



BARLINA HOUSE PRESCHOOL

CRYSTAL LAKE PARK DISTRICT

1 E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake IL 60014
Administration: 815.459.0680
Preschool: 815.477.5403
CRYSTALLAKEPARKS.ORG



FEBRUARY 2019



Ms. Roberts and Mrs. Wolek
MWF & T/TH Classes

News from Director:
Donna MacCrindle

The children returned from break excited to share their holiday experiences, but wasted no time getting immersed in this month's activities.

We spent the first week talking and singing songs about the warm clothing people wear in winter. After reviewing the order in which to put on winter gear, the children practiced putting on their winter clothes independently. The kids also designed their own hats and mittens. They sharpened their scissor skills by snipping bits of paper to decorate winter hats. To make mittens, we created a little symmetrical "magic" by painting one side of the paper, folding it together, "smooshing" and then opening to reveal TWO matching pictures. We were entertained by squeals of amazement when the kids unfolded their papers! It was fun to share vocabulary words such as symmetrical and pair!

The next few weeks were spent learning and singing about the winter season, snow and snowmen. The preschoolers made textured winter collages, igloos, and, our favorite, melted snowmen. In addition, they used puffy paint and plastic animals to stamp animal tracks "in the snow." Of course, we also completed alphabet themed activities (for letters Ff, li, Yy, and Ee).

The easel and dramatic play area were crowded this month! Our kitchen was relocated so we could have a laundry room at school. There, the children used clothespins to hang wet clothes on the clothesline. They also did several loads of laundry in the washer and dryer and got all of the wrinkles out with the iron. At the easel, the students used dish wands to make snowstorms and stickers to sort colors. In addition, they painted on foil and stamped snowflakes with spoons.

February's plans contain all kinds of fun! In addition to Valentine's Day activities, we'll be talking about transportation. Because our focus will be on the letters Ss, Zz, Oo and Jj, we'll be partaking in experiences with spiders, zippers, octopuses and jumping. We will also be going to Grand Oaks for Gym Day early in the month! As always, be on the lookout for further information inside backpacks.

Now that the children are experts in winter clothing, please help them to remember to bring their winter gear so they are prepared when we go outside. Also, to prevent our floors from being slippery and dirty, please send a pair of shoes when your child is wearing boots. Thanks so much!

Preschool registration is now open for next fall. Registration can be completed on-line or at the administration office. If you have any questions or concerns regarding preschool registration, please free to contact me at 815-477-5403 or by email, dmaccrindle@crystallakeparks.org.

We will be having a fun gym day at Grand Oaks on Thursday, Feb. 7th and Friday, Feb. 8th. You will drop off and pick up at Grand Oaks. A flyer will be going home with more information.

We will celebrate Valentine's Day on Thursday, Feb. 14th and Friday, Feb. 15th. The children are welcome to bring cards to share with their classmates. We do not allow food items to be distributed due to severe allergies. We will offer a "Valentine's Workshop" on Saturday, Feb. 9th, from 10:00 - 11:00 am. The children may bring their Valentines, and we will help them sign their names. In addition, we will complete a craft project. More information can be found in the Crystal Lake brochure on page 25.

The McHenry County Health Department will conduct Vision and Hearing Screenings on February 11th and 12th. Further information will be sent home and include a practice sheet for you to use with your child. The screening will be easier for your child if he/she knows what to expect.

District 47's Kindergarten registration will be at their C.O.R.E. Center, 300 Commerce Drive on February, 20th and 21th. Information is available on the District's website, www.d47.org.

I have created an online survey for the first half of the school year. I would appreciate if you would take a few minutes to complete it. This survey will help me see if we are meeting your child's needs and if there are other things you would like the preschool to offer. **The link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Barlina>**. If you would rather have a paper copy, please contact me at dmaccrindle@crystallakeparks.org. Your feedback helps make our preschool the best it can be. Thank you.

Additional Park District activities are available for your child...check out the Park District website or brochure for more information. Here are a few: Daddy/Daughter Date Night Feb. 8th and 9th. Sweetheart Tea - Feb. 9th.