



# TINY RAMS TIMES

## FEBRUARY 2019

### Happy Valentine's Day!

It's hard to believe that the first month of **2019** is already over! The children had so much fun playing outside in the snow and building a HUGE snowman and snow fort. They worked really hard to build them as a team and have done such a great job taking care of them so they don't get knocked over. We learned a lot about *Martin Luther King Jr* and what it means to be a good friend. We all practiced hibernating everyday during nap time and enjoyed learning about different forms of transportation. It was really cool to learn that you can travel by land, air, and sea. We have a lot in store for the month of February and we can't wait to get started!

Did you know that February is National Children's Dental Health Month? The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry is now recommending to have your child's first dental visit scheduled by his/her **first** birthday. A check-up is recommended every six months in order to prevent cavities and other dental problems. Just like adults, children need to brush their teeth *twice* each day for two minutes.

Please continue to send your child with a heavy coat, snow pants, boots, a hat, and **waterproof mittens** to ensure they can safely and *comfortably* play in the snow. As it states in our parent handbook, we may go outside so long as the wind chill is 10 degrees or above.

Since the children grow as quickly as the weather changes, please check your child's extra clothing to ensure it is *weather* and **size** appropriate.

Please remember to have your child wash his/her hands upon arrival each day. This helps to keep all of the children healthy and prevents the spread of germs!

#### THEMES:

"Feelings, Valentine's Day, Healthy Habits"

#### SAVE THE DATE:

Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> – Valentine's Day Party 3-4pm

#### CLOSINGS:

April 19<sup>th</sup>

#### BIRTHDAYS:

Thea- February 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Blake- February 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Madison- February 7<sup>th</sup>

#### REMINDERS:

If school is canceled due to weather conditions, Tiny Rams will also be CLOSED. Tuition credit will not be given on days we are closed due to adverse weather conditions/snow.

#### STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

"Beyond Counting": Strategies to Support Preschool Math Dev."  
- Emily & Rebecca

"Adventurous Play: The Why's & How's"  
- Rebecca, Emily, & Hadassah

"Executive Function Skills: Fost with Play"  
- Rebecca

"A Good Night's Sleep: How Sleep Affects Health"  
- Kaffe

# CLASSROOM HAPPENINGS

## Infants

Teachers: Megan, Shelby, Katie & Josie

**Happy Valentine's Day!** This month we will do lots of love-filled activities! We will make messy heart art and heart pattern animals. We will also make a Valentine's Day *surprise* for our parents! This month we are going to explore our feelings by looking at emotion cards and making thumbprint emotions, as well as make different paper plate facial expressions. For our healthy habits lesson, our older friends will taste test different fruits and make dirty and clean handprints. We are going to make splatter paint germs and do a toothpaste and toothbrush sensory activity. Our last healthy habits project we will do is keep our baby dolls clean by giving them a bath in soapy water!

The **oldest** friend will continue to work on skills for the *toddler room*, such as sleeping on a cot! The infants in the middle will continue to work on walking. Our friends will also be working on pulling ourselves into standing positions and crawling.



We **LOVE** our NEW "big kid" table!



"Do you wanna build a **SNOWMAN**?"

## Preschool

Teachers: Emily (Miss E.), Rebecca and Josie

We will read many stories about **Groundhogs, Presidents, Friendship, and Valentine's Day**. We will talk about the role of a president and who was *George Washington* and *Abraham Lincoln*. We are going to discuss Honest Abe and what it means to be honest. We are going to observe a penny and flip it to see how many times it lands on Abraham Lincoln and how many times on the Lincoln Memorial. We will learn what a shadow is and what animals live underground. We will do many activities with hearts, including: heart recognition, heart graphing, and making an H with candy hearts. In February, we will work on recognizing and writing our first and last names, as well as letters H, V, and W. We will work on left to right progression during small and large group times. We will work on recognizing numbers **1-12**. We are going to practice picking up our toys nicely and putting them away where they belong to help our room stay tidy and organized. We are going to continue to practice dressing ourselves for the outside weather.

## Toddlers

Teachers: Lauren, Kalli, Hadassah & Josie

We are feeling the **LOVE** in February and are so excited for our *Valentine's Day party*! We will learn about the heart shape and do numerous art activities with them, including a heart tree and coffee filter heart-shaped garland. We are going to read many books about feelings and put names to our emotions. We will listen to different styles of music while we paint to see how we are feeling when we hear each kind of music. Healthy habits are very important and we are going to learn about all the things we can do to stay healthy.

In February we will focus on using our words to let our friends know what we are feeling. We will practice different ways to make ourselves and friends feel better when we are feeling a **BIG** emotion. We are going to work on putting our sheets on our new COTS all by ourselves and then laying nicely to take a good rest so we can remain healthy.



"I like **WARM** hugs" - Olaf

# STAFF BIO OF THE MONTH



## Shelby

"My favorite part about working here is encouraging and helping the children learn new skills and watching them grow!"

Hi, I'm Shelby, Infant Room Lead Teacher. I have been working in the childcare field for **five years** and have been at Tiny Rams for *two and a half years*. I graduated from Ralston in 2013 and have completed about one and a half years of college. You can reach me at [shelby.vandervorst@ralstonschools.org](mailto:shelby.vandervorst@ralstonschools.org)

My husband, *Kyle*, and I have one son, *Grayson*, who will turn **one** in April. We also have a fur-baby named *Khloe*. I enjoy spending time with my family and doing a lot of window shopping.

## SOME OF MY FAVORITE THINGS:

T.V. Show: "Grey's Anatomy" Season: Spring

Holiday: Easter and Thanksgiving

Drink: Water Color: **Mint Green**

Food: Taco Pizza

Vacation Spot: Okoboji Movie: "Jurassic World"

# MEET OUR VOLUNTEER



## Alondra

"The best part about volunteering here is being able to see the kids grow and have connections with them"

Hey, I'm **Alondra!** I am currently volunteering in the *toddler room*. I completed my practicum with Tiny Rams recently and I *just* started volunteering here. I have child care experience watching the children of my friends and family. I am currently a freshman here at the high school. You can reach me at [22atorresrivera@ralstonschools.org](mailto:22atorresrivera@ralstonschools.org)

My family includes my mom, *Amayra*, and step-dad, *Sergio*, as well as my dad, *Eric*, and step-mom. I have one brother, *Eric*, and a half-sister, *Adriana*. I enjoy participating in show choir in my spare time.

### SOME OF MY FAVORITE THINGS:

**Book:** "Wonder" by RJ Palacio & "Everything" by Nicola Yoon

**Season:** Spring

**Holiday:** Christmas

**Drink:** Water & Sprite

**Color:** Yellow & Blue

**Food:** French Fries

**Vacation Spot:** Puerto Rico & Chicago **Movie:** "Racing Stripes"

# WAYS TO CONNECT

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