

Put a little PEP in your Life!

March 2025 Newsletter

A Letter from the Director...

Hello Families,

“Spring is nature’s way of saying, ‘Let’s party!’-Robin Williams

This winter has brought us very long stretches of extremely cold weather where we could not get outside for weeks at a time. We got creative in different ways to keep the children entertained and expel some of their energy. We have created an indoor resource book for staff to use that lists all the different activities and equipment that we have. We also purchased more balance beams, bean bags, steppingstones to be used in the classroom as well as in Kurth Hall for obstacle courses. We also divide out the group at times to allow for small group activities.

Every classroom made so many beautiful Valentine’s that we were able to divide between Emanuel Church members, Hales Corners Care Center and Zablocki VA. We heard back from a recipient of the card that said “I want to thank you and your group for the Valentine greeting I got today. That just made my heart smile. It’s probably the only card I will get, so it really does mean a lot.” It really made all of us

realize the importance of connections and community outreach.

Upcoming Events!!!

Thursday, March 6 is our first Culver’s Event! All day long if you bring in the coupon that is in your mailbox, Park’s Edge will receive **10% of all proceeds with the flyer**. Some PEP staff will be at Culver’s from 5-6:30pm. Thank you in advance for your support.

Friday, March 7 is our Professional Development ½ Day. The center closes at 12pm, lunch is provided. No pm bus transportation is available that afternoon, this includes 4k pm as well. Did you know that every full-time staff member is required to have 25 hours of continuing education every year? We have a full afternoon lined up for staff. Ms. Julie and Ms. Sandra will be presenting on the Christian Component as a group. We then will be branching off into small groups. We have Gina Hobbs from WECA (Wisconsin Early Childhood Association) meeting with staff who are interested in the TEACH Scholarship to achieve their credentials or associates degree in Early Childhood. Julie Herman from Edward Jones and Denise Brehm from Paychex will meet individually with each staff member to talk about their

benefit package as well as their 401k. Ms. Melinda and Ms. Haley will be presenting on sensory and science. Thank you to all families for making arrangements to support staff.

While staff are all engaged in an afternoon of learning, Plennes will be here installing custom room dividers/shelving for the lower-level classrooms. We cannot wait to show them off on Monday, March 10.

Monday, March 17 at 10am is our Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade. Parents, grandparents and aunts and uncles are welcome. Please dress your little leprechaun in green for the occasion.

Thursday, March 20 is our Spring Fling. The Easter Bunny will be here for pictures as well as activities in every classroom. The fun goes from 5-6:30pm. We will also be distributing the summer calendar for ages 4 and up. We cannot wait to show you all the fun activities we have planned for the summer and we have some new field trips as well.

We look forward to another fun-filled busy month at Park’s Edge Preschool.

Kristin Burr
Director

Happy Birthday!

Olivia C.	03/02/2013
Ariya V.	03/02/2023
Donovan Z.	03/11/2018
Clare P.	03/12/2019
Cassidy T.	03/13/2023
Bennett D.	03/14/2022
Owen S.	03/20/2021
Maddox I.	03/22/2018
Roman Z.	03/22/2020
Colin D.	03/28/2020
River N.	03/28/2021
Quinn A.	03/31/2021



Important Dates:

Thursday, March 6th-

Culver's Family Day

Pick up your coupon in your mailbox.

Friday, March 7th-

PEP Professional Half Day - Center closes at 12pm.

No 4K or afternoon busing - Lunch will be served.

Friday, March 14th-

Picture Day 7am-11am

Summer Theme

Thursday, March 20th-

Spring Fling 5:30-7pm

Classroom Activities and Pictures with the Easter Bunny.

Monday, March 24th- Friday, March 28th-

Whitnall District Spring Break

Sign up now for care.

Love Bugs

What did Mr. And Mrs. Hamburger name their daughter?

Patty

February was chilly but our Lovebugs warmed our hearts every single day. We were happy to show off the babies in the Valentine's Day parade. Thank you to everyone who came out to see the children. We look forward to seeing you for our St. Patrick's Day parade this month. Remember to dress your little leprechauns in green that day.

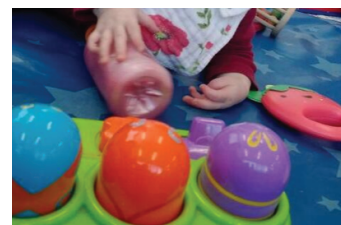
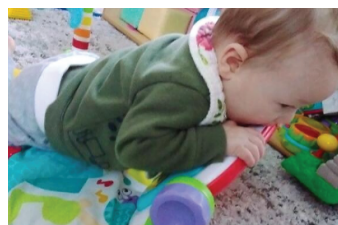
This month we will be spending lots of time getting to know our new friends that have just joined us or will be joining us this month. We love welcoming new babies to the room. It's fun to see new babies explore and interact in their new and exciting environment. Along with making new friends we will be tapping into our creative sides with feet painting, dancing, and watching bubbles!

Let's see what our babies were up to last month:

Maverick loves his blanket as well as the toys that hang and light up. He loves bubble time and is working on holding toys in his hand. Owen mimics mouth movements. He's a goofy guy that likes to make his teachers laugh. He is also practicing waving to friends. Cole, our child of the month, loves playing with his feet and talking to everyone! He likes getting messy with his food and is working to sit up on his own. Cole loves rolling everywhere and has a smile on his face while doing so. Levi is sitting on his own. He loves mealtimes and gets excited when he sees his bottle. He is also a budding pianist and likes playing the piano with his feet on the play mat. Duncan, who is one of our newer friends in the room is finding his voice and loves to coo. He also loves batting at the toy bar and enjoys spending time relaxing in the bouncer. He is fitting in perfectly with the Lovebug crew! We can't wait for our new friends Avery, Eli and Harper to join the Lovebug crew this month.

Thank you all for sharing your precious little ones with us.

Ms. Terri and Ms. Brooke and Ms. Gabby



Beautiful Butterflies

We can't believe we are into the third month of the year already. Time flies by and we are having so much fun in the Butterflies!

In February we enjoyed our spinner toys, playing and painting with cars, and listening to Valentine's books. Our favorite books last month were "Llama Llama I love you", "Baby's First Words: Book of Love" and "Curious George's Valentines". We tested our vocal abilities as well and enjoyed singing "Jesus Loves Me" and "Jesus Loves the Little Children".

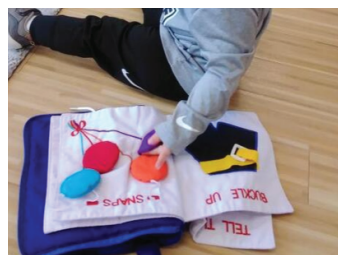
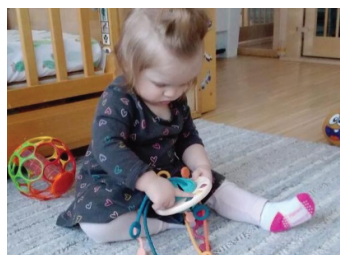
Thank you all for taking the time to decorate the take home heart shapes and providing family photos for our family tree. The children love showing off their families in the classroom. We also loved seeing so many of you at our Valentines Parade.

Adalynn will be our baby of the month. Dancing to music, clapping and shaking toys are a must-do activity for her each day. She also enjoys playing with Musical instruments and catching bubbles. Adalynn always has a big smile on her face and adds so much fun to the classroom.

This month we are parading for St. Patrick's Day; we hope to see you again! We will also be learning more sign language. We will be working on signing "please", "all done" and "thank you". Another focus for march will be putting our toys away and sharing. We can't wait to see what our little ones accomplish in March.

Happy March, we appreciate you all!

Ms. Holli and Ms. Julie



Darling Dragonflies

“What we learn with joy, we never forget.” -Alfred Mercier

In February, we explored themes like weather, love, kindness, diversity, and dental hygiene. During Jesus Loves Me week, we emphasized love and kindness, leading into our focus on kindness and diversity. We enjoyed the Valentine’s Day parade and sharing treats. Throughout kindness week, we highlighted sharing and taking turns, and our Dragonflies excelled at this! In dental week, we learned about the importance of dental care and becoming more independent.

Marching on! Our Dragonflies will be exploring into the imaginative world of Dr. Seuss, diving into his beloved stories and vibrant characters, creativity, and imagination. We will also celebrate the changing seasons by discussing the wonders of snow and building snowmen. Transitioning to spring with a focus on rainbows and their science, along with creating our own artistic interpretations. As we approach St. Patrick’s Day, we’ll explore shamrocks through fun crafts and activities. Additionally, we’ll discuss our pets, learning about different species and sharing experiences about our furry, scaly, or feathery friends. We encourage parents to bring in a photo of their pet at home! Finally, we will honor heroes, both real and fictional, reflecting on the qualities that make someone a hero. We would love to have our class dress up as their favorite heroes during this week! March promises to be a month filled with creativity and exploration!

For March our goals for the Dragonflies are still focusing to enhance their fine motor skills and expanding their vocabulary skills. We’re focusing on topics like animals, colors, and shapes. Fine motor skills, which include small movements of the hands and fingers like grasping and pinching, are essential for daily activities. Activities this month will include using utensils at mealtime, using shape sorters, puzzles and matching games. We encourage parents to participate in fine motor tasks at home as well.

Ms. Jacque and Ms. Haley J.



Busy Bees

February was full of love and freezing temperatures. We’re hoping spring will make its debut very shortly.

Our themes last month provided so much learning and entertainment. We had a great time learning about the weather. On the topic of weather, we did a fun experiment with shaving cream and food coloring to show how rain falls through the clouds. In the spirit of Valentines Day, we learned about Love, and how to be kind to friends. During dental week it was all about the health of our teeth. We used playdough on plastic teeth and learned how to brush to make sure we got our teeth clean; the kids loved it! In addition to all our themes we have been working on cleaning up our room and taking turns.

The arctic temperatures preventing us from being outside were definitely a challenge last month. We made the most of it and had lots of fun indoors on our cold days. Some indoor activities we did were balancing, dance parties, bubbles, crawling in our play tunnel and yoga; anything to keep us moving! If you have any fun indoor activities you use at home we would love to hear about them!

March has lots of fun themes that we are excited for. We start the month with Dr Suess week. Please feel free to bring in a Dr. Suess book for us to read to the group. Up next we will be learning about snowmen with a winter filled week. Rainbows and shamrocks are on the agenda as we celebrate St. Patrick’s Day. We end the month talking about our favorite, pets and heroes.

Have a wonderful month and hopefully warm weather is ahead.

Ms. Emily and Ms. Shanda and Ms. Haley J.



Sunshine Room

February was filled with words of love and laughter; we had the first official party of the year! It was so much fun seeing the kids decorate the cookies; they loved adding the sprinkles :) With the spirit of love we made many valentines cards for everyone! Our favorites were when we made them for our families.

It was really chilly this month; we spent a lot of time inside. At first it was hard since we missed our playground, but soon realized we have even cooler toys inside! We made so many obstacle courses in our classroom and Kurth hall. Also, inside our classroom we continued our hunts; our new favorite is the pink lion. In addition to our hunts, we love our bubble dance parties! We grab the scarves and play our favorite songs :) Our top three songs right now are "Wheels on the Bus", "Slippery Fish" & "5 little speckled frogs".

This month many friends have begun potty training! Please bring in extra underwear, socks and pants just for those "in case" moments. Following the trend of clothes please go through your child's clothes bin and swap out any clothes that may need to be changed for the season.

We have a new parent board! This is going to display our daily schedule, both snack & lunch menu and our weekly lesson plans. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Alexis or Ms.Nay-nay. You can always talk to us in person at drop off/pickup, on the app, or calling us during nap time between 1pm-3pm.

Thank you! The sunshine Crew

-Ms.Nay-nay and Ms.Alexis :)



Fantastic Frogs

Welcome March! We are excited to see what this month brings.

February was a bit of a struggle with the cold weather and snowy days. But thank God we made it through. We were able to purchase large motor games for the children, which allowed them to participate in large movement activities indoors. One of the items we got were hoops with connectors, which were a big hit in our classroom. The children hopped, jumped, tiptoed, and ran through the hoops. Another highlight this past month was the diversity mural the children created. They used different multicultural paint colors to create their mural. We talked about how even though we all might not have the same hair, eyes, and skin color, we are made in the image of God. We expressed the importance of treating others with respect and showing kindness. Our valentine parade was a big success. Thank you to everyone who came out, it was great seeing so many families.

For the month of march our themes include: "Dr Seuss", "Rainbows and Shamrocks", "Pets" and "Jesus is my Hero". We can't wait to introduce these themes to the children, and dive into developmental learning fun. During the week of Dr. Suess, the children will get a chance to make green eggs and ham as we read "Dr. Suess, Green Eggs and Ham" book. Your child is welcome to bring in their favorite Dr. Suess book during the week of Dr. Suess. We will celebrate St. Patrick's Day by marching in a parade and wearing green. We will learn about different pets that families own and how to take good care of them. If you own a pet, you can bring in a picture of your pet. We will be making a family pet mural for the classroom. Jesus is our Hero, and we love to talk and learn about all the miracles He did and the great love He has for us all. We will read stories and show off our creative skills during the week of "Jesus is my Hero".

We plan to have a great month and hopefully warmer days to enjoy the outdoors.

Just a reminder to please continue to check your child's art folders. Also be sure to have extra clothes for your child. We hope everyone has a fun and safe month.

Blessings, Ms. Sandra, Mr. Ben and Ms. Nola



Shining Stars

Aren't we so lucky that we've made it to March?! Snow is melting, birds are chirping, and clovers are coming! We are more than ready to jump right into March, but first let's recap our fabulous February.

I first would like to introduce our student teachers, Ms. Lani and Ms. Kasey! You may have seen them around in the classroom, don't be shy, say hi!

We started off February with wonderful weather, where we learned about all different kinds of weather along with what to wear. That was followed up with the one and only Valentine's week, where we loved everything, literally! After that, we learned about kindness and diversity. We loved getting to know each other and appreciating what makes us all different. Please take some time to look at "Our Class Books Stars 2025" on our little reading table to learn all about us! And to wrap up February, we took a bite out of dental week and learned all about how to keep our teeth healthy. Our favorite activity from this week was playing pretend dentist office!

We are kicking off March with the silliest Dr. Seuss Week! We cannot wait to dress up for spirit week and see all the goofy outfits, and try some green eggs and ham. After that, we're curious... if you'd wanna build a snowman with us? That's right, it's all about Disney! Who hasn't dreamed of being a Disney princess? Then we're lucky to start the following week off strong with St. Patrick's Day on Monday! We'll see if a sneaky little leprechaun comes to visit us! And last but not most certainly not least will be learning all about pets, what kind of pets do you have at home?

We are all so excited to be starting kindergarten and 4K in the fall. Along with that, we have been working on our letter and number recognition, as well as our pencil grasp. For at home activities, try pinching playdoh and clothespins to work those fine motor skills! For an extra challenge, work sounding out short sight words!

We hope your March is as lucky as 7 rabbit's feet tied to a four leaf clover!

-Ms. Mariah, Ms. Hannah and the Stars Crew



Purple Moons

February was full of many celebrations! We had several birthdays and a weeklong celebration of Valentine's Day. Starting with many delicious treats we made in our classroom (strawberry covered chocolate, punch, ranch dip, trail mix and pudding parfaits) and ending the week with a 'love' parade. We learned about and created different types of clouds with puff paint. Made Valentine's Day cards, cut out love buddies, made our very own spin drums, and many more! If you have not had a chance to see all the great artwork in the classroom, please take some time to stop in.

Winter is here! Please have weather appropriate clothes for your child. Please have an extra sweatshirt to keep for the week in their lockers, as it can get cold sometimes in the rooms. A jacket, snowpants, gloves, hat, and snow boots are needed to play outside. The children LOVE playing in the snow! Let's make sure they are fully prepared for outside activities.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Maria or Ms. Melinda. You can always talk to us in person, on the app, or call during nap time between 1-3.

Thank You,

Ms. Maria and Ms. Melinda



Slithering Snakes

What falls during March but never gets hurt?

The rain

Hello and welcome to our warmest month so far! We are overjoyed to be able to take full advantage of the weather, and can't wait to experience the blossoming of spring flowers and the return of greenery to the trees. As March progresses and warmth becomes the norm, we will be spending more and more time in the backfield, as the sun will finally grace us with its presence beyond 430. Please remember to still send boots for your child, as the warm weather will temporarily create pockets of mud in the backfield! Ms. Nicole and I will be placing any winter gear we find on the table in the front of our classroom, so if any of your child's gloves or hats have gone missing please take a peek there.

In the month of March we will be exploring the wonderful changes of spring, learning about the parts of flowers and how animals respond to the world changing around them. We will also spend some time exploring the works of Dr. Seuss, and in the spirit of his limitless creativity, we will also be participating in wacky week. Please keep an eye out for the themes each day, and we look forward to seeing your wacky outfits! March will also bring Spring Break, a much needed break for your kids and a wonderful opportunity for us to spend a full day with them. During that week our lesson plans will be full of art projects and class games outside, as well as a new art project where we will explore the vibrant colors of Jackson Pollock and paint a new tablecloth for our parent board. We will be placing our sign up sheet at the front table so please take a moment to let us know the days your child will be attending.

Another notable moment of March will be the dispersal of our 2025 summer packet, at the Spring Fling on Thursday, March 20th. It will contain our calendar of field trips and events, as well as any other pertinent information about the program. We hope you all find at least one field trip that sparks a passion for both learning and play and would leave to hear any and all feedback after reading it. We look forward to summer not only for the chance to go on an array of wonderful field trips, but also for the opportunity to spend three months enjoying a classroom full of eager young minds daily. As always, thank you for taking the time to read this, and we hope you have a wonderful month!

Sincerely,

Ms. Nicole and Mr. Cody



Themes with Christian Sub Themes

03/03-03/07: Dr. Suess Week

`Read your favorite Bible story`

03/10-03/14: Do You Want to Build a Snowman?

Job 37:6-10 "For the now He says, 'Fall on the Earth'".

03/17-03/21: Rainbows and Shamrocks

Ezekiel 1:28 "As the appearance of the rainbow in the clouds on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the surrounding radiance. Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord".

03/24-03/28: Pets

Proverbs 12:10 "A righteous man has regard for the life of his animal".

03/31-04/04: Jesus is my Hero!

Psalm 16:3 "As for the saints who are in the earth, they are the majestic ones I whom is all my delight".

A Pastor's Thought

Dear God,

We pray for endless hope as we witness troubles and uncertainties.

Give us hope that stability will come, and hatred will cease, and kindness will emanate from all human hearts.

Remind us that new life is on the horizon.

Guide our sights as we expectantly wait to see the wonder of plants reborn, trees come alive, and the sounds of children waft through the warm spring breeze.

-Pastor Josh



NAC Nook

Hello Families!

The NAC Nook is back! In this segment of the newsletter, we will discuss different NAC standards that families have questions about.

Our first standard we will discuss is:

C4. Employees communicate with me on an ongoing basis about my child's experiences and activities.

Did you know that the teachers in your child's classroom communicate about your child's day through the ProCare app? They will document when your child ate, slept, was changed (if applicable), and activities that were done that day. Depending on how busy the day is, it might take them until naptime to document this information. The ProCare App is a great way to ask teachers questions, relay information (ex: if your child will be staying home or coming in late a particular day), and communicate with the teachers if drop-off and/pick-up are not the best options for you. Conferences, which are held twice per year, are a great way to meet with your child's teacher. During conferences you will collaborate with the teachers on developmental goals, learn the developmental milestones your child has reached, and get a chance to have some one-on-one time with the teachers. It is a great time to bring up any concerns, proud moments, or questions you have about your child's learning.

We look forward to sharing with you each month different NAC standards and how we at Park's Edge Preschool follow them.

This information will be based on the parent surveys conducted in Fall during the last round of conferences.

Please reach out to Kristin with any questions regarding our NAC accreditation.

Thank you!



ACCREDITED

Happy Anniversary!

Happy 21st Anniversary to our wonderful Ms. Nicole.

Ms. Nicole started at PEP 21 years ago as a teacher in our two-and-a-half-year-old room. She stayed in that role for a couple of years, then found her true calling as an infant teacher. She remained in the infant room until 2023 when she decided that it was time for a change. Nicole helped take over our school aged program including our summer program. She has been such an immense help and has brought so many new and exciting ideas to our school aged program.

Ms. Nicole has an associates degree in early childhood education and is a registry level 12. She is CPR and AED certified and is also a floor manager in our program.

Once warmly referred to as “the baby whisperer” Nicole has welcomed hundreds of babies and their families to Park’s Edge over the course of her career. She was the first teacher that most families were lucky enough to have when they came to the program. Leaving your new baby with a stranger can be very hard but Ms. Nicole had a way of easing your mind with her calm reassuring words and strong confidence that told you she would take the utmost care of your little one. She was always there to help new parents navigate the uncertain waters of having a new baby. Now Ms. Nicole gets to teach the older children that she once nurtured as infants. The children that started with her are now lucky enough end the program with her as well.

Ms. Nicole has three wonderful children. A son Colin, another son named AJ and her daughter Alexis. Alexis has followed in her mom’s footsteps and is now our fabulous Sunshine room teacher. In Nicole’s free time she loves spending time with family, watching her favorite Netflix shows and discussing said shows with coworkers. She also has a massive love of anything that has to do with vegetables. We all look forward to her garden overflow that she brings in each summer.

Thank you so much Ms. Nicole for your dedication to Park’s Edge Preschool.



Happy 6th Anniversary to our Bookkeeper Ms. Megan.

Ms. Megan’s journey with Park’s Edge Preschool began as a parent in our program. Megan brought her daughter, Gracie, to us as an infant. She decided she wanted to leave her corporate job to spend more time with her Gracie. She loved having Gracie at Park’s Edge and didn’t want to pull her from the program. Megan also wanted to spend more time working with her favorite sister, Ms. Kristin. Megan worked two days a week in the Sunshine room and spent the other three days home with her daughter. In March 2021, Megan became the bookkeeper and now works four days a week. Megan’s favorite part of her job is talking with families at the end of the night.

Megan has a bachelor’s degree in business marketing. She is a natural born salesperson. When teachers are clocking out from break, Megan is always selling staff on the newest gadget. Some have been known to purchase new shoes, workout equipment, makeup and small appliances.

When Megan is not selling something, she spends all her time with her high school sweetheart Steve and their daughter Gracie, who is almost 7. Megan loves playing with Gracie and looks forward to their epic family game night every Friday night that ends with a family sleepover. When Megan isn’t spending time with her family, she can be found in the kitchen creating all sorts of unique food dishes. Her latest recipe that she shared was lima bean, edamame, and pea hummus with jalapenos. It’s the talk of the office each day seeing what Megan has created for lunch.

Please join us in congratulating Ms. Megan!