



PRESCHOOL NEWS

February
2011

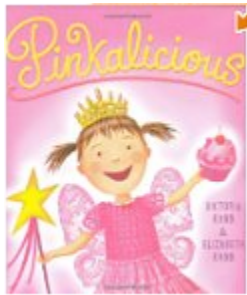
Mrs. Houldsworth's Class

IMPORTANT DATES

Feb 14th - Friendship Snack Party (M-W-F class)

Feb. 15th - Friendship Snack Party (T-Th class)

Feb 28th - Begin School Vacation Week



Themes This Month

In February our focus will be on friendships and learning about patterns. We will clap the syllable patterns in words and look at patterns on our clothing. Our color will be pink (made from red and white) and our shape will be a heart. We will read the book Pinkalicious by Victoria Kann and will decorate bags for our Valentine Cards. On Feb 14th and 15th we will have a friendship snack party and exchange Valentines. Sending in Valentines is voluntary. Please, if you do send in Valentines to school, send in one for each child in the class. This is a good opportunity for your child to practicing writing his/ her name on the back of each card. **Please do not write names on Valentine envelopes.**

M-W-F class has 15 students

T-Th class has 14 students

Children's Friendships

Enrollment in preschool offers children social experiences that might not be available to them at home. With many friends the same age, a child encounters many opportunities to negotiate and compromise. In school students are encouraged to express opinions and ideas as well as respect others. They also learn to develop social competence by, initiating interactions, maintaining relationships, and solving conflicts with peers.

Peers become more important in preschool. Most children interact much more with other children than when they were toddlers, and they interact in more complex ways (Rubin, Bukowski, & Parker 2006). Play in social areas of the classroom such as dramatic play and blocks, builds a child's language and literacy skills as well as helping them to resolve conflicts.

We need not be too concerned when children frequently change best friends. However, if a child doesn't seem to have any special friendships at school he/she may benefit from one-on-one play dates after school. Playing together a few times outside of school often gives two children a level of comfort with each other that carries over to their time at school.

Vocabulary Words

We will be working on the following new vocabulary words to go along with our "friendship" theme. Please take some time to talk about and use the following words at home: Buddy, pal, chum, admirer, caring, and helpful. We will talk about emotions such as joy, cheerful, loving, nervous, frightened, curious, and confused.

PLEASE HELP US OUT

This month we will be looking for help with:

- Paper doilies
- Newspaper
- Colorful red and pink paper from scrap booking, wall paper books, or tissue paper.