

Barlina House Preschool *February 2017*

One E. Crystal Lake Avenue
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

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Mrs. Anita and Mrs. G
M-W-F AM Classes

News From the Director,
Cathy Kuntz

February is a short month for us but still very busy. We are hoping for a bit of warmer weather so we can go outside and play.

We will be working on the letters S, T, U and V. In addition, the children have started working on an alphabet book in class. We will continue to work on this in class periodically, and when the book is completed, your children will bring it home. For our cooking activity, we will be making soft pretzels. Cooking is always a fun activity, and the children are learning many skills while working with food: how to hold a knife to cut, how to read a recipe, how to measure and mix, and of course the best part is the tasting.

With our helper box, we continue to work on recognizing and knowing our addresses. We have also incorporated a question of the day into the children's schedule. After the children come in and wash their hands, they have to find their name tag and place it on a pocket chart under their answer to the question. Sample questions are: "What is snow made of?", "Do penguins lay eggs?", or "Do you like snow?" We help the children with the reading part, and together we count the answers to see which number is larger and which is smaller. We also have changed our weather pictures to words to help the children become familiar with letter recognition and sounds.

Vision and Hearing screenings will be done this month and also a field trip to the Library. Additional information will be sent home with your child regarding these activities.

Preschool registration is now open for next fall at the Park District Administration Office. If you have any questions or concerns regarding preschool registration please free to contact me at the preschool, 815-477-5403, or by email, ckuntz@crystallakeparks.org.

All the classes will be attending a field trip to the Crystal Lake Public Library during the week of February 6th. Drop off and pick up will be at the Library. Information regarding this field trip has been sent home. If you are not sure of your child's field trip date, please ask a staff member. The McHenry County Health Department will be doing our Vision and Hearing Screenings on February 15th and 16th. Further information regarding these screenings, will be sent home and will include a practice sheet for you to use with your child. The screening will be easier for you child if he/she knows what to expect.

District 47's Kindergarten registration will be at their C.O.R.E. Center, 300 Commerce Drive during Feb. 22nd and 23rd. For information, regarding their dual language program, a meeting will be held on Feb. 2nd from 9:15-10:15am. Information is available on the District's website, www.d47.org.

Want a fun way to teach math and science skills to your child during these cold winter months? Try baking and cooking with your child. Following directions, measuring, counting and observing changes as you add and cook ingredients are all ways of building on your child's math and science skills. Another plus...children that help with the preparation are more likely to taste and eat the food!

Additional Park District activities are available for your child...check out the Park District website or brochure for more information. Here are a few: Daddy/Daughter Hoedown - Feb. 3 and Sweetheart Tea - Feb. 12.