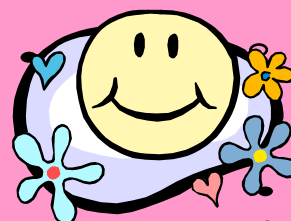


February 2012

Volume 7, Issue 4

The Smile



Happy Face Nursery School • (908) 832-7510

Letter from the Director

Val Shlimbaum



Teaching Staff

Director

Valerie Shlimbaum

Teachers

D. Mayberry

D. McDede

M. Monaghan

M. Schafer

V. Shlimbaum

TA Supervisor

K. Shoolbraid

Teaching Assistants

D. Mayberry

J. McCloskey

Administrative Assistant

J. McCloskey

Board of Trustees

President

Meghan Presutti

Director

Valerie Shlimbaum

Co-Vice Presidents

Phyllis Sullivan

Brandy Wilmott

Secretary

Brandi Grieder

Treasurer

Jaqueline McCloskey

Public Relations

Jessica Hickman-Beard

Room Mom Coordinator

Erica Kennedy

Members At Large

Scholastic Book Club

Martha Monaghan

Dear Parents,

No matter how you look at it, whether or not the groundhog sees his shadow, there are only about six more weeks of winter. The days are already growing longer and hopefully warmer. Keep those hats and mittens in your school bags. Because as long as there is no snow on the playground and we have a day when the temperature reaches 40 degrees, we will go outside to play.

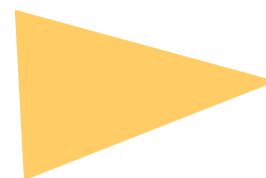
Parent/Teacher conferences for the 3s, 4s, and Fab 5s are scheduled for March 19th-23rd. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside each classroom door on February 14th. Please stop in to schedule your appointment. Conferences give you the opportunity to sit down one-on-one with your teacher and discuss your child's development and the program best suited to his/her needs for the following school year.

During the month of February the children will do lots of valentine projects in the first part of the month, then move on to "transportation/travel" (3s) and our new "music" theme (4s) during the second half of the month. The 5s will learn about Chinese New Year (it's the Year of the Dragon). For more information about our topics and themes for February, see the Month in Review section of this newsletter.

Have a great February! Don't forget, school is closed for President's Weekend on Friday, February 17th and Monday, February 20th.

Keep Smiling,

Val



Updates from the Board of Trustees

Meeting held on January 5, 2012

In attendance — V. Shlimbaum, M. Presutti, B. Wilmott, E. Kennedy, J. Hickman-Beard, P. Sullivan, J. McCloskey, M. Lissner, M. Schafer, M. Monahan, D. Mayberry, B. Grieder

Please attend our next board meeting Thursday, February 2, 2012 @ 7:00 pm in the Conference Room @ Happy Face Nursery School

All are Welcome!

Meghan Presutti, President

973.466.5012

matthew_presutti_403@comcast.net

Val Shlimbaum

908.537.2535

vshlim@comcast.net

Phyllis Sullivan

fsps@comcast.net

Brandy Wilmott

brandeywe@hotmail.com

Brande Grieder

908-246-8157

scottbrande2006@comcast.net

Jessica Hickman-Beard

908.520-0109

jjcb20@comcast.net

Erica Kennedy

908-867-7030

Es.kennedy@comcast.net

2012 - 2013 School Year - Tuition/Marketing

Possible Open House during the day (Monday or a Wednesday in the PM). Get information from potential parents and follow up for a one on one visit.

- Currently enrolled student options - \$50.00 application fee & then 1st payment for May 2013. June 1st will be the due date for September's tuition.
- New enrollment students - payments will stay the same
- Tuition Fees - Tuition will raise by 3% - plus \$2.00 for room mom money - snack money will remain the same.
- Lunch bunch will stay at \$30.00 monthly flat rate.

2012 - 2013 Budget Planning

- Not expecting any usual expenditures
- Hold off on creating the budget for 2012 - 2013 until we reach a sense of enrollment (by April)

Fundraising

- Looking into "Junk in the Trunk" for another fundraiser. End of Feb or March.
- Tricky Tray update - More letters will be sent to corporations and local companies for donations.

Board Open House! We Need YOU!

The 2011-2012 Happy Face Board will be hosting an Open House at the February 2nd Board Meeting!

(snow date February 9th)

Please join us at 7:00 pm!

Coffee & desserts will be served!

Do you want to be more involved with your Children's education? Come and share your thoughts!

We are also looking for Board Members for 2012 – 2013. Please contact our current President Meghan (matthew_presutti_403@comcast.net).

We look forward to see you on the 2nd!



2012-2013 Enrollment

Happy Face registration for 2012—2013 school year has started. Phases 1 (Started 1/23/12) and 2 (1/31/12) have already begun, but you can still register even if you missed those reserved dates. If you've misplaced your application packet, see Mrs. M or call the school.

- Phase 1: Registration of currently enrolled students and their siblings
- Phase 2: Registration of Happy Face Alumni Siblings



Happy Start Scholarship

Happy Face offers a financial-needs-based scholarship for a 4-year-old student interested in attending Happy Face Nursery School.

The Scholarship will award:

Tuition which covers the full 3-day tuition for the 4 AMs program plus registration and incidental fees.

Phase 3: Open Registration

Accepting All New Applications
Beginning Tuesday, February 14, 2012

Please spread the word about our registration dates to those who may be interested in our school, but do not receive our newsletter or mailings.

Send your friends and family to www.happyfacenurseryschool.com for more information.

Thank you!

The scholarship recipient may also enroll for the 4 PM, or Fab 5s program upon teacher recommendation, however, any additional tuition or fees are not covered by the scholarship.

Applications plus 2011 1040 tax form must be received no later than April 15, 2012. Please telephone 908.832.7510 for more information.

Valentine Exchange



**Monday, February 13, 2012
for 2½s & 4's**

**Tuesday, February 14, 2012 for
2 1/2, 3s & Fab 5s**

Happy Face does not hold a formal Valentine's Day Party, but we do exchange cards with each other. During class time the children will decorate fancy bags for depositing cards for classmates and friends.

Please send valentines in for your child to give to each child in their own homeroom, and for children in the other classes if they should choose to do so. The children only need to sign the cards. Please **DO NOT** address the envelope to a particular classmate. Candy may be included with the valentines, however, it is not necessary.



**Let's Do Lunch
Bunch!**

**Call Mrs. M
832-7510**



Room Mom's Mid-Year Report

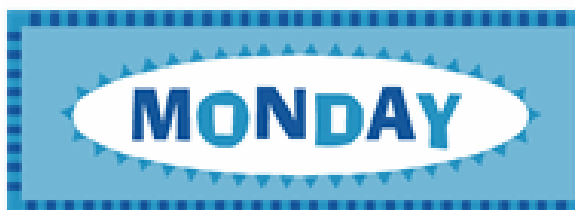
The Room Moms are in the planning stages for the rest of the year's activities which include the Easter egg hunt, end-of-year picnic, graduation and Teacher Appreciation luncheon. Keep your eye on those backpacks and watch for notices to come from your room moms about upcoming events and any help that is needed. We are looking forward to a wonderful rest of the year!

Monday Moms

Once a month, volunteer moms substitute in classrooms while the teachers have their monthly teacher's meeting. Siblings are welcome. It is a good way to get into the classroom to meet the children and other moms.

Call Val, 908-832-7510, to substitute during this month's meeting:

Feb. 6, 2011 @ 9:00 AM



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Please stop in to choose a time for your conference during the week of March 21st -25th. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside each homeroom starting February 14th. If the scheduled March dates are not convenient, please feel free to meet with your teacher at an earlier date. Formal conferences are not scheduled for the 2 1/2s, however, if you would like to meet with your teacher, we are happy to set up an appointment for you.

For children in the 4s and Fab 5s programs, teachers will address kindergarten-readiness topics, such as:

- ☑ The ability to understand the concepts of *more than*, *less than*, and *same*
- ☑ Maturity to cope with the world/environment, and learn at the same time
- ☑ The ability for listening to directions without interrupting and to stories & poems without restlessness
- ☑ The ability for hearing words that rhyme and words that begin with the same or different sounds
- ☑ The ability for seeing likenesses and differences in pictures/designs and letters and words that match
- ☑ The ability to understand the relationships among words such as *up/down*, *left/right*, and classifications of words that represent nouns
- ☑ The ability to communicate clearly, staying on topic in class discussions, retelling a story/poem in sequence, and telling a story or relating an experience of his/her own

- ☑ The ability to think and give the main idea of a story, unique ideas and important details, and reasons for his/her opinions
- ☑ The ability to adjust: to changes in routine and new situations without becoming fearful; to opposition or defeat without crying or sulking; to the necessity of asking for help when needed
- ☑ The ability to obey classroom rules as established by a teacher, safety rules on the playground, and school-bus and fire-drill rules quickly and quietly
- ☑ The ability to play cooperatively with other children, and to share, take turns, and assume his or her share of group responsibility
- ☑ The ability to work without being easily distracted, to follow directions, to complete each task, and take pride in his or her work
- ☑ The ability to recognize letters of the alphabet and numbers 1-20

For children in the 3s programs, teachers will address general topics such as:

- ☑ Maturity to cope with the world/environment, and their social interaction with teachers and fellow students
- ☑ The ability to recognize different shapes and colors



Discuss your child's kindergarten readiness with his or her teacher.

February In Review

Children will spend this month reading literature and investigating several themes and topics including:

- ❖ Love
- ❖ The color pink
- ❖ Shadows
- ❖ Heart shape
- ❖ Letters *S, T, U, V*
(sound and recognition)
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Dance
- ❖ Music sounds and instruments
- ❖ Chinese New Year
- ❖ Dragons
- ❖ Presidents Lincoln and Washington

The author of the month for the 4s is:

- **Leo & Diane Dillon**
(Authors of *Rap A Tap Tap*)

The nursery rhymes of the month for the 2 1/2s are:

- ***Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush***
- ***Queen of Hearts***
- ***The Cat and the Fiddle***

To extend learning at home, you may wish to read books related to these themes, such as the following:

- ***Love, Splat*** by Rob Scotton
- ***Valentine Surprise*** by Corinne Demas



Happy Face will be closed Friday,
February 17th and Monday,
February 20th for
President's Weekend!

Don't forget about the Open House Board Meeting on
Thursday, February 2nd at 7:00 pm!