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Where learning and fun are one February 2018

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FEBRUARY EVENTS!

Wednesday 02/14 Class Valentine Parties
See sign-up sheets outside classroom doors

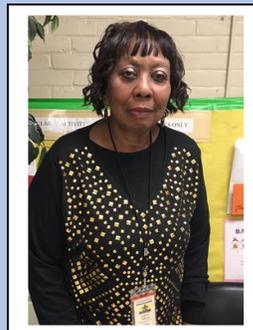
Monday 02/19 Presidents Day
CLOSED - Teacher In-Service Day

**Please welcome these new afternoon teacher assistants to the
TLC Nursery Hall**

Ms. Anna Williams
Incredible Infants



Ms. LaFern Tillman
Terrific Twos



Ms. Cynthia Dillitte
Turning Twos



These fine ladies come to TLC with a long history of Early Childhood Education and Experience which ranges from teaching, cooking, and transportation to program administration. We are thankful to have them join our team.

A Note to Families about BLOCK PLAY

Our children are Scientists in all aspects of their day! We hear more and more about STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) in our children's education and I want you to know that during their time in the classroom learning centers they are indeed actively engaged in STEM processes as well as literacy and language development!

Bridges * Enclosures * Designs * Constructions * Structures

The hardwood unit blocks you see in our classrooms are one of the most valuable learning materials we have. They come in exact sizes and shapes. For this reason when children build with blocks they learn **MATH CONCEPTS** such as the **number** of blocks that will fill a certain space. They compare the **height** of their buildings and learn about **geometric shapes** (triangles, squares, and rectangles). When they lift, shove, stack, and move blocks, they explore **weight and size**. Each time they use blocks, children are making decisions about how to build a structure or solve a construction problem.

Teachers support and enhance your child's **LITERACY DEVELOPMENT** by placing **writing tools** and **paper** in the block area and encouraging children to make **signs** for their buildings and structures. They display **pictures** and **labels** with words and include **props** such as traffic signs. Displaying **books** and **other texts** in the block area that relate to children's interests and constructions expands children's **language** and developing **literacy** skills.

Children often use blocks to recreate the world around them - a road, a house, the zoo. They work together and learn to cooperate and make friends. We encourage children to talk about what they are doing to promote **LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**. We also talk with children and ask questions to expand on their block play. Questions and comments make children more aware of what they are doing and encourage them to try new ideas.