks, pipe cleaners, paint, chalk, tissue paper, foam, shaving cream and our sensitive table.

We would like to officially announce that we have two new Otters on our class. We would like to welcome Piper and her family and Lucca and his family.

We want to thank Christine Ramsdell for donating the art smocks that we had requested on our wish list. They are perfect!

We would like to take this time to remind parents to bring in the family collage if you

haven't yet. We really look forward in working with all the parents and if anyone has a question please feel free to contact one of us. We will be posting all information and updates on our parent info board, so please check it daily. We wish you a great January!!

Sincerely, Ms Idalia, Ms Rosy, Ms Luiza



Turtles

Happy New Year! Hopefully 2009 finds you and your loved ones happy, healthy and ready for the new year.

Beginning January 5th we will have 2 new turtles to add to our "herd." Matias and Ava have both started and will be with us full time. We are all so thrilled to have them!

The turtle room will be jumping right into 2009 and we already have a lot planned for January. Near the top of the list, if not THE top, is the continuation of our focus on potty training. Ms Taryn continues to dominate the "throne" but there are several turtles close on her heels including, Josh, Hannah, Sapna, Ian, and recently Tom. Hopefully once we are all back from break we will be rejuvenated and can get everyone using the potty!

There are also some holidays and special occasions we will recognize in the coming month. Through group discussion, activities, and projects we will be able to have fun with your child and also teach them about each occasion. January 6th was Ms Charlene's birthday! Although this is not yet recognized as a Federal Holiday, a petition has been started and frankly it is just a matter of time. January 18th is Winnie the Pooh Day (A.A. Milne's

birthday), January 19th is Martin Luther King Jr's Day, and January 24th is compliment day! We are still working out the particulars for each of these days and will be sure to let you know details as the days get closer.

Ms Charlene is going to continue taking the children for computer time once a week as well as doing a cooking project. If there are any fun recipes you think our turtles would enjoy, please feel free to leave us with some suggestions. We are also going to start doing a science project once a week— hopefully something outdoors pertaining to nature as long as weather permits.

Ms Erin is going to continue doing lots of fun art projects to stimulate the kid's minds, stir their creative juices, and decorate your homes. We have also decided to step up circle time a bit. In addition to our ABC's, days of the week, and shapes that we generally go over, we are now also going to have a "Spanish Word of the Week." Each

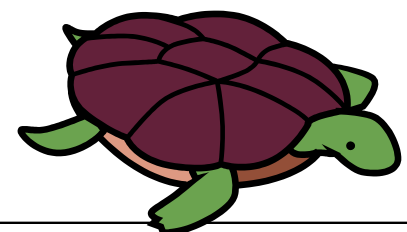
week Ms Iliana will choose a word to teach the children in Spanish. We have a smart bunch so we think they will pick this up pretty quickly— and it will be fun!

So far we have only had one photo collage turned in. (Gold stars for Taryn!) We would really love to get these up in the classroom. The teachers will be making collages as well!

As always we would like to thank all of the parents for your contributions to and support for our classroom. Should you ever have concerns or need to contact one of us, please do not hesitate— our doors are always open!

Happy New Year!

Ms Erin, Ms Charlene, and Ms Iliana



Geese

Happy New Year!!! Wow 2008 went by fast. We hope you enjoyed the break. We learned so much in such little time after we settled in to the new center. December went by fast. We learned a lot about Hanukkah and Christmas. We enjoyed the holiday projects and the gifts we made for the parents.

This month we have tons of fun planned. We will be talking about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Winter and transportation. If you have any books or other item that is related to this topic please feel free to bring them in and share with us.

We are going to be learning how to zip up our own jackets that way we can be more independent.

We will be focusing more on the alphabet and numbers.

Don't forget to turn in your family collages that way the kids can talk about their families to their classmates. Also please label all your child's belongings.

We would like to welcome Jessica, Justin and their families to our classroom.

-Ms. Yessenia and Ms. MaryBeth



Ducks



Happy New Year! We hope that everybody had a good holiday and a happy new year! Also, we hope everyone had a relaxing break from school and work.

January is going to be a fun month to be a Duck! We are going to be learning about dinosaurs! Many of the Ducks have requested to learn about this topic. We are SO excited. Miss Stephanie loves dinosaurs! It has always been a fun subject to teach. So please bring in dinosaur books to share with your friends if you have them at home. The Ducks will, hopefully, attempt to build their own dinosaur out of cardboard boxes. Please keep your fingers crossed.

As some of you know, in the past we have had a Capitals game that some families attended. We are keeping the tra-

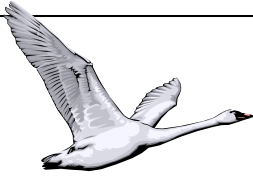
dition alive! The game we have picked this year is Sunday, March 1st vs. the Florida Panthers @ 3:00pm. In the past what families have done is bought tickets on their own and gone to the game. Miss Stephanie sits in section 403. People have tried to get tickets close to that section. This year we would suggest that you buy your tickets early if you want to attend the game. Caps hockey has gotten very popular. The best way to buy tickets is calling the box office at 202-266-CAPS and asking what is available around section 403. The tickets are from \$25-\$25. Please see Miss Stephanie if you have any questions. Remember to

Rock the Red if you attend.

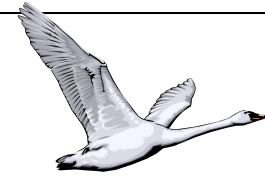
We have 2 birthdays in the Duck Class in January. Happy birthday to Georges on the 24th and Martin on the 28th. We would also like to wish Miss Heather a happy birthday on the 25th! Enjoy your special day guys! We love you!

We are so looking forward to a great 2009! We always welcome your suggestions and comments. Call us anytime! We love you!

Miss Stephanie and Miss Maritza



Swans



Welcome back to school! Happy New Year too! We had such a nice December learning all about Christmas and Hanukkah. We did lots of projects and enjoyed making gifts for you moms and dads. Thank you to all of you who donated gifts. We had a nice stash to give away.

We have a lot to do in January! We will discuss that it is a brand new year. Hello 2009! If we have a good snowfall we will learn all about why it snows. We will learn about and hopefully watch a bit of the presidential inauguration. We will talk about who Martin Luther King Jr. was and how great it is

that we are all different. Also, we will begin learning about Chinese New Year.

We will focus on the letters H, I, and J and the numbers 13, 14, 15, and 16. We will talk more about telling time to the hour and will learn about cylinders.

Don't forget to turn in family photo collages. I have only received one! Chloe will become a big sister sometime this month! Her baby sister will be born soon. We have all been watching the construction of the new

parking garage from our window. "Mr. Rick", the big boss of the project and the one who helped build our playground, has promised us a little field trip to the construction site!

Thanks,

Ms Heather

Martin Luther King Jr. Day & President's Day

Please remember that we will be closed on Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday, January 19th. We WILL be open on Tuesday, January 20th Inauguration Day. Please sign up outside of your child's classroom if you will be here on the 20th.

We will also be closed on Monday, February 16th for President's Day.

Parent Workshop

There is a parent workshop on Wednesday, January 14th from 6 to 8. The topic is "It is a big problem or a little problem?" Please sign-up on the bulletin board outside of the office. Babysitting and dinner will be provided for the children at no cost.

Hot Lunch

Please turn in hot lunch forms by the due date. It is very difficult to add orders on after the first of the month.

Thank you!