

# Creative Learning Center

## February 2017

Please visit our website at [www.clcalamo.com](http://www.clcalamo.com).

### Dates to Remember

#### February 1 - 15

Collection for the Food Bank of Contra Costa County. Please bring items to school by Wednesday, February 15. Thank you for your support!

#### Thursday and Friday, February 2 and 3

Parent Conferences - NO SCHOOL

(Childcare during your conference time)

#### Monday, February 6 (or after your Parent Conference)

Turn in Re-Enrollment Forms

#### Monday and Tuesday, February 13 and 14

Valentine's Celebrations (info distributed at Conferences)

#### Monday, February 20

President's Day - NO SCHOOL

#### March 1

Deadline for Re-Enrollment Forms

### February Theme

Theme: You've Got Mail

Communication, Occupations, Community helpers, Sharing

Math focus: Measurement

Letters of the Week

Feb. 6-10	H h
Feb. 13-17	N n
Feb. 21-24	U u
Feb. 27-Mar. 3	M m

## Re-Enrollment Information

CLC Re-Enrollment information for Summer 2017 and the 2017-18 school year was sent via email and will be available in hard copy at Conferences. Please return your Re-Enrollment Form on Monday, February 6, or asap following your conference. Forms must be turned in no later than March 1 to receive priority over new incoming CLC students.

## Tax ID #

For those of you working on your income taxes...our Tax ID # is 68-0189008.

## What's Happening?

As the month of February begins, we have scheduled our annual parent/teacher conferences for Thursday and Friday, February 2 and 3. Our staff looks forward to meeting with you and having the time to discuss your child's developmental growth and interests, along with discussing placement for the coming school year. Childcare will be provided during these conferences, but there is NO SCHOOL on these days.

## Together Time Highlights



### Motor, Science and Music

- January was a fun month exploring STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) in SCIENCE with Teacher Lynne! We explored ramps, measuring the distance cars traveled across different textures while observing friction and angles. We also created structures out of cubes and sticks and others out of toothpicks and play dough.
- We worked on basic MOTOR development skills so that Teacher Courtney could do evaluations for review with your child's Together Time Teacher during upcoming Conferences.
- MUSIC in January with teacher Jan flew by with a wet and wintry theme. We chanted "Cho-co-la-te" in Spanish to the rhythm of the Mexican "mollinillo" (a frothing tool for hot chocolate made of turned wood), and listened to Vivaldi's "Winter" from "The Four Seasons" while looking at Robert Sabuda's wonderful pop up book Winter's Tale. The active movement songs "Little Tommy Tinker," "The Noble Duke of York" and "Stand on Your Tippy Toes" warmed us up during cold weather days. "The Wheel of the Water", a rain cycle song with hand motions by Tom Chapin, was a favorite with the

children. They also sang along to "We All Sing With the Same Voice" (as seen on Sesame Street) along with the book by J. Philip Miller and Sheppard M. Greene and the recording sung by Lisa Monet. We shared Teacher Jan's big red plastic horn and a trumpet this month, along with a kazoo collection and Matthew Golub's "The Jazz Fly".

Here is a link to make your own kazoo at home with wax paper and an empty toilet paper roll. [How to Make a Kazoo](#)



### Mary's Orange Tigers

- Cut out and painted stars
- Put together snow people
- Delighted in our rubber egg experiment
- Made and enjoyed Stone Soup

### Chieko's Red Rock Stars

- Created rocket ships with our names
- Tasted eggs and voted on our favorite kind
- Baked elephants and ate them while in our PJ's
- Read about planet earth and made our own earths

### Susan's Yellow Bees

- Sang "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" and made our own sparkly stars
- Baked biscuit elephants with enormous ears and eyes
- Created rainbow rockets that counted down to "blast off"!
- Talked about Chinese New Year traditions and ate noodles with chopsticks

### Linda's AM Blue Birds

- Created yellow handprint suns and water color painted coffee filters to create our home planet Earth
- Practiced our scissor skills cutting out dinosaur eggs after learning that dinosaurs hatched from eggs
- Discovered the effects of carbonation and bubbles as we watched "racing raisins" in gingerale
- Tasted radishes after reading "Rosie Rabbit's Radish"

### Marie's Green Geckos

- Sang silly songs: "I'm Still Here in the Bathtub" by Alan Katz
- Learned about what animals lay eggs
- Ripped pieces of paper and used them in a collage while working on fine motor skills
- Practiced ways to relax our bodies

### Lindi's AM Purple Pandas

- Manipulated yarn to make sticky spiderwebs for the "Itsy Bitsy Spider"
- Glued eyeballs on letter "E"
- Made robots out of rectangles
- Caught rainbows from a robotic rainbow maker

### Lindi's PM Red Apples

- Created fingerprint masterpieces inspired by Van Gough's "Starry Starry Night"
- Learned about the water cycle and made "rain clouds" in a cup
- Learned about plasma and created sun catchers
- Painted planet Earth

### Lynne's PM Blue Birds

- Worked on following 2 step directions by making a snowman
- Added new circle time songs: Days of the Week and Months of the Year
- Began letter recognition with Rocketship names
- Began fine motor skills using sissors and pencil grasping

### Marisha's PM Pandas

- Read "Snow Friends"
- Made snow paint and snowmen
- Discussed the weather, what to wear outside and activities to do indoors
- R is for Rain Cloud Art

### Marisha's Golden Stars

- Made Eye Sticker collages
- Practiced motor activities for exercise
- Made rectangle and ribbon art
- Reviewed letters and numbers

## Staff Spotlight

This month our staff spotlight shines brightly on Lindi. She is our morning Purple Panda Teacher and our afternoon Red Apple Teacher. Lindi graduated from the University of Georgia with a B.S. in Special Education and holds certifications in Early Childhood Education. Before joining CLC this past September, she taught preschool in New York City and Georgia. As a NYC transplant, she is having a blast exploring the East Bay. In her free time she enjoys hiking, kayaking and doing yoga.

Working with these children gives me so much joy. Watching them play and express themselves freely makes me think of a quote by A.A. Milne:

*"Sometimes, if you stand on the bottom rail of a bridge and lean over to watch the river slipping slowly away beneath you, you will suddenly know everything there is to be known."*

## It's My Birthday!

*February Birthdays - Let's Celebrate!*  
Alex F, Dominic, Doug, Emmy, Everett,  
Lia, Mariah, Rhys, and Vivian

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