

Incline Village Nursery School Newsletter

February 2012



Director's News

We are just about completed assessing all of our students and I must say that the process has been not only enlightening, but also entertaining. Your kids are such little comedians! It was truly memorable to sit down with each of them and get some one-on-one time. Spending that time with your child gives us great insight on what we can plan to challenge them over the coming months, as well as a little window into their growing personalities. Thank you for sharing your family with us – your child makes my day brighter each time we are at school together. Each and every one of them!

This month I really wanted to share with you an article about Nevada's Pre-K Standards. (Pre-K stands for Pre-Kindergarten), however the information is too massive to include in one newsletter. Instead I am providing you with the link to the document on the Nevada Registry's website. The Nevada Registry is responsible for tracking the training and standards upheld by all centers, home daycares, and their employees in the state of Nevada. You can check out their website at: www.nevadaregistry.org

The link to the complete document of Nevada's Pre-K Standards is:

http://www.nevadaregistry.org/fb_files/REVIS_EDPreKStandardsAugust2011.pdf

I encourage all of our families and community members to take some time to read this valuable information. Together we can help our children achieve the utmost of their preschool capabilities.

I have also added TONS of new photos to our blog under two separate posts in January. One for our pizza making trip to Azzara's and one for a general January post. You can find them in the "Blog Archives" on the right side of the page at

<https://inclinevillagenurseryschool.blogspot.com>

Thank you to all of our parents who helped make our field trip possible, especially Andrea and Cord for donating their time, restaurant, and supplies. We had tons of parent involvement this month, including help from Isabelle and Sophie for Chinese New Year, and visit from Matt in our AM class with the tractor. We LOVED all of your help and knowledge and we welcome our families to join us any time. If you have a special event, career, craft, cooking project, etc., we would love to schedule your visit to our classroom!

Nicole

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Upcoming Events

Yoga w/ Miss Naomi	2/8
Valentine Parties	2/13
Board Meeting	2/13
Closed for Winter Break	
2/20 – 2/24	

VALENTINE PARTIES



ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 13TH WE WILL CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY IN EACH OF OUR CLASSES WITH A FEW SONGS, SNACKS, AND BY HANDING OUT VALENTINES TO OUR CLASSMATES. CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO BRING VALENTINES TO SCHOOL AS LONG AS THEY INCLUDE ONE FOR EVERY CLASSMATE.

WE ARE DISCOURAGING BRINGING ANY CANDY TO SCHOOL, AS WE DON'T FEEL IT'S NECESSARY FOR OUR CELEBRATION.

PARENTS AND FAMILY MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

PARTIES WILL BE HELD AT 11:00 AND 2:30

Board of Trustees

We are beginning the search for new members for the 2012-2013 IVNS Board of Trustees. Barbara Moniot and Debbie Ceragioli graciously stepped into the Co-President role this past fall when we were left with a sudden change in the position. However, this coming school year they would like to step down - thus opening the position for a new Board of Trustees President. If any of our current parents or community members are interested in this position for the coming school year, please talk to Nicole or another Board member to get more information. Members typically serve 2 years on the Board, and no experience is necessary. We'll give you all the info you need - we just need a leader! Other Board positions may also become available, so if you are at all interested in joining us, please do. Our next meeting is Monday, February 13th at 3:15.



February Birthday

Hannah.....Feb. 7th



February Stars of the Week

Week of 2/6: Elijah (AM Class) and Kaitlyn (PM Class)

Week of 2/13: Ellie (AM Class) and Lola (PM Class)

Week of 2/27: Eric (AM Class) and Sebastien (PM Class)

Our star of the week program has been a big hit thus far and we're looking forward to starring the rest of our students throughout the Winter and Spring. We would love it if parents came in during their child's star week to read a special story or two. You can schedule this during the last 10 minutes of class on any day that works in your schedule. Just let Nicole or Misty know what day you would like to come read!

Cereal Boxes and Baby Food Jars

We would like each child to bring one empty cereal box to school so we can turn them into mailboxes to collect valentines at our Valentine Parties on February 13th. We'll provide the rest of the crafting materials that your child will use to decorate, cut and create their own mailbox. Please send your child's cereal box to school by Monday February 6th.

We will also be collecting empty baby food jars this month. Any other small jar with a lid will work for our project, so send them in anytime that you find them!

Raising Emotionally Healthy Children

Article by Dora Fowler, MBA

Our work as men and women raising children is important because our influence lasts a lifetime. But what are the most important gifts we give our children? Self-love, self-concept, and self-esteem.

Self-Love

Self-love is the most essential of all skills. It is a concept children learn from the way parents (and other adults) treat them. Children first need to know that they are loved and accepted for who they are. With this as a basis, their natural impulse is to take that love and learn to contribute it to the world in constructive ways. It is not difficult then, to see that self-love is the best gift we can give our children.

Self-love in children, as in adults, means liking themselves, enjoying themselves, and accepting themselves. Children need to know that although parents may not always like what they do, or have done, we still like and love them. There is a great difference between rejecting a child's behavior and rejecting the child. Help the child understand that he or she is a human being and as a human being he or she will make mistakes. Our goal is to help children learn from those mistakes and assist them in making corrections.

We also help the child look for strengths by helping him or her experience success. Success, obviously, means different things to different children. For one child success might mean being able to put on his or her snow boots without help, and being told, "Good job!" Another child may experience success by remembering to put his or her toys away before bedtime.

Self-Concept

Self-concept is the image we have of ourselves. It means liking ourselves just the way we are. To teach children about self-concept, we must look at them without labels or comparisons. If a child is taller than most of the other children in his or her class, he or she may feel awkward. However, if the child is taught that his or her height is an asset of which to be proud, the child will grow up with respect for him- or herself and others.

There are things about every child that are unique. It is by zeroing in on each special quality—whether it is their willingness to let someone else ride their trike, their whimsical sense of humor, or their ability to carry a tune—that we give children a positive sense of self. Children take great pride and delight in the knowledge that there is no one exactly like them in the world. Share a child's uniqueness by looking into his or her eyes with a smile that says, "You are special. I love to be with you!"

Self-Esteem

Self-esteem has been defined as "the sense of being lovable and capable." When these two qualities are in sync, a child has high self-esteem.

Children learn about themselves and know themselves only by reflection. For the first important years of their lives, parents are the major influence providing this reflection to the child. Later on, teachers and friends in addition to parents provide this reflection.

Conclusion

As parents, we want to make everything right and wonderful for our children. We want to eliminate conflict, disappointment, rejection, and failure from their lives. But we need to remember that life is a process. Children will encounter conflict, disappointment, rejection, and failure as they move through life. It is by giving them a strong sense of self-love, self-concept, and self-esteem that we prepare them to learn what life is all about. This is our most important task as parents.

Dora Fowler, MBA, is founder and executive director of the National Institute of Child Care Management. She is also the founder of the National Association of Child Care Professionals.

Parent Conferences

Throughout the entire month of February I will be available to discuss the results of your child's mid-year assessment. During each class period I have offered 30 minutes slots to schedule your conferences. There is a sign-up sheet on the board outside of our classroom. I would love to meet with all of our families, and hope that that you can find a time that fits in your schedule. If you need to schedule a time or day *other* than what I have listed on the sign-up sheet, please don't hesitate to contact me and we will find another time to meet. Thank you!

Raley's Scrip Cards = Earning Potential for IVNS

Every time you shop at Raley's you could be earning money for Incline Village Nursery School! We are registered to use their Scrip fundraising cards, and it is **SUPER EASY**.

Step 1: Pick up a scrip card from Nicole at IVNS (plastic card)

Step 2: Register your card online for Incline Village Nursery School

Step 3: Shop at Raley's & swipe your Scrip card each time you pay for your items

Step 4: A percentage of your purchase comes back to IVNS!



February 2012 Classroom Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Letter: T Theme: Winter Sports & the Superbowl			1	2	3	4
5 Letter: U Theme: What is Love?	6	7 Hannah's Birthday	8 Yoga with Miss Naomi 10:30/2:00	9	10	11
12 Letter: V Theme: Presidents & Voting	13 Valentine Parties 11:00/2:30 Board Meeting at 3:15pm	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day	21	22	23	24	25
SCHOOL CLOSED ALL WEEK ----- WINTER BREAK -----						
26 Letter: W Theme: Dental Health	27	28	29 Leap Day			