



GBC NEWS

MARCH 2016

- Dates to Remember:
- **Fri 3/25 and Mon 3/28**
CLOSED
 - **Wed 3/30**
Buds Family Breakfast
 - **Wed 4/20**
Blossoms Family Breakfast



- Look who we celebrated recently!
February Birthdays:
- 2/2- Tony (Gabriel's dad)
 - 2/4- Ms. Cookie
 - 2/6- Michelle (Anders' mom)
 - 2/6- Carolyn (Dylan's mom)
 - 2/12- Monika (Francesca's mom)
 - 2/16- Jon (Joey's dad)
 - 2/18- Sally (Charlie's mom)
 - 2/21- Hillary (Lola's mom)



GB's New Faces



Nora
Seedling



Jack
Seedling



Emmanuel
Seedling



Lucy
Seedling



Jane
Seedling



Warner
Sprout



Mimi
Sprout



Harper
Bud



Vaughn
Blossom

"Play is our brain's favorite way of learning"
-Diane Ackerman

A Note From Katie & Krissy:

A big thank you to all of our families who participated in February's GB Gives Back collection! Because of your generosity, Breakthrough Women's Center received SIXTEEN bags of clothing! Thank YOU!

Another thank you goes to our Sprouts families who joined their kids and teachers for a delicious family breakfast last month. Buds, save March 30th for your family breakfast!



Seedlings

Ms. Larrita, Ms. Cristina, Ms. Vivi, & Ms. Juliet

The month of February was very exciting for our Seedlings! Our babies enjoyed many activities that allowed them to communicate, express themselves, and experiment with babbling sounds. Teachers responded to the distinct sounds Seedlings were making by describing what they thought Seedlings were attempting to communicate. We also encouraged Seedlings to show interest in their environment, and observed as they tried to comprehend and talk about pictures they saw in books. As Seedlings pointed to or babbled about pictures in the books, teachers would describe these pictures for the Seedlings.



As for our cognitive activities, Seedlings used their sense of touch to explore different types of textured materials. Seedlings used their hands and feet to explore bubble wrap, plastic netting pieces, and soft pieces of fabric taped to the floor. They also strengthened their pincer grasp by pulling different textures of squares out of a container.



Dramatic play was fun to watch! Seedlings were encouraged to place plastic coins through a slot in a piggy bank, and explored different sized baskets by placing items in and dumping them out.

Our food experience was exciting as Seedlings explored the shape, color, and texture of strawberries and rice. The babies really enjoyed feeling the texture of rice between their fingers and toes!



During morning movement, Seedlings exercised their lower backs and increased body coordination during our yoga exercises as teachers held Seedlings hands and feet together and gently rolled them from left to middle, then middle to right. We are looking forward to another fun filled month as Spring draws near!



Blossoms

Ms. Devon & Ms. Emily

The kids transformed their house center into a doctor's office last month! To help us with this project, we welcomed Nurse Shannon (Madelyn's mom from the Buds room) into our class to talk to us about her job and to show us her medical tools! The kids came up with great questions to ask Nurse Shannon such as "What do you wear to your job?" and "What do you do all day?" Nurse Shannon showed us how to use a stethoscope and how to put bandages on using gauze and tape. The kids transferred their new skills to our dramatic play area where they continued to work as doctors and nurses.

In honor of dental health month, we read stories, participated in discussions, and, of course, practicing our brushing skills! Through our stories and discussions, we hoped to make the concept of going to the dentist a little less frightening. We learned that the magic dental health number is TWO: Brush your teeth TWO times a day, brush your teeth for TWO minutes, and visit the dentist TWO times a year. The kids also participated in an experiment where we soaked hardboiled eggs in fruit punch, pop, and water. We pretended the eggs were teeth, and talked about what happens to your teeth when you eat/drink sugary foods. The kids then practiced their brushing skills by trying to remove the stains from the egg. We look forward to inviting Dr. Terrin (Joey's mom from the Sprouts room) in to talk to us about her job as a dentist!



Sprouts

Ms. Jisela, Ms. Lilly, & Ms. Jewel

Brush, brush, brush! Our little Sprouts spent the month of February exploring toothbrushes! We learned how brushing our teeth keeps them nice and white.

To expand on our dental learning, we used marshmallows and apples during our food exploration to represent our mouth and teeth. Ask the kids to "say cheese!" and they will point to their mouths and show you their teeth ☺

We also learned the names of all of the colors of the rainbow as the Sprouts explored building and stacking with the use of colored sponges.

For our sensory activities, the Sprouts used the wax of a candle to explore their sense of smell, and used their sense of touch to explore flowers. We can't wait to continue our explorations outdoors in the Spring!

Buds

Ms. Judy, Ms. Janet, & Ms. Mirella

Buds finished the shortest month of the year embracing new and old friendships in the spirit of Valentine's Day. We encouraged the Buds to speak kindly to one another, practiced inviting friends into playgroups, and engaged in activities that promote sharing. We discussed kind acts and practiced the concept of giving as we created homemade gifts to give to friends and loved ones.

During the month of February, we also focused on the importance of dental hygiene. We discussed healthy snacks that are good for our teeth, and talked about snacks that should be limited. We stressed the importance of proper brushing to get rid of those bugs that can develop in dirty mouths.

As we begin to head outside more, please help your children practice self-help skills at home to add to their continued success at school. This includes buttoning, zipping, and putting on shoes.

At home expand on our learning by encouraging kindness through words and actions. Remember to praise your child and "catch" them being a good friend toward others!

