



Where did January go? I can't believe we are already into the month of February. This month we will focus on love. The love of our family and friends, but most importantly, God's love. Next week, at the onset of Lent, we will begin reading and learning about the Stations of the Cross, Jesus's ultimate love for us. While it is a difficult subject to explore, we will keep the primary focus on his abundant love - all materials presented will be developmentally appropriate.

Another focus will be on one of God's beautiful creations, nature. We are blessed to live in a place where getting outdoors year-round is possible and it's healthy for us physically and emotionally. I'm planning to use a variety of strategies to help the children develop important scientific concepts and skills. i.e., appropriate tools and opportunities to observe, record & represent, question, share ideas, build theories, etc., With spring around the corner, I'm sure there will be many noticing's that will spark their curiosity.

Valentine's Day Celebration

We will be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 13th. Children may wear any Valentine themed/color attire they would like, or they can still wear their uniform if they prefer. If your child would like to handout cards or goodies, we have a total of 12 children in our class. **Do not label each card to a specific child as it makes distribution quite difficult.** Each child will place a card into their classmate's cubbies. We will also be enjoying an ice cream party. A sign-up sheet for needed items will be posted on our classroom door.

Screen Time

Higher order thinking skills and executive function are essential for school success. Task persistence, impulse control, emotional regulation, and creative/flexible thinking are skills best mastered through unstructured and social (*not digital*) play, as well as **responsive parent/adult-child interactions.**

Limit screen time! Pick up a good book to read with your child or use the following link for ideas on enjoyable learning experiences that can take place at home:

[Fun and Learning for Parents and Children: An Activities Handbook | ECLKC \(hhs.gov\)](#)

Important Dates to Remember:

Feb 13 th	Valentine Celebration – Class Ice Cream Party
Feb 14 th	Ash Wednesday – Family Mass
Feb 17 th	Miss Debbie's Birthday
Feb 19 th	President's Day – No School
Feb 29	Snow Day

Snacks

Please remember that your child's snack should consist of 2 different food groups: cheese & crackers; fruit and pretzels; a granola bar; hummus and veggies; etc. Donuts, cookies, and other sugary snacks need to be consumed after school!