



Preschool News

Spring 2021



Splashing into Spring!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March 14: Daylight Savings Time
Change Clocks Ahead

March 19: Closed
Staff Training

April 2: Closed
No Child Care

April 5-9: Closed
Child Care Available

May 27-31: Closed
No Child Care

June 1: Closed
No Child Care

June 24: Last Day of School

June 25: Closed
Staff Training

June 28-30: Closed
Child Care Available

We are so excited to be able to open full time again! We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding throughout the past year. We are looking forward to seeing our halls and classrooms filled with kids again. While we still are unable to do many of the things we have in the past, we continue to think outside the box to bring fun and exciting activities to the classrooms. With St. Patrick's Day coming, we will need to be on the lookout for the mischievous Leprechaun that may just show up this year.

Spring break is coming up, so be looking for information sent home in regards to child care. This year is just flying by! ABC countdown will be starting in May and we look forward to 26 days of fun activities.

With the weather getting warmer, notices will be sent home in regards to our sunscreen policy. We thank you again for your patience and understanding and we look forward to the spring ahead.



We would like to welcome our new staff members to Story Place Preschool.

Ms. Claire – Special Education Teacher

Ms. McKenzie – 1:1 Aide/Substitute

Notes and Reminders:

- In the event we are delayed or remote due to inclement weather, please check WNYT, WTEN, WRGB as well as Facebook and our Rained Out text alerts.
- If you would like help signing up for our Rained Out text alerts, please contact Amanda at 518-477-6072.

This past month, the **Amazing Acorns** focused on the nature of Arctic animals. Our friends in Acorns learned about all different kinds of Arctic animals from polar bears to Arctic foxes. While learning about the Arctic, our friends discovered how cold it is there by experiencing cold temperatures. Our Acorns friends did a lot of sensory snow activities, including making their own snow!

Next month the Amazing Acorns will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday by learning about his life and all the fun books he wrote! During the month of March, the Amazing Acorns will also be learning how to save our planet by recycling. The Acorns have so much fun learning about Arctic animals and are looking forward to learning about many new things in the months to come!

- Ms. Claire, Ms. Allie, Mr. Mike



What a wonderful year it has been in **Awesome Owls!** We are so lucky to have such a fun and bright group of friends. So far, this new year we have been very busy with lots of fun projects. We made bird feeders to hang outside our room. We loved watching the birds eat the treats we made them! We made some very special presents for our families for Valentine's Day and we have been doing lots of fun science experiments about rain and the weather! We've been working on getting ready for Kindergarten too! We've been practicing counting, shapes and sorting! We've also loved practicing our letters and learning how to write and spell our names. We cannot wait to have all of our friends together with us everyday during the week. We're going to celebrate Dr. Seuss and hopefully we will catch the tricky St. Patrick's Day leprechaun. We're excited for spring so we can play outside and learn about growing plants. We are so happy with the great year we have had in Awesome Owls and we can't wait for all of you to be here together!

-Ms. Abbie, Ms. Sandy and Ms. Stefanie

Busy Bees are looking forward to Spring! We are so very excited to be opening full time, and ready to get back to as much 'normalcy' as possible. In the upcoming months, we will learn about plant and animal life cycles, recycling, and celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the Easter Bunny and much more! We will also begin to work on identifying and spelling our last names as well as working on concepts such as sorting, patterning, and rhyming words. We will continue to work on filling up our beehives with bees every day to earn a prize box item. Remember to keep sending in Felix slips when your child is safe, respectful, responsible or kind at home! The kiddos loved our "Bowling and Brownies" Felix party last month, as we had the most Felix slips for the month of January!! – Ms. Jen, Ms. Brittney, Ms. Crystal

The **Little Bears** have been very busy learning about Love, Valentine's Day and Family, as well as the colors, Red, Pink and White. In March, we will be learning all about colors of the rainbow, Ireland and St. Patrick's Day, and will have a special mystery visitor. We would like to welcome two new friends to the classroom, Brennan and Blake. We are sure that all of our little friends will be welcoming and kind to our new students. As a general reminder, please make sure to label all clothing items – Ms. Tammy, Ms. Janet



The **Mighty Maples** are so excited to be back full time! We're working hard on being safe in the classroom, and are continuing to practice wearing our masks. We can't wait for the spring weather so we can take more nature walks, play on the playground, and spend more time in the sunshine. We have so many fun activities and projects planned for the next few weeks, and can't wait to introduce you to our newest team member, Miss McKenzie.

- The Mighty Maples Team

Happy March **Shooting Stars!** We are so excited to have all our kiddos back together in person this Spring! We will be continuing to focus on our daily schedule and getting into a whole group routine. March will be filled with a super fun unit on Dr. Seuss and all the silly characters that he features in his stories! This unit will allow students to be silly, imaginative and also allow them to get back into the flow of being in school five-days a week! We also will be studying weather and how it changes throughout the year. In the spring months, we will also begin to study transportation, plants, recycling and dinosaurs! We are also looking forward to the weather becoming warmer and more sunshine so we can get outside for playground time and walks! The Shooting Stars Team are so excited to continue to learn and grow with the students! Thank you for sharing your children with us! We look forward to a wonderful rest of the school year

~Ms. K, Ms. Missy, Ms. Pia & Ms. Selena

Hello friends and **Speckled Frogs** families! We are so excited about continuing the school year with all of our kiddos in person. These last few weeks, we have been learning all about different types of clothes and we have been practicing getting our clothes on and off independently. In the upcoming weeks, we will be celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday while continuing to work on independent dressing. With February being our month of kindness, the Speckled Frogs classroom has been filling up our kindness jars! We have been catching all of our kiddos being super kind to one another over the past few weeks. Once we fill up our jars we get to make and decorate our very own cupcakes! Be sure to help encourage your kiddos to be kind at home by giving them Felix slips!

Sincerely, The Speckled Frogs Team



Hi parents and guardians!! Just a friendly reminder as we SPRING ahead into FULL TIME program, it is now more important than ever to keep your child home if they feel sick/are not feeling well. This includes but is not limited to: Fever of 100 or greater, chills, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, cough, congestion, runny nose, headache, sore throat, shortness of breath, trouble breathing and or fatigue/ feeling tired. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at Story Place so we can help you make the appropriate decision, and to avoid an unnecessary trip out of your way. If any of these symptoms are noticed upon drop off or while your child is here, you will be called to come back and pick them up ASAP. Please continue to remind your child the importance of frequent hand washing even while at home, and practice wearing masks even if just for short periods of time is highly encouraged while out and about. We are very thankful for your cooperation, patience, understanding and diligence. It has not gone unnoticed. Please bear with us at drop off and pick up, as it may take a little longer than usual while we work out the kinks and adjust to having more kids at once with the full-time in person option now being offered. Your child's safety and well-being are our number one priority. With that being said, even though warmer weather is approaching, we are not completely out of the woods yet so with the colder days your child SHOULD NOT be wearing any big bulky jackets in their car seats as it is a SAFETY HAZARD. Also, laws for child safety seats/restraints in cars are always changing. All children attending Story Place should be in some sort of child safety restraint that is properly installed. Please visit <https://dmv.ny.gov/more-info/safety-restraints> for specific details. If you are not sure if your child is in the proper restraint or if it is properly installed, most local police stations will assist you in making sure they are and your child is safe. We are so excited to return to full time and have some kind of "normalcy" return in these hard and trying times. – Nurse Ashley



Incorporating the Pyramid Model Expectations at Home

Counselor's Corner

- Ms. Becca and Ms. Lynn

There are four expectations in the Pyramid Model which include Kindness, Safety, Respect, and Responsibility. Your children are working hard on these expectations at school and it's important for the concepts to carry over at home as well. While children learn about these expectations in a variety of settings, they can also practice and demonstrate each of them throughout the day!

Children learn through real life scenarios and benefit from adult facilitation and modeling. Simple daily actions such as helping clean up toys, saying "please" and "thank you", and using walking feet can be recognized as your child following the expectations. You could also utilize more specific examples that apply to your situation. Perhaps your child could benefit from focusing on crossing the road, wearing a seat belt, following directions, and appropriate social interactions. At this age, children are still learning these concepts. Use these four expectations as a guideline as you incorporate learning at home!

Notice that your child is demonstrating one of the four expectations at home? Here's what to do next!

- Identify/Acknowledge the behavior
- Praise with positive attention and language
- Rewards – you can continue to send Felix Slips in to school to recognize your child's achievements or you can implement your own reward system at home



<u>December</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>February</u>
4 Brook	2 Ms. Ashley M.	1 Jaxon
7 Ms. Crystal	2 Liam	5 Ms. Amy O
7 Ms. Kim S.	15 Ms. Tammy	6 Avraaz
8 Levi	16 James	13 Jonathan
14 Ari	21 Brantlee	13 Lilly
15 Logan	21 Braxton	17 Abby
15 Grayson	22 Ms. Amy P.	19 Alexis
16 Kinley	25 Theresa	25 Ms. Alyssa
23 Chase	29 Riley	26 Ms. Emily
24 Sadie	30 Ms. Alexa	27 Conor
27 Blake		27 Sean
		28 Ms. Allison C.



<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>June</u>
2 Casey	1 Leo	3 Charlie	2 Ms. Erin
4 Ryan	4 Preston	4 Ms. Courtney	20 Nadav
5 Ibrahim	6 Chase	12 Madalyn	26 Ms. Sara
12 Ms. Sharon	8 Ms. Val	15 Graham	27 David
13 Khegan	8 Linkin	19 Liam	27 Eliana
19 Ms. Jen	9 Ms. Lynn	26 Jackson	28 Hadley
21 Ms. Elysha	15 Ms. Sandy	27 Ms. Kristin M	
22 Ms. Carly	16 Ms. Jackie	27 Toby	
23 Ms. Abby	16 Jack	28 Ms. Brittney C	
23 Gabriel	23 Lincoln	30 Krishna	
24 Ms. Libby	24 Victoria	31 Ms. Becca B	
25 Owen	25 JP		
25 Marciano			
29 Logan			