



# Easterseals Newsletter

Notes from the Director

March 2024

Dear Families,

As March unfolds, we are headed on a literary journey with our little readers! Throughout the month, our activities will revolve around the exciting world of books. From crafts about stories to interactive reading sessions, we aim to foster a love for storytelling, creativity, and teamwork among our little ones. Some classrooms have already kicked off the month with a fun spirit week focusing on Dr. Suess!

Our annual state inspection took place last week. Everything went smoothly! We appreciate everyone supporting us in the changes we have made over the last few months to ensure the proper safety of children and staff to help us with improving our center. It certainly showed the state we are going the extra mile in taking care of your child.

In the spirit of community, we're planning engaging fundraisers to help spread the word about Easterseals and help with funding for our center. Look for more information on restaurant nights and community activities.

We hope you join us for our annual easter egg hunt on March 28th!



Miss Carly

## In This Issue

Early Learning, Vocab, and Parent Pages	2	Calendar and United Way Info	6
Family Appreciation, Volunteer Opportunities, Fundraisers and Events	3	Menus and Health Information	7,8
Giraffe Giggler, Hippo Happening, and Lion Cub Ledger	4	Scholastic and Staff Recognition	9
Elephant Express and Zippy Zebra News	5		

# Early Learning Standards

## Giraffes:

- ♣ 1.3 I.B Attend to a picture in a story when reading with an adult
- ♣ 1.4 I.R Make marks with writing and drawing tools.

## Hippos:

- ♣ 3.2 YT.A.1 Use sense to explore
- ♣ 2.3 YT.A.1 Match identical shapes

## Lion Cubs:

- ♣ 1.2 OT.E Identify a text by the front cover.
- ♣ 10.4 OT.A Combine and coordinate body movement

## Elephants:

- ♣ 1.2 PK.C With prompting and support, make connections between information in a text and personal experience
- ♣ 9.1.V PK.E Use imagination and creativity to express self through visual arts

## Zebras:

- ♣ 1.1 PK.A Practice appropriate book handling skill
- ♣ 1.3 PK.D With prompting and support, name the author and illustrator of a story.

## Vocabulary

- |               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| ♣ Author      | ♣ Fiction             |
| ♣ Writer      | ♣ Non-Fiction         |
| ♣ Illustrator | ♣ Dr. Suess           |
| ♣ Title       | ♣ Saint Patrick's Day |
| ♣ Cover       | ♣ Shamrock            |



## What's the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) doing?

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) will continue to meet regularly. Last month the PAC started a donation box in the front vestibule. THANK YOU to all the families who donated Tissues and Clorox Wipes! Those donations save us so much on our supply orders.

For March, they are collecting **Swiffer Wet Jet Pads and Swiffer Wet Jet Liquid Refills**. A brand new Swiffer Wet Jet would also be a huge help to our center!

If you ever have any questions, thoughts, or ideas that you want to share with the PAC, please reach out to any PAC member or Carly.



# Family Appreciation

- ◇ Thank you to Pauline for the donations of toys and learning materials!
- ◇ Thank you Drenning Family for you donation of spare clothes!
- ◇ Thank you to all the families that donated Tissues and Clorox Wipes to the PAC donation box in February!



## Volunteer Opportunities/Donations

- ◇ Dress-up clothes:
  - ◇ Princess crowns
  - ◇ Cowboys
  - ◇ Sports
  - ◇ Astronauts
- ◇ Soft soap

**Amazon Wish List Link:**

<https://a.co/6yjF3Eg>

## Upcoming Events and Fundraisers

-**Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** Join us **Thursday, March 28th** at 10AM for our annual Easter Egg Hunt. More information to come home at a later date

-**Center Gives: May 8 & 9**— more information to come

- **Walk with Me: June 8th** at Talleyrand Park in Bellefonte— more information about the walk and our Walk With Me kick off event to come home soon.



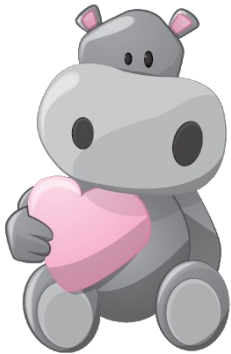
# The Giraffe Giggler



This month we will be diving deep into books! We will be talking about characters and animals in our books and acting out parts of the story. Spring will be here soon! We are so excited about more outside time and warmer weather. We are also so happy to have so many other fun traditions to celebrate this month.



## Hippo Happenings



Happy March Hippos! This month we will be diving into books! We have lots of Dr. Seuss to enjoy and fun art projects. We will also be talking about St. Patrick's Day and going on a hunt for the leprechaun's pot of gold! At the end of the month we will be enjoying our annual Easter Egg Hunt. More information to come later this month. Happy Spring!

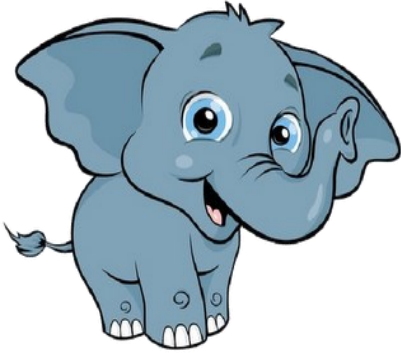


## Lion Cub Ledger

Happy March! This month is going to be all about reading! We will start off the month learning about Dr. Seuss books and read different books from him and doing all kinds of fun activities. We will then learn about St. Patrick's Day and go on a hunt for the leprechaun's pot of gold. After that we will end the month learning all about different fairy tales and nursery rhymes. This is always such a fun month exploring different kinds of stories! I would also like to invite families in or to share your child's favorite book with the class. If you would like to join us one day and read your child's favorite book to the class, please let me know! I will send more information home via the app of what this could look like!



# Elephant Express



March is here and Spring has sprung! This month we will transform into bookworms and begin learning all things literature! The first week we begin our journey with the wonderful and wacky Dr. Seuss! We will enjoy classics like "Cat in the Hat" and "10 Apples on Top" while we discover the different parts of books. I invite all the Elephants to participate in our Dr. Seuss Spirit Week from March 4th-March 8th! More information will be sent out soon! The following weeks we will learn about who writes a book, how they write a book, and what they include in their writing such as characters and where the story takes place. We will enjoy many different books from a variety of authors, such as Eric Carle, Mo Willems, Laura Numeroff and Eric Litwin with a sprinkle of nursery rhymes and fairytales! The Elephants will also enjoy some celebrations this month including St. Patrick's Day, the first day of Spring, and Easter!

This year marks our 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary for Bring a Book from Home Fridays!! Each Friday I will invite a handful of my friends to bring in a favorite book from home to share during circle time! If you would like to come and read to our class when it is your child's turn, please just let me know!

Happy Reading!

Ms. Amber



# Zippy Zebra News

Happy March Zebra Families! This month's theme of the center is bookworm, so we will be reading lots of books. This includes lessons themed around Pete the Cat, Dr. Suess, Eric Carle, and many more. We will be learning about who the author and illustrators are along with working on how we handle our books. The kiddos will also be learning about themes in books and being able to identify major plot points and characters. Since warm weather is coming, another standard we will work on is coordination during outside play! We're hoping this Pennsylvania weather gives us some warm days as spring gets closer and closer. We get outside whenever the weather permits and with muddy weather ahead please be sure to bring in some extra clothes for the kiddos in case we get a little too dirty outside!



# March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4 NON-IU	5 NON-IU	6 NON-IU	7 NON-IU	8 NON-IU	9
10	1	12	13	14	15	16
17 	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31  <b>Happy Easter!</b>	25	26	27	28 Easter Egg Hunt @ 10 AM	29  <b>CLOSED</b>	30

Our Centre County United Way application for 2024 has been submitted. On April 18, we will be visited by a panel of United Way representatives who will learn more about our program and then determine if we will be awarded funds for our center. As part of our presentation, we will have a family speaking to the panel. I'd also like to include some positive family comments in our presentation materials. If you have a brief comment/testimonial that you'd like to share about our center, please email me (Carly) [cpingley@eastersealswcpenna.org](mailto:cpingley@eastersealswcpenna.org). Thank you!

**Centre County  
United Way**





# MEALS: Breakfast & Snack

Since we partner with the Food Bank and their inventory fluctuates, it varies what we have to provide for meals. From now on we will be giving a list of foods that will be available for breakfast and snack instead of specific menus.

## **BREAKFAST ITEMS INCLUDE:**

- GRANOLA BARS
- CEREAL
- FRESH FRUIT
- APPLESAUCE
- YOGURT
- MUFFINS
- TOAST
- BAGELS
- OATMEAL

## **SNACK ITEMS INCLUDE:**

- ♣ FRESH FRUIT
- ♣ VEGGIE CHIPS
- ♣ CRACKERS
- ♣ VEGGIES
- ♣ CHEESE STICKS
- ♣ GRAHAM CRACKERS
- ♣ GOLDFISH
- ♣ ANIMAL CRACKERS
- ♣ PRETZELS
- ♣ POPCORN (AGES OVER 2)
- ♣ PIZZA BITES

# March 2024 Lunch

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Pizza Green Beans Mixed Fruit Milk	2
3	4 Chicken Nuggets Peas & Carrots Fruit Cocktail Milk	5 Soft Tacos Sweet Corn Pineapple Tidbits Milk	6 Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Oranges Milk	7 Chicken Tetrizzini Cooked Carrots Peaches Milk	8 Pizza Corn Watermelon Milk	9
10	11 Buttermilk Waffles Sweet Corn Pineapple Tidbits Milk	12 Spaghetti w/ meat- balls Green Beans Pears Milk	13 Red Beans & Rice w/ Chicken, Corn, & Tomatoes Applesauce Milk	14 Cheese Raviolis Mixed Veggies Oranges Milk	15 Pizza Peas & Carrots Pears Milk	16
17	18 Fish Sticks Green Beans Applesauce Milk	19 Spanish Rice w/ Chicken, tomatoes & Corn Pears Milk	20 Cheese Filled Pizza Dippers w/ Sauce Cooked Carrots Peaches Milk	21 Goulash Mixed Veggies Pineapple Pieces Milk	22 Pizza Corn Strawberries Milk	23
24/31	25 Cheese Pizza Rolls Green Beans Fruit Cocktail Milk	26 Baked Ziti Mixed Veggies Peaches Milk	27 Turkey Melts Cooked Carrots Applesauce Milk	28 Potato Casserole w/ chicken & cheese Sweet Corn Pears Milk	29 Pizza Mixed Veggies Mixed Fruit Milk	30

## Healthy Habits

March is National Nutrition Month! Here are some ways to celebrate with your child:

- Visit [www.pbskids.org/lunchlab](http://www.pbskids.org/lunchlab) for videos, songs, games and recipes.
- Use food from different food groups and different colors to make a rainbow on your plate.
- Curl up and read a good book about healthy foods, such as [The Very Hungry Caterpillar](#), [Eating the Rainbow](#), [How are you Peeling](#), or [Gregory the Terrible Eater](#).
- Start your garden now! Have your child help pick out vegetable, fruit and herb seeds to plant in an indoor seed starter greenhouse. Watch your seeds grow and then transplant when the weather gets warm.
- Join an online cooking class to try some new recipes.





## Staff Appreciation

- Thank you to Maggie for all your help with keeping the Elephants happy and loved!
- Thank you to Anj and Rose for taking such good care of the Hippos while Edna was gone!
- Thank you Miss Amber for cleaning and organizing the Panda Room and other closets!
- Welcome Miss Molly and Miss Zhifang!
- Thank you Miss Camryn for helping in all the classrooms!



"The more that you read, the more things  
you will know. The more that you learn,  
the more places you'll go."

I Can Read with My Eyes Shut!

By Dr. Suess

# Scholastic

Hey there families!

Ready to discover the characters and stories your kids love? With expertly curated selections, plus the chance for your teacher to earn rewards for the classroom with every order, Scholastic Book Clubs is here for you all year long to boost your kid's reading fandom and maybe even create moments of quality time you can share together!

Place an order of \$25 or more and you can pick a FREE \$5 book (use code READS at checkout) to add to your reader's TBR pile!

**Family Order Due Date: 03/11/24**

SHOP OUR CLASS PAGE:

<https://orders.scholastic.com/GWWRQ>

SHOP FLYERS: <https://clubs.scholastic.com/all-flyers>

Invite relatives and friends to help your child discover the pure joy of reading when you share our Class Page link. Every order benefits our classroom, helping me earn FREE books and resources that every child can enjoy.

Thanks for your support!

Miss Emily

EASTER SEALS CHILD DEV CENTER

