



February 2008

# Karen's Chronicle

Karen's Kozy Korner



Volume 1 Issue 5

Visit us on the web!

[www.karenskozykorner.net](http://www.karenskozykorner.net)

## Greetings Parents!

Our arctic theme goes along well with the "arctic blast" we are experiencing! We know how the below freezing temps put an extra burden on everyone, teachers, parents

getting ready in the morning, remembering the proper attire, and the fact that there is no outside time in either the public schools or daycares is hard on the children.

Some children are still arriving with only wool mittens; they simply don't hold up once hands get wet! It forces us to bring an entire group of children inside sooner than we need to. The month of January, being as cold as it was, brought some terrific indoor activities... building igloos out of marshmallows, painting with ice cubes, making paper snowflakes.



*"remembering the proper attire, and the fact that there is no outside time..."*

However, these are the rules for weather under 32 degrees..so please remember, when we do have the opportunity to be outside, we appreciate all you can do to ensure that they have the appropriate attire.

## In this Issue:

<i>Greetings Parents!</i>	1
<i>February Birthdays</i>	1
<i>School Reminders</i>	2
<i>February Calendar</i>	2
<i>February Themes</i>	2
<i>Housekeeping Notes</i>	3-4
<i>February Challenge</i>	4

## February Birthdays

Happy Birthday!  
Kiersten Kathleen will be 4  
Zach will be 11

As always, parents may bring cupcakes which we will serve at lunch; our allergy free recipe is here on file! Please choose a recipe

from our allergy free cookbook, if you would like to bring a treat for your child to celebrate his/her birthday with us!



## School Reminders

**Ellis School** - Winter Break  
2/25-2/29

**Danville Elementary** - Early  
Release 2/6, Winter Break 2/25  
-2/29

**Swasey School** – Winter  
Break 2/25-2/29

Regular operating hours for  
Karen's Kozy Korner.

Please fill out the appropriate  
paperwork indicating your  
child's attendance for winter  
break.



## February Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	



"Karen's Kozy Korner is open on all week days in February.  
Please remember to let us know if your schoolager will be here  
during Winter Break!"

## February Themes

**Letters:** P, Q, R ~ **Numbers:**  
13 - 14 ~ **Shape:** Heart ~  
**Color:** Pink

**Hearts And Hugs** - Happy  
Valentine's Day! Information  
about hearts and symbols of  
the holiday will be shared. The  
children will be encouraged to  
find special ways to show their  
loved ones they care!

**Inside My Mouth** - February  
is Dental Health Month. This

theme is full of activities to re-  
inforce healthy dental and hy-  
giene habits.

**Opposites Attract** - Learn all  
about opposites with some fun  
activities that examine how  
two things can be very differ-  
ent! Large and small, on and  
off, hot and cold, and fast and  
slow are just a few concepts  
that are introduced during the  
week.



*Happy Valentine's Day!*

## Miss Karen's Korner

I recently sent home W-10 tax forms for 2007, along with a statement of tuition paid. Please remember to return a copy to me if you haven't done so already.

A big welcome to Bryuana, who has joined Miss Nicole's group, as well as the return of a veteran preschooler Kayla to Miss Beccy's group. We are thrilled to have them! As we have all experienced, the past couple of months have brought some nasty illnesses and viruses to the public schools, daycares and to families in general. We can't stress the importance of teaching children the correct way to wash hands, be it after bathroom time, or simply blowing those stuffy noses repeatedly. One of the leading reasons for conjunctivitis is simply that it is a cold in the eyes usually caused by rubbing the nose and then rubbing the eye or facial area. It's extremely difficult for the toddlers, who more often than not rub their nose, touch their faces and then move on to the next toy.

Both Miss Beccy and Miss Nicole have expressed to me their gratitude in the effort that has been made in children arriving within a reasonable time before class starts. However, we do realize that especially with the cold and flu season upon us, some students have

been slower than usual to arrive, because it's been a little more challenging to get ready in the morning. The kids need their rest, as do the parents, especially if you have been up half the night with a coughing child. However, if you do arrive later than usual please understand that often it is disruptive to the rest of the class if your child joins in the middle. So, we must ask that you escort them to a quiet area until they can rejoin their classmates.

We are finding that transition at both drop off and pick up is still presenting a challenge. We love to talk about the many wonderful things that we experience with your child during the course of the day; we also realize that situations occur with regard to concerns about behavior, etc. but safety is the number one concern here and should be at all times. Please try to remember that it's hard for a staff member to turn their back on a parent who has something they have to say with regard to their child, but try to direct it to Miss Beccy and Miss Nicole in an area where they are still able to observe their classroom...not the hallway, outside, or anywhere where children will be left alone. It is one of the hardest things a teacher has to face, ignoring a parent, but in fact we are simply doing our job, which is to take care of your

child.

We are all available by email, phone after hours, and will always be happy to sit down after six pm and talk about any concerns.

With regard to the phone; we all do our best to pick up, but for the most part, I have asked the staff to listen to the machine first, and determine whether or not we actually need to have a conversation, while we are serving lunch to hungry children, or trying to make rest time a peaceful time. Thank you all for your cooperation, we appreciate it!

On Friday, February 15, 08 we will have a small Valentines party, with light refreshments, for both preschoolers and after schoolers. As we did last year, your children are welcome to bring in valentines for their classmates. I will be including a list of all student names. We ask that there are no snacks, including candy or any other Valentine treats, unless the content is discussed beforehand with staff.

~Miss Karen



## Miss Beccy's Korner

Parent /Teacher conference schedules have been sent home; please return your forms as quickly as possible that times may be set up, and folders and assessments completed.

I am amazed at the progress this group has made since September; they *enjoy* their schoolwork. They are excited each morning and that makes me excited to teach them as much as I can, with the time I have allotted each day. We have a huge month, with a lot of ground to cover...Talk to them about Black History Month, Dental Hygiene, Valentines Day, Presidents Day, Groundhog Day, Chinese New Year and much more!

~ Miss Beccy

## Miss Nicole's Korner

As Miss Karen has already expressed, we cannot go out in temps below 32 degrees; more importantly I cannot take my group out if one child does not come with the proper winter attire. Please make a habit of checking your child's cubby on a regular basis. We know how easily those tiny gloves get misplaced!

And I need socks, extra socks for the feet that do get wet even with the wearing of the boots.

Class starts promptly at 9 a.m. Thank you for all having your children here early enough to prepare for our activity. If for whatever reason you cannot make it here by that time, your child more than likely will not be able to participate that day.

There is such a small window of time with this age group; not only do we all need to "sit", we need to get smocks on, talk about what we are going to do. It requires a lot of patience...more so for a two year old than me! Please look for their projects that are displayed. More often than not, with children who are just beginning to express themselves verbally, they have achieved a major accomplishment with their project but are unable to tell you. However, I can assure you they are equally as proud of what they did as a four year old!

~ Miss Nicole

## February Challenge

### Toddlers and Preschool - 2 - 4 years

Name the objects below:



### Pre-k and Kindergarten - 5 - 6 years

Fill in the blanks to form the words:

[\_andy] [\_flower] [\_eart] [\_ove] [\_ove \_irds]

### Schoolagers - 7 - 12 years

When was the first Valentine's Day?



Answers: Toddlers and Preschool: candy, flower, heart, dove, love birds. Prek and Kindergarten: c, f, h, d, l, b Schoolagers: February 14, 496 A.D.