



E.C.L.C. Newsletter

Letter from the Director: Alexis Penhollow

Nya:Weh'sgeno!

Happy February to all!

We are all getting excited for the upcoming move to the Seneca Arts & Learning Center. It will be sad to say goodbye to our current home, but with the growth of the Seneca nation population we can hope to accommodate more children in the new facility. We are currently accepting applications, so please feel free to contact Connie Arena, Parent Involvement Coordinator at

extension, 3303 to have an application mailed to you. The new application contains application forms, employee biography, classroom information, curriculum overview, and SALC Mission & Vision statement. We are excited to start accepting new families to the new facility, where children will be surrounded by a beautiful educational environment and professional early childhood staff.

There is no official date as of this newsletter, but we will be sure to keep everyone informed on the progress. I want to thank all Executives and Tribal Councilors for their continued support of this project and understanding the importance of early childhood education and the impact it has on children as they enter kindergarten through college completion.

Thank you,
Alexis Penhollow, MS. Ed.
ECLC Director Ohi:yo'

HUG A CHILD DAY!! February 26th!

Education Coordinator: Dawn Acosta

If your child is in the Infant, Toddler or Pre K rooms, you can monitor your child's weekly lesson plans, anecdotal notes and quarterly checkpoints. If you can provide me with an email address I will

set up your acct to monitor your child through Teaching Strategies GOLD program.

If you have any questions please contact me!

Dawn.Acosta@sni.org X.3301

Info from the Health Coordinator: Felix Acosta

Flu Season is upon us once again! People with the flu can spread it to others up to about 6 feet away!

Experts believe the flu viruses are spread by droplets made when people with the flu cough, sneeze or talk.

Please stay at home if you are sick.

Young children the elderly and women who are pregnant are more susceptible to the flu.

If you notice the following symptoms with your child please keep them home and allow them to rest.

Flu Symptoms:

- *Fever/Chills
- *Cough
- *Sore throat
- *Runny or stuffy nose
- *Muscle or body aches
- *Headaches
- *Fatigue
- *Possible vomiting and or diarrhea

Seneca Nation of Indians

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Special points of Interest:

- © ECLC theme for the month of January the school focused on different cultures around the world!
- © ECLC theme for the month of February the school is focusing on healthy bodies and habits as well as friendship!



Infant Room: Miss Chelsea, Miss Alicia, Miss Kim and Miss Danielle

With all of our babies growing and moving in the room it has been a fun few months! We Explored Italy by painting with spaghetti, playing with pasta noodles! Exploring China we painted Chinese drums and hats, colored Chinese Dragons, and enjoyed some food from the Seven Dragons Buffet! On our 'trip' to the Antarctic we colored and glued to winter hats, played with snow, painted with ice cubes and played in a winter sensory bin!

The month of January and February have allowed us to take a few trips outside due to the nice weather which has been awesome!

February we will be hosting a parent friendship party! We will be making Valentine's day crafts as well as activities to show us healthy habits! We look forward to the warmer months so our smallest friends are able to go outside daily and explore by getting their toes in the mud and swinging in the sun!



Toddler Room: Miss Jill, Miss Malesia, Miss Dodie, and Miss Liz

In January we experienced "Cultures Around the World" this allows us to celebrate and embrace our differences. The toddler room Decided to take a close look at four very diverse cultures. China, Africa, Ireland and Latin America. We watched some special Disney movies each week such as the Kung Fu Panda, Lion King, Shaun the sheep, and Rio!

We inspected the country's music and traditions, popular art techniques, traditional articles of

clothing, local animals, and experienced the regional food! In February we are looking at Healthy hearts and habits! Also focusing on the colors Red and Pink. We will focus on Hand washing, Healthy hearts, dental hygiene and exercise. We will be engaging in all the senses. Experiencing proper hand washing by using powder under a black light, looking at skeletons, using stethoscopes, finding and listening to our hearts. Brushing giant teeth with a giant toothbrush, and

exercising with Mr. Felix,. Our friendship party will be February 12th, all parents are welcome!



Pre-K Room: Miss Stephanie, Miss Alica, Miss Sam and Miss Taylor

The month of January brought us a new friend, Lori! We are so excited to have her and she is fitting into our room amazingly! We focused on China, Egypt, Africa and Mexico in January! Making different art projects and learning about the diverse cultures!

In February we are focusing on healthy hearts and habits.

Specifically hygiene, nutrition, mental health and fitness! Academically we are following the common core ELA and Math Curriculum.

The staff and kiddos are very ready for spring to get here!



Head Start Room: Miss Danielle, Miss Renee and Miss Robin

Our class has been very busy the past few months, half our class will be moving on to Kindergarten next year. In January we learned all about Fairy tales, reading Goldilocks, Little red riding hood and Jack and the bean stalk. We made wolf masks, to scare little red riding hood, we are growing giant beanstalks in our classroom, and sorted the three bears porridge chairs and beds! We were so excited to play in the snow and throw snow balls and playing chase. This month we are learning about how to keep our hearts and minds healthy. We will be hanging out with Mr. Will from the

clinic during gym class this month. We're learning some healthy and fun ways to exercise. We're also learning about healthy food, we really love fruits in Head Start, they are so yummy! In the next few weeks, we will be learning about good hygiene and how to care for our bodies!

Next month, we get to learn all about Dr. Seuss and read many of his silly books. We are very excited for spring to come!!



Afterschool Room: Mr Darren, Miss Tity, Mr Trent and Miss Abby

Nya Weh Sgeno! We hope everyone is enjoying the mild weather! We did enjoy a wonderful day of sledding on MLK Jr Day, During the month of January the AFS class concentrated on cultures around the world. This was very insightful for the children to learn about their peers in other countries, the kids were most interested in the clothing and foods of their peers. We made flags from other countries and documented facts about a country of their choice.

As February begins we are discussing the Super Bowl and talking about the teams and players. The children were surprised at the number of people that watch the Super Bowl every year, over 100,000,000! As February rolls on we will focus on healthy habits, friendship and black history. We would also like to welcome Avianna to our classroom! 'Avi' is the sweetest little girl and has transitioned to our room wonderfully! Jah Goh Avianna!



Parent Involvement Coordinator: Miss Connie

Winter weather is upon us, so we would like to remind you to dress your child for daily outdoor play! Here at ECLC we love to take the children outdoors for fresh air and exercise.

Also as the WNY weather likes to be unpredictable, be sure to listen to WGWE, and local news channels for closings.

THANK YOU to all the community and

parents that have volunteered @ ECLC! You are your child's first teacher!!

*Feb 11th-Family Craft night

*Feb 12th-Head Start Policy Council Meeting 11am-1pm

*Feb 25th- 6-7:30 Family movie Night We will be watching the Lion King, popcorn will be provided! Feel free to come in PJ's and bring a stuffed animal!

NOTICE:

We are now accepting 2016/17 Head Start applications. 3 and 4 year old are eligible with priority given to children with disabilities and 4 years of age. The deadline for submitting applications: June 30th, 2016.

*Documents Needed: Proof of income Birth Certificate, Custody Papers (if applicable) and current IEP

BIRTHDAYS

JANUARY

- *Kordelia G
- *Jen Schosek
- *Malesia Follman
- *Liz Gonzalez
- *Everett A
- *Paiten W
- *Oscar Massagli

FEBRUARY

- *Arianna V
- *Hunter A
- *Abby J
- *Alicia Kindt
- *Myla G
- *Darren Boon
- *Miley Z



Greetings ECLC Families! I hope that all has been well for you and your children throughout the winter months!

Starting in September the Behavioral Health and Disabilities component at ECLC has coordinated monthly trainings hosted by Parent Network of WNY. The trainings have covered a variety of topics including parenting children with challenging behaviors, Sensory Processing Disorder, and childhood sexuality. Please join us for the upcoming training "ADD/ADHD-Strategies for the IEP" on Wednesday February 10, 2016 at 6 pm. Participants will increase their knowledge of the signs and characteristics of Attention Deficit Disorder/Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Those in attendance will also receive tips and tools to assist children with ADD/ADHD.

Spring is almost here!! With the arrival of the Spring season thoughts, sights, and sounds of new beginnings, change, and growth are abundant. I encourage you and your families to use this time to take inventory of your mental health and make some healthy changes. Change may seem difficult at first but it is also very energizing and comforting. As this season of growth and re-birth approaches try a few of these tips to improve your mental well-being:

1. Find a hobby.
2. Give back and volunteer.
3. Get organized.
4. Open the windows and air out your home.
5. Make one positive change in your diet.
6. Enjoy the outdoors!!
7. Start exercising.
8. Try new foods– especially fruits and veggies!
9. Take time for yourself.
10. *Remember that you are only human!!!*

Jennifer Schosek
Behavioral Health and Disabilities