

Pembroke News

March 2014

Miss Andrea

There are bits of good news to share with everyone. Miss Carrie will be joining Pembroke Kids full time. Up until now, she has been a super substitute teacher and our After School Coordinator. Beginning March 3rd, she will be assuming full responsibility for the Before School Program as well. Additionally, she will work in classrooms each morning, rotating through each room weekly. This will enable us to devote more individual time to all students. Carrie's "floater" responsibilities will enable us to begin using a new curriculum assessment system that we will be implementing this fall.

Pembroke Kids preschool currently uses a curriculum entitled Creative Curriculum. Creative Curriculum provides a developmental continuum with measurable milestones with which we chart your child's progress. Our progress reports are generated from this information. The portfolio contains work samples documenting your child's progress. The new Teaching Strategies Gold is the latest version of Creative Curriculum. We are embracing the latest technology with this new system. Each classroom will have an i-Pad mini. With this technology, teachers will be able to have everything in one place - assessments, photos, work samples, artwork. We will be able to document most assessments on the i-Pad using photography and video. Much of your child's work will be online through the "Parents Portal." Newsletters, photographs, lesson plans, communications, individual documentation, and more will all be available online. We are excited and anxious! The opportunities are awesome. In order to be up and running for the beginning of school in August, the staff will spend time this summer learning our new system. We plan to phase in the new system gradually, beginning with lesson planning. Next we will do newsletters and the parent portal, moving on to assessments and progress reports.

We will keep everyone up to date, stay tuned!

Miss Sue and Miss Sara

Thank you to all our parents who donated items for our Valentine's Day celebrations! We had lots of fun and the children loved receiving their valentine bags full of goodies.

The children enjoyed our Olympic theme as they learned where Russia is, where Sochi is, what the five Olympic rings mean, and what different winter sports take place there. We even made predictions on how long it would take to get to Sochi from Cleveland by airplane. We had

a range from 1 minute to 49 hours! The actual time from Cleveland is 11 hours and 30 minutes.

Our next theme is fairy tales. Since most children know a few of these, we've had the children retell their favorite fairy tales like Jack and the Beanstalk and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Some of our art ideas are making wands and fiery dragons.

For the first two weeks of March we will be discovering dinosaurs! This is always a popular theme for both boys and girls. We will be visited by Lorain County Metroparks and their "Construct-o-saurus" that the children will help construct in the Wiggle Room! The children will learn many facts about dinosaurs during these two weeks. If your child has any favorite dinosaur books at home, please bring them in to share with the class.

We are putting together an Environmental Print ABC book for the classroom! Environmental Print is one of the beginning stages of literacy development. We all see logos and signs in our daily lives and it is the first print that a child learns to "read." All these logos and signs they see in their daily lives hold great meaning for them. Children get excited when they can "read" the print in the environment, like McDonald's, Wal-Mart, STOP, Target, etc. Please clip out names of cereals, snacks, etc., and bring them in to add to our book, or you can take pictures around the city if you wish and bring those in. Thank you for your help!

sue@pembrokekids.com or sara@pembrokekids.com

Miss Theresa and Miss Cecilia

February was an Olympic month for us! All of our reading, writing and math activities focused on the winter sports that we were watching in the Olympics. We "skated" through rhyming games, "sped" along in our patterning lessons, "twirled" primary colors to discover secondary ones, and "curled" up with wonderful books. We made and wore medals, sorted flags, and cut and assembled Olympic colored rings. The children really enjoyed sharing their experiences with skiing and ice-skating, and we all now know the difference between the luge and skeleton. The highlight of the unit was our own Olympic games in the Wiggle Room with Kindergarten, First and Second Graders. We enjoyed a skating rink, a speed-skating ring, two-man bobsleds, cross-country skiing, and ice hockey. We started the games by lighting the torch and ended with an Olympic snack. A good time was had by all!

theresa@pembrokekids.com or cecilia@pembrokekids.com

Miss Katie and Miss Elena

This past month has been very packed. We started the month with an author study. The children's favorite Jan Brett book was *The Hat*. The children created their own hedgehog that they made out of clay and spaghetti noodles. The Mixed-Age class completed a Venn diagram that compared and contrasted the mice and how they felt about their homes in the book *Country Mouse, Town Mouse*. They created musical instruments and "played in a band" just like the characters of *Berloiz the Bear*.

During our Friendship week, in the Young 3's we talked about being kind to our friends and asking to use the toys our friends are playing with. We also celebrated Valentine's Day. We made many heart-shaped art projects. We would like to say thank you to all the families in both classes that donated art supplies and items for our classroom parties. We had so much fun! We also finished up two weeks of learning about dinosaurs in preparation for the Lorain County Metro Parks visit in March when they will bring a hands-on dinosaur skeleton to build. We can't wait!

Our Young 3's class will be focusing the remainder of the year on independence. We want the children to be able to do as much as they can on their own. For example, at snack time we will assist the children with taking the straw out of the package (which can be tricky), but will challenge them to stick it into the drink themselves. Or when they get done using the restroom, we will challenge them to pull up their own bottoms. What ways can you challenge your child at home? Maybe they can begin to dress themselves or maybe they can wash their hands on their own. We would love to hear how your child is becoming more independent at home!

<http://katieandelenaprek.blogspot.com/>

Miss Krista

In kindergarten, we try to incorporate the children's interest as much as possible in our learning. As a result, we spent the past several weeks learning about the Olympics. Many children in the class were watching the games with their families and became more interested in the sporting events. We took this opportunity to learn about other cultures. We also practiced teamwork while we had our own Pembroke Olympic Games in the Wiggle Room.

The children enjoyed learning about shapes, addition, and subtraction in math this past month. We learn new math concepts with a variety of hands-on games. Everyday we dedicate approximately 30 minutes to math workshops. During this time, I introduce at least one new game or activity. I also set out two activities we learned before. The children move at their own pace to the three different stations. This allows the students to work at their own pace and do activities that are appropriately

challenging. While some children may be working on numeral recognition, other students are learning about two digit number addition. Keeping the children challenged at their own level encourages them to stay interested in learning without feeling like the work is too easy or too hard.

kristaskindergarten.blogspot.com

Miss Clare

We had a fun-filled, educational month learning about the Olympics and our world. Now it is time for us to move on to another theme — Road Trip Around the USA. The students actually picked this theme themselves. We brainstormed a list of theme ideas, narrowed them down to five, and voted on our favorites. During this theme, we are going to learn about the states, our national geography, famous landmarks, and regions of the United States. I am very excited to share this social studies piece with the students. We will also be expanding upon our knowledge of subtraction and addition by working with regrouping. In Social Studies, we will be learning about using maps, directions, and locations. We will hopefully be able to pack in as much information as possible before we end the month with Spring Break.

missclareclassroom.blogspot.com

Summer Camp at Pembroke

You wouldn't know it by the weather, but it's time to start thinking about Summer Camp at Pembroke! Our eight-week schedule is now up on our website if you want to get a head start. We will also be sending home our Summer Camp brochure to all our current Pembroke students as soon as it is available.

We have weekly sessions for preschool children ages 3 to 5 and school-age children entering kindergarten through sixth grade in the fall. Our camp is open to the public and registration takes place on a first-come-first-served basis. Before and after school care is available.

Don't get shut out of the session you want! Register now!

Check out our schedule at www.pembroke/kids.com.

Box Tops for Education



We hope you've had a chance to help your child count the number of snowflakes their class has.

Our winter drive has ended and keeping in mind that each snowflake represents 50 box tops, our final count is as follows:

Miss Krista/Miss Clare	13 snowflakes
Miss Katie/Miss Elena	10 snowflakes
Miss Sue/ Miss Sara	9 snowflakes
Miss Theresa/Miss Cecilia	6 snowflakes

Congratulations to Miss Krista's and Miss Clare's classrooms! They are the winners of the hot chocolate and cookie treat!

Please keep saving those box tops for us and look for spring flowers growing in our next display.

Donuts with Dad/Special Friend - Mar. 11th or 12th

Donuts with Dad/Special Friend is our big event this month. This is a great opportunity for dad or a special friend to spend one-on-one time with our students. Besides donuts and cider, dads and special friends will do a fun project with their child. Check with your teacher if you are unsure of which day you should attend.

Spring Break - Mar. 24th - 28th

We will be closed for spring break March 24th through the 28th. Classes will resume on Monday, March 31st.

Easter Break - April 18th - 21st

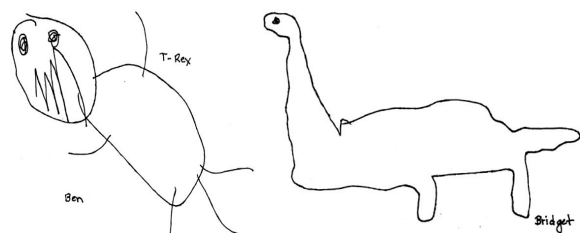
Because of a late Easter this year, we have another short break - Friday, April 18th, through Monday, April 21st. School resumes on Tuesday, April 22nd.

Muffins with Mom - April 29th or 30th

Coming up at the end of April is our special day for moms or special friends to spend some time in their child's classroom. You will also enjoy a treat with your child and work on a fun project together. Invitations will be coming home in April.

Botanical Gardens Field Trip - May 28th

Mark your calendar! We just added this ALL-SCHOOL event on May 28th. We will give you more information as we get closer to the date.



Pembroke Tutoring

Pembroke offers one-to-one and group tutoring for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade. Each student's program is built around his/her personal needs. If you know of a friend or neighbor that could benefit from our services, please tell them about us. We offer tutoring focused on new legislation relating to the "Third Grade Reading Guarantee."

Before and After School Care

Do you have to leave for work before the school day begins or do you need a safe place for your child after school? Consider Pembroke's Before & After Care Program. Designed for students in kindergarten through 6th grade, we provide a safe, supportive environment guided by experienced teachers. Call the office for more information.

School Absences

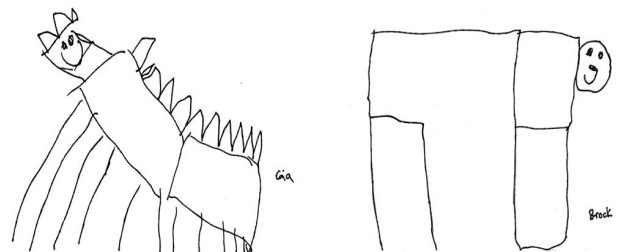
We appreciate a phone call when your child is absent due to illness or other reasons. Please call the office as soon as you know your child will not be attending school - 440-933-3782.

Dates to Remember

- Mar. 11-12 Donuts with Dad
- Mar. 24-28 Spring Break
- Mar. 31 School Resumes
- Apr. 16 1-2 Gr. Field Trip to Lake Erie Nature and Science Center
- Apr. 18-21 Easter Break
- Apr. 22 School Resumes
- Apr. 29-30 Muffins with Mom/Special Friend

Keep up to date with school activities by checking our school calendar in the Parent section of our website: www.pembrokekids.com.

Like us on Facebook - www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids



Thanks to Ben, Bridget, Gia, and Brock for our incredible dinosaurs! Great artwork!