DST begins Sunday, 3/12
Set clocks ahead before you go to bed Saturday night

The newsletter of the Florida State University’s Childcare & Early Learning Programs
Announcements & Reminders

Withdrawal Notices are due 30 days in advance of your child’s last day of attendance in the centers. Tuition is charged for 30 days once the notice is received. Withdrawals are to be submitted the website at https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1MoXBhtcRD3d8kR

Parent Column
Contact directors if you wish to submit a column for the newsletter. Submissions due a month in advance on the 15th.

Requests for posting tuition early
If you have a special circumstance that requires your tuition to be posted prior to the 1st of each month please email your request including when you need the tuition posted and the reason for early posting.

Tuition Rates.
Tuition rates are assessed according to parent status. Non-refundable registration fee $20 upon enrollment and each Sept. 1, thereafter. Tuition is calculated on 44 weeks of care divided over 12 months. Tuition is due on the first day of the month; late by the 10th day.

School Readiness Subsidies.
Parents will be responsible for paying the full amount of tuition at the stated rate above before the 10th of each month. Any subsidies from the School Readiness Program will be applied as a credit to your account for the upcoming month when it is received from the agency. School Readiness Program provides tuition assistance to eligible families who are working and/or attending school for a minimum of 20 hours per week.

Make sure your child has an appropriate change of clothes in his/her cubby for the changing weather. Thank you.
Hours of Operation
Monday-Friday
7:30 AM- 5:30PM

Main Office
157-01 Herlong Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32310-4174
850-644-7970

Associate Director, Tiffany Karnisky
Program Associate, Brenda Thompkins
Grants Analyst, Bill Stacey

Infant and Toddler Center
DCF License #C02LE0260
330 Pennell Circle #1
Tallahassee, FL 32310
850-644-0003

Center Director, Dana O’Connor

Children’s Center
DCF License #C02LE0519
169 Herlong Drive
Tallahassee, FL 32310
850-645-9576

Center Director, Beth Roberts

Menus: http://childcare.fsu.edu/For-Parents

Online Comments/Suggestions Box
https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8A44fzs9taRgnnn

The Little Noles is a monthly publication of The FSU Child Development Programs, 157-01 Herlong Drive, University Housing, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32310-4174, (850) 644-7970.

The information contained herein is considered adequate notification of activities, tuition notification and policies and procedures. The Little Noles is also available in alternative formats upon request. Material submitted for publication must be typewritten and submitted by the 15th of each month. The Little Noles is distributed to the parents of The FSU Child Development Programs, selected university administrators, staff, and support personnel.
Dr. Seuss's Birthday!
It is hard to believe that spring is already here! This means that longer days are coming. Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, 3/12m so don’t forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday.

The centers will be closed for Spring Break Monday, 3-13–Friday, 3/17. We will reopen Monday, 3/20.

The new center renovation project is coming along! We are excited to see progress and cannot wait for all of our staff and families to gather at the Opening Event in August.

For children who turn 4 years old before September 1, we will begin contacting you to assist you in choosing a VPK program in the community to continue your child’s education.

We are very excited for the upcoming Spring Music event on April 29. Your children have been decorating their musical instruments and learning new songs with Mr. Fred.

We would like to thank everyone for coming out the Dr. Seuss birthday celebration! We would like to thank Allison Crume, AVP of Student Affairs, Shannon Staten, Exec. Director of University Housing, and the FSU Cheerleaders for coming out to read. We would also like to thank FSU Bookstore for partnering with us to bring such a fun event to our families. Special thanks to our volunteers, our own teachers, FSU CHICS and FSU SGA. None of this would have been possible without you all!

Wishing you all a safe, relaxing and fun Spring Break!
Little Noles

Family Weekend 2017
March 31-April 1, April 7-9, April 14-16 & April 21-23

A Weekend for Every Family!

As we celebrate the start of Spring, we invite you to Tallahassee to see your student and participate in a number of activities available to the campus community. This is an especially unique time to visit your student and the university community because of all of the great things happening in the capital city. There are four weekends which are packed full of activities – too many for us to choose just one – so we encourage you to choose which of these weekends fits your interest, schedule, and convenience.
**Just Playing**  
By: Anita Wadley

When I'm building in the block room, please don't say I'm "Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play, about balance and shapes. Who knows, I may be an architect someday.

When I'm getting all dressed up, setting the table, caring for the babies, don't get the idea I'm "Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play; I may be a mother or a father someday.

When you see me up to my elbows in paint, or standing at an easel, or molding and shaping clay, please don't let me hear you say, "He is Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play. I'm expressing myself and being creative. I may be an artist or an inventor someday.

When you see me sitting in a chair "reading" to an imaginary audience, please don't laugh and think I'm "Just Playing." For you see, I'm learning as I play.

I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me combing the bushes for bugs, or packing my pockets with choice things I find, don't pass it off as "Just Play." For you see, I'm learning as I play. I may be a scientist someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle or some "plaything" at my school, please don't feel the time is wasted in "Play." For you see, I'm learning as I play. I'm learning to solve problems and concentrate. I may be in business someday.

When you see me cooking or tasting foods, please don't think that because I enjoy it, it is "Just Play." I'm learning to follow directions and see differences. I may be a cook someday.

When you see me learning to skip, hop, run, and move my body, please don't say I'm "Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play. I'm learning how my body works. I may be a doctor, nurse, or athlete someday.

When you ask me what I've done at school today, and I say, "I Just Played," please don't misunderstand me. For, you see, I'm learning as I play. I'm learning to enjoy and be successful in my work. I'm preparing for tomorrow.

**Today, I am a child and my work is play.**
Influenza (flu) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Every year, millions of people get sick, hundreds of thousands are hospitalized, and thousands to tens of thousands of people die from flu. CDC urges you to take the following actions to protect yourself and others from flu.

1. Get yourself and your family vaccinated!
   A yearly flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. Everyone 6 months or older should get an annual flu vaccine by the end of October, if possible, or as soon as possible after October.
   Flu vaccines are offered in many locations, including doctor’s offices, clinics, health departments, pharmacies and college health centers, as well as by many employers, and even in some schools. Protect Yourself. Protect Your Family. Get Vaccinated. #FightFlu

2. Take everyday preventive actions to help stop the spread of flu viruses!
   Avoid close contact with sick people, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, cover your coughs and sneezes, wash your hands often (with soap and water), and clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with flu viruses.
   If you become sick, limit contact with others as much as possible. Remember to cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw tissues in the trash after you use them. Stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine before resuming normal activities.)

3. Take Antiviral Drugs if Your Doctor Prescribes Them!
   If you get the flu, antiviral drugs can be used to treat flu illness. Antiviral drugs can make illness milder and shorten the time you are sick. They also can prevent serious flu complications, like pneumonia.
   CDC recommends that antiviral drugs be used early to treat people who are very sick with the flu (for example, people who are in the hospital) and people who are sick with the flu and are at high risk of serious flu complications, either because of their age or because they have a high risk medical condition.

Submitted by Beth Roberts
Source: www.cdc.gov/fightflu
The barnyard rooster crows and Jack wakes up -- hungry, of course! What does he want for breakfast? A big pancake! But first, Jack's mother needs flour from the mill, an egg from the black hen, milk from the spotted cow, butter churned from fresh cream, and firewood for the stove. Will Jack ever get his pancake? From Publishers Weekly: As portrayed in Carle's familiar, colorful collages, cornflakes just won't do for a determined lad who goes to great lengths to procure his favorite breakfast. Ages 3-7. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc. www.amazon.com

Good nutrition is the basis of a healthy lifestyle. Hundreds of everyday food choices determine your wellbeing: how you feel now, and in the future. Nutrition Facts exposes the whole truth about food, offering an unparalleled collection of facts, figures and data. No deceptive promises, no snake oils, no false advertising: just nutrition facts. www.amazon.com

A new collection of 50 healthful, fun recipes for parents and children ages 2 to 5 from "celebrity chefs" Elmo, Cookie Monster, Grover, and the beloved Sesame Street gang. www.amazon.com
from the classroom

Ms. Emily’s Classroom
February was a busy month in the Infant classroom. We’ve had fun spending time outside and enjoying the warmer weather! We did artwork which included dental health, black history month, Valentine’s day, and community helpers. The older infants especially enjoyed painting with toothbrushes.

Looking ahead, March will also be a fun-filled month learning about rainbows and St. Patrick’s day, bugs and butterflies, bunnies/chicks/Easter eggs, and the color “purple”. Some books suggestions for the month of March are: Snappy Little Springtime by Dugald Steer, Bright Baby Touch and Feel Spring by Roger Priddy, Baby Loves Spring: A Karen Katz Lift the Flap Book, Spring Is Here by Taro Gomi. It was great to see you and your family at our Dr. Seuss event!

Ms. Taylor’s Classroom
During the month of February, our themes were dental health, black history, community helpers, and Valentine’s Day. Our favorite art projects included painting a paper tooth with white puffy paint, hand print roses, a collage of hearts, and a Dalmatian! This month our class focused on using problem solving skills. Some activities the children did to enhance our problem solving skills were puzzles, magnets, and blocks. The books we read this month were Llama Llama I Love You by Anna Dewdney, Brush Your Teeth Please by Leslie Mcguire, and Police Officers on Patrol by Kersten Hamilton.

In the month of March, our themes will be rainbows, St. Patrick’s Day, spring, bugs, and bunnies. Some of our art projects will include finger print bugs, foot print butterflies, and hand print shamrocks. We will also be focusing on the children’s gross motor skills this month. We have some fun activities planned for the children inside and outside. The books we plan on reading are Ten Lucky Leprechauns by Kathryn Heling, Llama Llama Easter Egg by Anna Dewdney, The Itsy Bitsy Bunny by Jeffrey Burton, and Snappy Little Bugs by Claire Nielson.

Ms. Sue’s Classroom
In the month of February, we learned about dental health, community helpers and Valentine’s Day. We made a mouth and glued teeth inside and practiced brushing our teeth at school. We made a lot of heart projects with red, pink and purple and had a Valentine’s Day party. In the last few weeks we learned all about community helpers and how they help us in our everyday lives. We read Dragon Dance for the Chinese New Year and Love and Kisses, Kitty for Valentine’s Day. Spring is upon us and we have countless exciting art projects to do during the month of March. We will be learning about rainbows, St. Patrick’s Day, bugs and butterflies and various Easter Projects. We will be making bunnies, chicks and Easter eggs. We will be singing, I’m Bringing Home A Baby Bumble Bee and the Itsy Bitsy Spider. We will read The Very Greedy Bee by Steve Smallman, Ten Little Ladybugs by Melanie Gerth and The Icky Sticky Frog by Dawn Bentley.

We will hide and find eggs outside for Easter and have a party. There will be so many fun and thrilling things to look forward to in the month of March.

We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss’s Birthday this month also. Continued on next page
Please come join us March 2, 2017 @ 4pm to 6pm at the Children’s Center.

Ms. Jenniffer’s Classroom

We had a very exciting month with our Community Helper activities/art and our Valentine’s Day party. Thank You to all that contributed to our party with sweets and treats we really appreciate it.

Now we are going to SP R I N G into spring with some new activities. We will be talking about Rainbows and St. Patrick’s Day in the beginning of the month and then in the second half we will talk about bugs and butterflies. This is a very happy time of year because it is getting warmer out, the flowers are about to bloom and the butterflies are going to be plentiful as well as the carpenter bees (which by the way are not bees that sting).

We will be celebrating Dr. Seuss’ Birthday with several of his most loved stories and then we will have a celebration outside of the rec hall on March 2nd from 4pm to 6pm and everyone is welcome.

During this month my classroom will be focusing on drawing. We are really going to put in place our abilities to make shapes and faces. We will create bugs and butterflies with these shapes. I can’t wait to see how well the kids do with this activity.

Hopefully the month of March will be wonderful for everyone and that the weather will cooperate during Spring Break so we can enjoy our time away from school and come back refreshed and sunkissed!

See you next month!

Ms. Stephanie’s Classroom

I cannot believe it, but we already in March! Although February went by so fast, that does not mean it was forgettable. We spent the month learning about Construction/Transportation, Hygiene, Friendship, and a review of our letters, numbers, and colors. We enjoyed weighing construction trucks, using microscopes, and counting conversation hearts in Math. We also made our own toothbrushes, created our own construction trucks, and worked on a friendship quilt in Art. Sensory was a blast because we washed trucks, used minty water, and played with pink slime! Some of our favorite books included 1-2-3 Valentine’s Day Jeannette, The Friendship Tree by Kathy Caple, and Dig, Dogs, Dig! James Horvath.

One of our favorite author has a March birthday and we cannot wait to celebrate! We will start March by learning about Dr. Seuss and his books, why he is important, and why we celebrate him today. Our classroom will transform into pages from some of Dr. Seuss’ beloved books such as One Fish Two Fish Red Fish Blue Fish, Oh! The Places You’ll Go, and The Cat in the Hat. Besides Dr. Seuss, we will also be learning about reptiles, amphibians, dinosaurs, and volcanoes! In Science, we will be conducting a volcano experiment and looking at both reptiles and bugs with magnifying glasses. Dramatic Play will turn into the jungle where we use binoculars to go and find different types of amphibians and maybe even a dinosaur or two. We will work on our patterns using our new
bug counters and investigate dinosaur bones in Math.

Please continue to work with your child when he or she brings home the Letter Bucket. Our friends really enjoy sharing the things they found for the weekly letter!

Ms. Deby’s Classroom

In February

We had great themes this month, such as our favorite holidays: Valentine’s Day, Groundhog Day, President’s Day and National Children’s dental health Day.

We explored the topics related to these wonderful holidays, discussed how to express love to our families, friends, teachers and pets. These holidays give us the chance to talk about the importance of sharing, giving, loving and friendship.

We discussed the importance of nutrition to dental health. The children learned about two of the most influential presidents of the United States of America: Abraham Lincoln and George Washington.

In March

Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

This month in honor of Dr. Seuss Birthday we are going to be reading a lot of books about him and we will have a super wacky dress up day! This means parents will send their child with any of the following: crazy hair, silly socks, mismatched, inside out clothes. In addition, we will discuss the importance of reading books, and how to take care of them.

We will read the following books: The Food book, Abc’s book, Hop on Pop, Green eggs and Ham, The Cat in the Hat.

In art we are going to make Cat in the Hat necklaces, we will create the Lorax, and so much more.

We will be celebrating St. Patrick’s day, we will review the color learning the color of the rainbow, and talk about what make a rainbow appeared.

We will make a rainbow, a Leprechaun, and paint a Shamrock.

YAY! Dinosaurs! We all know how much the children love to talk about dinosaurs, so we will learn where they come from, what they eat and more. We will read books about dinosaurs, look at pictures and also graph our favorite dinosaur.

Happy spring break!
There are countless nursery rhymes and children’s songs, from American traditional, “Hush Little Baby”, to English Traditional, “Ring Around the Rosie”. To adults, these songs may be simple, but not all children’s songs or nursery rhymes may be appropriate for your child. Depending on your child’s age, some of the nursery rhymes may be too difficult to sing along or to understand. For instance, ‘Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes’ may be too difficult for some children. Reason being, there are too many steps! There are 22 steps in just the first verse. Head and Shoulders Knees and Toes is a great song for sequencing and learning basic anatomy, but there are too many steps. This song may not be appropriate for every child, as every child develops differently. As I talked about in the previous newsletter, write your own song to teach basic anatomy! Be creative! If you want to teach something through music, such as basic anatomy, try starting with 2 parts: ears and mouth. Once they have that down, add one more, etc. Remember, composing your own song does not have to be grandeur. Simplicity will get the job done!

If you really like the song Head Shoulder Knees and Toes (or any other ‘difficult’ songs) but it may be too difficult for your child, you can hum the song or use syllables (oo, ah, ee) to sing the song. This will help the child internalize the song, thus learning the song faster.
FSU Childcare Spring Musical

Saturday, April 29
11:00 AM

FSU Childcare Recreation Hall
169 Herlong Drive (Behind the Children’s Center)

*Food and Refreshments to follow program
March is National Nutrition Month. Below are some resources to help you and your family eat healthy all year long. Below is an article on how to read a food label by Taylor Wolfram, MS, RDN, LDN (Published December 08, 2016)

Start with the Serving Size
Look here for both the serving size (the amount people typically eat at one time) and the number of servings in the package. Compare your portion size (the amount you actually eat) to the serving size listed on the panel. If the serving size is one cup and you eat two cups, you are getting twice the calories, fat and other nutrients listed on the label.

Check Out the Total Calories
Find out how many calories are in a single serving. It's smart to cut back on calories if you are watching your weight.

Let the Percent Daily Values Be Your Guide
Use percent Daily Values (DV) to help evaluate how a particular food fits into your daily meal plan. Daily Values are average levels of nutrients for a person eating 2,000 calories a day. A food item with a 5 percent DV of fat provides 5 percent of the total fat that a person consuming 2,000 calories a day should eat. Percent DV are for the entire day, not just one meal or snack. You may need more or less than 2,000 calories per day. For some nutrients you may need more or less than 100 percent DV.

The High and Low of Daily Values
Low is 5 percent or less. Aim low in saturated fat, trans fat, cholesterol and sodium. High is 20 percent or more. Aim high in vitamins, minerals and fiber.

Limit Saturated Fat, Added Sugars and Sodium
Eating less saturated fat, added sugars and sodium may help reduce your risk for chronic disease. Saturated fat and trans fat are linked to an increased risk of heart disease. Eating too much added sugar makes it difficult to meet nutrient needs within your calorie requirement. High levels of sodium can add up to high blood pressure. Remember to aim for low percentage DV of these nutrients.

Get Enough Vitamins, Minerals and Fiber
Eat more fiber, potassium, vitamin D, calcium and iron to maintain good health and help reduce your risk of certain health problems such as osteoporosis and anemia. Choose more fruits and vegetables to get more of these nutrients. Remember to aim high for percentage DV of these nutrients.

Additional Nutrients
You know about calories, but it is important to also know the additional nutrients on the Nutrition Facts Label.
Jenniffer, is the Lead Teacher in the two and 1/2-year old classroom at the Infant and Toddler Center. Jenniffer, received her degree in Child Development and has 19 years of experience working with children. Jenniffer states that she cannot recall a specific event that caused her to choose to work with children but says that she started babysitting at the age of 12 and realized that she loved being with children, “So, I guess that would be my first love and I just stuck with it.”

Her goals in working with children are to create a learning environment where each child can develop and grow in their learning, social and emotional skills.

Dana, O’Connor, the FSU Infant and Toddler Center Director, is cited as her role model. “She is the one that took me under her wing and taught me everything I know about working with children.”

Jenniffer says that she inspires children to learn by making the learning process as fun as possible through numerous games and activities.

Jenniffer’s “favorites” are...
- Movie— Se7ven
- Children’s Book - The Bear Went Over To My House by Rick Walton
- Animal— Hippo and Zebra
- Color— Green
- Food— Cajun Cuisine
- Thing to do— Going to the movies and being outside

Continued from previous page
- **Protein** A percentage Daily Value for protein is not required on the label. Eat moderate portions of lean meat, poultry, fish, eggs, low-fat milk, yogurt and cheese, plus beans and peas, peanut butter, seeds and soy products.
- **Carbohydrates** There are three types of carbohydrates: sugars, starches and fiber. Eat whole-grain breads, cereals, rice and pasta plus fruits and vegetables.
- **Sugars** Simple carbohydrates, or sugars, occur naturally in foods such as fruit juice (fructose) and milk (lactose) or come from refined sources such as table sugar (sucrose) or corn syrup. Added sugars will be included on the Nutrition Facts Label in 2018. The 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommends consuming no more than 10 percent of daily calories from added sugars.

**Check the Ingredient List**
Foods with more than one ingredient must have an ingredient list on the label. Ingredients are listed in descending order by weight. Those in the largest amounts are listed first. This information is particularly helpful to individuals with food sensitivities, those who wish to avoid pork or shellfish, limit added sugars or people who prefer vegetarian eating.

**MyPlate**
MyPlate is the new USDA nutrition guide that replaces the food pyramid. To learn more about the new guidelines issued by the USDA for children and adults, go to [https://www.choosemyplate.gov/MyPlate](https://www.choosemyplate.gov/MyPlate).

MARCH 2017
FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS
AT THE ASLC

SCOOBY-DOO
MAR 3 (FRI) | DOORS 11:30 PM | SHOW 12:00 AM
After the gang breaks up due to irreconcilable differences, they are brought back together to solve a case on Spooky Island. Name a more iconic gang... I'll wait!

HIDDEN FIGURES
MAR 6 (MON) | 7:15 PM with panel after
MAR 7 & 8 (TUE & WED) | 7:15 PM & 10:15 PM
The true untold story of three African-American women who served as the brains behind one of the greatest accomplishments of the 20th century: making a man orbit the earth. Breaking boundaries in NASA and beyond, join us in celebrating Women's History Month. Starring Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, and Janelle Monáe.

TABLETOP TUESDAY
MAR 21 (TUE) | 6:00 PM
Come join us in the timeless hobby of tabletop board games. We will have classic card games from Poker to Magic: The Gathering as well as board games, old and new, including Dungeons & Dragons!

MY NEIGHBOR TOTORO
MAR 28 (TUE) | 7:30 PM & 10:00 PM
Satsuki and Mei are sisters whose lives are uprooted when they move to rural Japan, however they quickly become friends with the local spirits of the surrounding woods. Directed by Hayao Miyazaki (Spirited Away and Princess Mononoke), this film features memorable characters and gorgeous hand-drawn animation. Presented in Japanese with English subtitles. Enter our Anime Contest for a chance to win a red couch treatment with free snacks for two! Email submissions to SLCClassics@admin.fsu.edu by March 26, and the winner will be announced at the 7:30PM screening on March 28.

Movies are free with current FSU ID
$3 for TFS/FSU faculty & staff | $5 for non-students
850-644-4455 | Available in alternative format
All titles, dates, & times are subject to change
Families in Nature at St. Marks Refuge

- **When:** Saturday, March 25, 2017, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
- **Location:** St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge, 1255 Lighthouse Road, St. Marks
- **Cost:** Free
Engages the whole family in scavenger hunt, crafts, and other activities. Different theme each month. Free after refuge admission. Reservations made by calling (850)925-6121.
**Website:** www.fws.gov

Brickyard Farmers Market

- **When:** Saturday, March 11, 2017, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
- **Location:** Centre of Tallahassee, 2415 N Monroe St, Tallahassee, FL
This weekly market is open to local farmers who offer seasonal fruits and vegetables. Located at the Centre of Tallahassee every Saturday!
**Website:** www.facebook.com

Lego Junior Makers Club at Leroy Collins Library

For children aged 4-7. Come build with us!
**When:** Saturday, March 25, 2017, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
**Location:** Main Library - 200 W. Park Avenue, downtown
**Cost:** Free
Engages the whole family in scavenger hunt, crafts, and other activities. Different theme each month. Free after refuge admission. Reservations made by calling (850)925-6121.
**Website:** cms.leoncountyfl.gov
International Women’s Day

International Women’s Day is sponsored worldwide by the United Nations. The roots of this celebration go back to 1908 when 15,000 women marched through New York City demanding shorter hours, better pay and voting rights. The first International Women’s Day was held March 19, 1911. Women socialists and trade unions held an earlier Women’s Day on the last Sunday in February, 1908. The event grew from there and has been celebrated annually since. The focus is upon women workers, and advancing women’s rights in the workforce, politics and society.


Purim

Purim is a joyous Jewish celebration occurring on the 14th day of the month of Adar in the Hebrew calendar beginning at sunset. According to the Book of Esther (the Megillah), the king of Persia, Ahasuerus, was nearly convinced to kill all the Jews in his land. Ahasuerus' chief advisor Haman despised Jews, especially a man named Mordechai who had refused to bow before Haman. Mordechai’s niece, Esther, was Ahasuerus' queen. Haman wanted to punish all Jews for Mordechai’s actions and convinced Ahasuerus of his position. Ahasuerus, unaware that his queen was Jewish, accepted Haman's plan to cast lots, or Purim, to determine a day for murdering the Jews. Esther intervened on behalf of her people by telling the king that she was Jewish. Upon hearing this, Ahasuerus ordered Haman's death instead and Mordechai assumed Haman's position as chief advisor. During Purim, the Book of Esther is read aloud in the synagogue. When Haman's name is mentioned, the listeners stamp their feet, boo and hiss and make noise with graggers.

Source: http://www3.kumc.edu/diversity/ethnic_relig/purim.html

St. Patrick’s Day

Saint Patrick was a priest and former slave and who is known converting the Irish to Christianity. Saint Patrick is the patron Saint of Ireland. St. Patrick used the three-leaf shamrock to explain the Trinity to non-Christians. The leaves stood for the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. At the age of 16, St Patrick was taken prisoner and made a slave by a group of Irish raiders who were seeking his family's estate. They transported him to Ireland where he spent six years in captivity. After more than six years as a slave Patrick escaped. According to his writing, he was guided by a voice that had spoken to him in a dream, telling him it was time to leave Ireland.

Spring (Vernal) Equinox

Far from being an arbitrary indicator of the changing seasons, March 20 (March 21 in some years) is significant for astronomical reasons. On this day, the Sun will cross directly over the Earth's equator. This moment is known as the vernal equinox in the Northern Hemisphere. For the Southern Hemisphere, this is the moment of the autumnal equinox. Translated literally, equinox means "equal night." Because the sun is positioned above the equator, day and night are about equal in length all over the world during the equinoxes. These brief but monumental moments owe their significance to the 23.4 degree tilt of the Earth's axis. Because of the tilt, we receive the Sun's rays most directly in the summer. In the winter, when we are tilted away from the Sun, the rays pass through the atmosphere at a greater slant, bringing lower temperatures. If the Earth rotated on an axis perpendicular to the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun, there would be no variation in day lengths or temperatures throughout the year, and we would not have seasons.

Source: http://www.infoplease.com/spot/riteofspring1.html
The Peach Room’s Friendship Quilt
2017
Created by: Bach, Guillaume, Sofia, Chloe,
Wayne, Luke, Max, Aislynn, Joseph, Jamie, Jan, Cameron,
Adam, Emily, Taylor, Max, and Ms. Sophie.

“We are all different, which is great because we are all unique without diversity, life would be very boring.”

-Catherine Pulsifer
Holi

The celebration of Holi, in India, ushers in the arrival of spring and the passing of winter. The festival itself is an event of happiness, merrymaking, and spiritual and social harmony.

There are several legends associated with this celebration. One honors the Hindu god Vishnu and his follower Prahlada victory over the evil King Hiranyakashipu. Another celebrates the divine love between Krishna and his wife Radha.

Today is customary to build a bonfire the eve before Holi, symbolizing good over evil. Revelers dance and sing around the bonfire. The morning after the bonfire begins the tradition most commonly famous, the play with colors. People everywhere douse each other with colored powder or water throughout the day. The end of Holi is marked by a period of cleaning up and visiting with friends to celebrate societal harmony.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Tuition Due Ash Wednesday</em></td>
<td><em>Dr. Seuss Event 4-6 PM</em></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Ms. Brenda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>7</strong></td>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>11</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Ms. Sue</td>
<td><em>Late fee for unpaid tuition</em></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Eloise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>15</strong></td>
<td><strong>16</strong></td>
<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Purim Daylight Savings Time Spring Forward 1 hour</em></td>
<td><em>Holi</em></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Ms. Hannah</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>St. Patrick’s Day</em></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Nathan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>19</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
<td><strong>21</strong></td>
<td><strong>22</strong></td>
<td><strong>23</strong></td>
<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>25</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>First day of</em></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>26</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>28</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Ms. Falyn</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Lucas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Happy Birthday</em> Ms. Jenniffer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>