

Pembroke News

February 2015

Miss Andrea

Thank you for participating in parent-teacher conferences. Our teachers prepared carefully and were pleased to share your child's progress with you. We also appreciate your feedback about the Teaching Strategies Gold program. We will be sharing your comments with TSGold and hope to have comments integrated into future versions.

Once again, we will be creating a wall of valentines in the foyer. We are sure you will be able to find your child's valentine this year! Take a peek!

Two fun events are planned for the end of February! Math night is scheduled for Wednesday evening, February 25th. We are planning math activities for each classroom and, somehow, Hobbes will be involved. More information will follow. Save the date!

Thursday, February 26th, Jungle Terry is visiting Pembroke Kids. We all love his refreshing style and cool animals that we can all touch.

And last, but not least, OMG we are thinking about summer camp! The schedule will be ready and live March 1st! Stay tuned and get ready because Summer Camp registration also begins March 1st. I know summer is coming because each evening at 6:50 PM it is still light outside! Think warm thoughts.

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

Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Although the weather may not bring thoughts of spring and fresh garden produce, we are looking forward to our CSA program starting in June. This program will run for 18 weeks during the summer months. With our farmer being only an hour away, this is truly farm-to-table produce! Please stop in the office for more information.

We will be having a "Meet Your Farmer, James Patterson," on Thursday, Feb. 26th, from 4 – 7 PM. Come, ask questions, find out what's involved in organic gardening!



Miss Sue and Miss Rebecca

February is here and so is winter (at least for another 6 weeks, no surprise)!

We would like to thank all of our parents for coming in and talking with us about your child's progress. It's nice to have the opportunity to share your child's accomplishments.

We started out the second half of the school year talking about winter, polar animals, snow, and birds. Some of our fun activities thus far have been: bringing snow inside the classroom to paint (color mixing), making snow ice cream (sequencing ingredients), working together to make a huge bird's nest (cooperation and sharing) and creating clay birds and nests (fine motor strength). We also measured our sponge polar bear (compare and measure). We've had a couple of opportunities to use our sleds on the sledding hill that is just beyond our playground. Hopefully we will have more sledding days.

All this winter weather brings extra clothing for the children to put on. One great thing that is beginning to happen in the classroom is our older children are assisting the younger ones to get dressed for winter play. They are helping them put on snow pants, boots, coats, etc. It is great to see our classroom leaders embrace this task.

Love is in the air as we gear up for Valentine's Day! Please look for your child's unique heart creation in the school foyer. Lots more lovely crafts will be coming home soon.

Some of our upcoming themes are Zoo/Jungle with a special visit from Jungle Terry! Also, in March we will discover Japan – the language, culture, food, etc. Some of our Japanese parents have offered to come in the classroom and teach us many things about their special culture!

Please let us know if you would like to share a story with the class. The best times are 11:45 AM and 2:45 PM. The children love "special readers."

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Miss Theresa and Miss Kathy

This past week we began a unit on Science Fun in response to the children's huge interest in the sensory table. They enjoyed scooping and pouring, measuring and weighing, but what seemed to intrigue them the most was cause and effect. They used their scientific inquiry skills as they predicted how much water would be left in the cup full of snow and what would happen when the dish soap touched the surface of the milk. Their favorite activity by far was to discover the plastic snowflake hidden under the baking soda "snow." The children used safety glasses, pipettes, blue vinegar and tweezers as they pretended to be scientists. They never seemed to tire as they discovered the cause and effect of baking soda and vinegar. I wouldn't be surprised if a few of our students choose a career in science!

The next couple of weeks we will be talking about Valentine's Day and what it means to be a good friend. We will spend lots of time making valentines and artwork for our friends, singing and dancing with our classmates, and working together to decorate our classroom and hallway.

Next Tuesday, February 10th, and Wednesday, February 11th, we are having Show and Share in our room. The children are invited to bring in one thing from home to share with their classmates. This is a great opportunity for the children to practice talking in front of their peers, answering questions, and to work on their listening skills. What a great way for us to learn more about each other!

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Miss Carrie and Miss Kelly

It is hard to believe that the New Year is here and we are already starting the month of February. January has been a month of exploring winter and the kinds of animals that might be found in the cold. The children discovered many important facts about the weather and, most importantly, where bears as well as penguins keep warm. The children also enjoyed making their own winter animal a part of our gross-motor fun. They loved using a parachute to shake, bounce or wiggle their stuffed animals in the air!

Another important area of focus has been number recognition. We are starting to present numbers to the children so they are comfortable exploring and become familiar with numbers 1-6. Most of our children can count from memory but we would like to encourage recognition of the first six numbers. One of the activities that the

class loves to participate in is counting backward from ten. The children look forward to shouting, "Blast off!" at the end.

We have taken note of how much the children have bonded and look forward to seeing each other when they come to school. We are amazed at how observant they have become and will point out who is not in class during the week. Many of the children have started to share morning greetings by giving a hug to their friends when they enter the classroom. This is a remarkable stepping-stone because it reflects growth in self-identity and, most importantly, social skills.

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday break and we look forward to spring. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

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Miss Molly

The students were busy learning about winter animals, hibernation, and creating winter art in January. As we transition to February, we will learn about Valentine's Day and focus on being kind to one another as well as what Valentine's Day means to each child. This month, students will also play a Valentine's mailbox game, heart hop, and various candy heart games. In our dramatic play, students have enjoyed playing in the hot cocoa stand. They have been the "waiter," "manager," and "customer."

Our Valentine's Day party will be held on Thursday, February 12th. If you are able to volunteer and I have not contacted you, please let me know. Students are encouraged to "write" Valentines. The children are really looking forward to their class party. Thank you!

molly@pembrokekids.com



Miss Molly and Miss Carrie – Pre-K

As of January, we have officially "learned" every letter of the alphabet! The class is beaming with confidence! We are beginning to introduce sight words. They have been introduced to I, in, is, at, the, my, and to. With repetition, the students will learn these words and build upon this list as the year progresses.

The Pre-K students will also begin to focus on vowels, syllables, skip counting, and simple addition over the next couple of months. In science and social studies news, we are excited to be receiving Weekly Readers starting next month! Miss Carrie and Miss Molly are excited for a fabulous February.

molly@pembrokekids.com or carrie@pembrokekids.com



Miss Stefanie

Welcome winter!! We have been busy in Kindergarten! We are learning about the Arctic and the animals that live there. The children are enjoying making their own Arctic Animal book. Look for that to come home soon!

We continue to work on fluency in reading and our sight words. We have also been learning about the ch, sh, and th sounds at the beginning and ending of words. Continue to read and work on these skills at home.

In math we have been learning about measuring and 3D shapes. We have been using a ruler and practicing measuring different items around our room. We even measured the snow one day!

The 100th day of school has been moved to Tuesday, February 10th, since we had a snow day.

Our Valentine party will be on Friday, February 13th, after lunch. Your child will need to have 11 Valentines to hand out that day. I will be sending an email regarding the 100th day of school and Valentine's Day.

Stay warm and keep reading and working hard at home! It does make a difference!!!

stefanie@pembrokekids.com

Valentine's Day Parties – Feb. 11th–13th

Our Valentine's Day celebrations will take place Feb. 11th, 12th and 13th. Your child's teacher will contact you if you signed up to help with the Valentine's Day party.

Students may bring Valentines for EVERYONE in their class, but please **do not** put names on the outside of the envelopes. Young 3's will not be exchanging Valentines, but will have a quiet celebration in their classroom.

President's Day – Feb. 16th

Pembroke will be **CLOSED** on Monday, February 16th, in observance of President's Day. School will resume on Tuesday, February 17th.

Open House – Feb. 21st, Mar. 21st

Our next open house is Sat., Feb. 21st, from 9 AM – Noon. If you know of anyone considering preschool or kindergarten for their child in the fall, please let them know about us! We encourage visitors to bring their children to our open houses.

We have one more open house scheduled for this year on Sat., Mar. 21st, from 9 AM – Noon.

Math Night – Feb. 25th, 5 – 6:30 PM

The next big event at Pembroke is Math Night on Wednesday, Feb. 25th. Our theme is "Putting All the Pieces Together." Every child who completes the "puzzle" will have their picture taken with Hobbes!

This is a hands-on event for the whole family. We invite you to learn more about our math curriculum and explore our math games in each of our classrooms. You may even be inspired to make your own games at home!

Donuts with Dad – March 10th – 11th

Looking ahead, we have our popular "Donuts with Dad" coming up March 10th and 11th. This is a special time for dads or a special friend to spend time with our students. Besides donuts and cider, dads and special friends will do a fun project with their child. More information with specific times for each class will be coming home in a few weeks.

Snow Pants, Boots, Gloves, and Hats

We make every effort to provide our students outdoor playtime on a daily basis, so please make sure you send your child to school with appropriate outerwear. Besides a warm winter coat, snow pants, boots, gloves and hats are a must!

Inclement Weather School Closing

Pembroke's school closing policy follows the Avon Lake Public Schools. If Avon Lake Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Pembroke will also be closed. There are many sources you can use to find out this information. Besides TV and the internet, we will post school closings on our Home Page by 7:00 AM at: www.pembrokekids.com. You can also call the school office (440-933-3782). We will change our main greeting by 7 AM.

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.

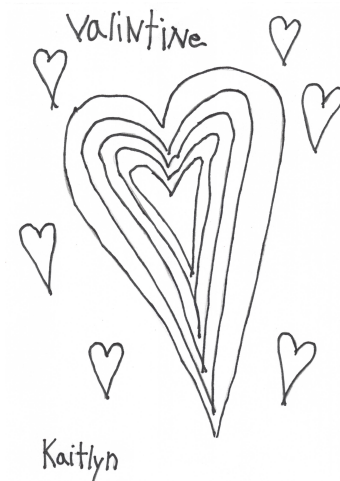
Dates to Remember

- Feb. 11-13 Valentine's Day Parties
- Feb. 16 President's Day – NO SCHOOL
- Feb. 21 Open House, 9 AM – Noon
- Feb. 25 Math Night, 5 – 6:30 PM
- Feb. 26 Meet CSA Farmer 4 – 7 PM
- Mar. 10-11 Donuts with Dad

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

Happy Valentine's Day from
everyone at Pembroke!



Thank you to artists Gabby, Thomas, Athena, Araav, Travis, Heidi, Autumn, Kaitlyn, and Gia.