



UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

February 2025

Dawn Hove-Casart - Director
Monica Dey - Assistant Director

UNO Child Care Center Classroom Valentine's Exchange; Friday, February 14, 2025

The Valentine's Day exchange will be on Friday, February 14. If you would like your child to participate, please make sure to have your child bring in Valentines to share. This is optional.

Number of Valentines for each classroom are:

Toddlers	12 Children	15 Staff	Preschool	12 Children	6 Staff
Transition	15 Children	9 Staff	Pre-K	8 Children	6 Staff

Please note that we are asking that no candy containing peanuts or nuts, etc. be included in any of the Valentines and that NO hard candy be placed in any of the toddler's Valentines. All items must be store bought and in the original packaging. Please see Dawn, Monica or the Lead Teachers if you have any questions.

Upcoming Spring Semester Event Dates:

- A. Read Across America and Dr. Seuss Week: March 2-8, 2025
- B. Parent/Teacher Conferences: Week of March 24-28, 2025
- C. Week of the Young Child; April 5-11, 2025
- D. Preschool 2 Graduation: Friday, May 2, 2025, 10:30 A.M. at The Thompson Alumni Center
- E. Stretch-N-Grow Dance Recital: Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 3 P.M. at The Thompson Alumni Center

Please watch for more information about each of these event as they get closer to the dates.



The UNO Child Care Center CLOSES promptly at 5:30 P.M.

Please make sure you are picking up your child by 5:30 P.M. Your account will be charged \$1.00 late pick-up fee for every minute you are late picking up your child past 5:30 P.M. and you will be responsible for paying this fee. If you are unable to be here by 5:30 P.M., please make other arrangements to have someone else pick up your child. You need to call the Child Care Center and let us know. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Winter Weather

The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. With the weather being colder, please make sure your child has a jacket/coat, hat and/or gloves and/or boots for outdoor play. As long as the temperature, including wind chill, is above 32 degrees, the children will be able to play outside.

Illness Reminder

As wintertime approaches, so do illnesses. Remember that if your child is experiencing any illness type symptoms, to please keep them at home. If your child develops a fever of 100.4 or above, your child must be fever free with out the aid of Tylenol or Ibuprofen before they can return. If your child has vomited or had diarrhea 2 or more times in a 24 hour period, and/or develop additional symptoms, they must be out for 24 hours, symptoms improving before returning. The UNO Child Care Center continues to follow all COVID guidelines from the Douglas County Health Department. If you child has been diagnosed with an illnesses, please let us know.

Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, please listen to your local news and radio stations for updates on closings or check the UNO announcement web page. If you see that UNO has closed, then the UNO Child Care Center will also be closed. If UNO has a late start, the UNO Child Care Center will open 30 minutes prior to the start time (Example: If UNO has a 10 A.M. late start, the UNO Child Care Center will open at 9:30 A.M.). If UNO closes early, the UNO Child Care Center will close 30 minutes after that time (Example: If UNO closes at 3 P.M., then the UNO Child Care Center will close by 3:30 P.M.). I will send out an email notification to families and staff informing them of the closure, late start or early dismissal.

Happy Birthday!

- 14 - Miss Lauren
- 16 - Yahir H.R.
- 17 - Miss Taryn
- 20 - Sam N.
- 20 - Miss Jamia
- 25 - Miss Audi
- 27 - Miss Nana
- 28 - Ophelia D,



March

National Nutrition Month

- 2 - Read Across America Day
- 2-7 - Dr. Seuss Week
- 4 - Mardi Gras
- 6 - Dentist Day
- 9 - Daylight Savings Begins
- 14 - Holi
- 17-21 - Spring Break - CCC open
- 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- 20 - Spring Equinox
- 24-28 - Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 31 - Eid al Fitr



Reading Fun!

Book Orders for this month will be due on **Friday, February 14, 2025.**

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. When you order your child's books through Scholastic Book Orders, the center earns points to use towards free books and educational materials we can use in the classrooms!

Please visit scholastic.com/bookclubs to order.

If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to create an account using our center's code GKXFX. This is the center's account under "Dawn Hove". Please make sure you are using this account, or your order may not be processed. You will be able to pay online and the books will be delivered to the center. Happy Reading!



February

Black History Month Dental Hygiene Month

- 2 - Groundhog's Day
- 4 - Rosa Parks Day
- 5 - World Read Aloud Day
- 7 - National Wear Red Day
- 9 - Super Bowl
- 14 - Valentine's Day; Classroom Parties
- 17 - President's Day
- 28 - First Day of Ramadan



Recommended Books for the Month



There are so many things happening in the month of February! With this in mind, here are some great books to celebrate and read together throughout the month!

- "Groundhog Day" by Anne Marie Pace
- "Groundhog's Day Off" by Robb Pearlman
- "Groundhog's Runaway Shadow" by David Biedrzycki
- "Heartprints" by P. K. Hallinan
- "Love Monster and the Last Chocolate" by Rachel Bright
- "Love Is My Favorite Thing" by Emma Chichester Clark
- "In the Garden with Dr. Carver" by Susan Grigsby
- "The Story of Mae Jemison" by Amy Drorbaugh
- "One Love" by Cedella Marley
- "I Look Up To... Serena Williams" by Anna Membrino
- "Jurassic Classics: The Presidential Masters of Prehistory: Discover America's prehistoric forefathers" by Saskia Lacey
- "Ellie May on Presidents' Day: An Ellie May Adventure" by Hillary Homzie



Talk With Toddlers

Welcome to February!

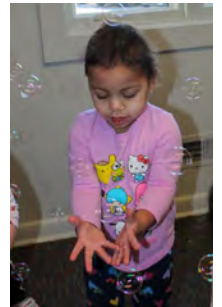
Love is in the air! We are looking forward to our annual Valentine's Day Exchange on Friday, February 14. If you would like your child to participate, please bring store bought Valentine's to the center no later than the morning of February 14. If you wish to bring other Valentine's items, such as trinkets or candy, these must also be purchased in a store and brought in with your child's Valentines.

February is also Black History Month! To honor and celebrate Black History Month, the toddler staff will be reading books to the class either written by a Black author and or that features Black historical figures every day this month. We will also be focusing on fine motor skills, exploring fingerpaint, drawing with crayons, stringing beads, and exploring a variety of textures.

Our theme for this month is emotions. The letters are P, Q, & R. The numbers are 12 & 13, the color is pink, and the shape is heart.

If you have any questions, please direct them to either Mr. Fred, Ms. Monica, or Ms. Dawn.

"Children learn as they play. More importantly, in play, children learn how to learn." ~ O. Fred Donaldson
Mr. Fred and the Toddler Assistant Teachers



Time With Transition

Happy February!

Spring semester is in full swing, and the Transition class has been very busy!

We will be having a Valentine exchange and class party on Friday, February 14. If you would like your child to participate in the exchange, please provide valentines. Any treats need to be store-bought and packaged, with no peanuts/tree nuts. There are 15 students in the Transition class. For our class party on the afternoon of February 14, we will celebrate from 3:30-4:30 P.M. We would love for parents, family, or friends to come in and read that afternoon during our class party. If you are interested in reading, please let Ms. Alecia know. We encourage you to come by for the party as we enjoy a sensory bin, playdoh table, arts and crafts, and music and dancing!

Transition's learning themes for the month of February are Modes of Transportation; Feelings and Emotions. Our weekly themes include: Different Ways to Travel; How Do We Get Around; Handling Our Emotions; and Different Types of Feelings. The color for the month is purple, and shape is heart. We will be learning about the numbers 14 and 15 as well as the letters O, P and Q. We are also celebrating African Americans this month with activities and books in recognition of Black History Month.

We are having a Transition Pajama Day on Friday, February 28. We are excited to see our friend's cozy pajamas and will be enjoying a movie that afternoon.

Lots of love,
Alecia and the Transition Assistant Teachers



Preschool Perspective

Happy February Preschool Parents

I hope this month finds you well. This month we are going to focus on the letters P, Q and R as well as the numbers 1-10. The color for the month is Pink and the shape: Heart! We are starting off the month by talking about safety, then the week of Valentine's Day we are going to learn about Friendship. We then learn about Fairytales and to close out the month we will explore Nocturnal Animals.

February is also Black History Month! We will be reading books and doing activities that celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans throughout the entire month.

On Friday, February 14, we will be having our Valentine's Day party! If you would like for your child to participate, please bring store bought Valentine's to the center no later than the morning of February 14. If you wish to bring other Valentine's items, such as trinkets or candy, these must also be purchased in a store and brought in with your child's Valentines. There are 12 children in our classroom. If your child is here on Tuesday and Thursday only, you are welcome to bring Valentines in on Thursday. We will have your child's bag ready for you to take home with you on the following Tuesday.

Please remember the Winter Program will be in the Milo Bail Center starting at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday the February 8. Please have the children at the Student Center by 9:45 A.M.

If you have not returned the Welcome Packet handout, please do so! The handouts will help determine our goals for each individual child!

Have a lovely month,
Ms. Erin and the Preschool Staff



Pre-K Press Release

Happy February Pre-k Families!

In January we enjoyed learning about what animals do in the winter, how our five senses work and about our amazing bodies. We also started working on recognizing high frequency words!

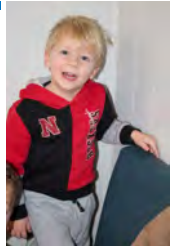
February is going to be an exciting month. Our themes for this month are: Safety; Friendship; Fairy tales; and Nocturnal Animals. Our letters are P, Q, and R. Our numbers are 16, 17, and 18. The shapes for the month are heart and pentagon, and the colors are purple and pink. We will also be continuing to work on our high frequency words!

Our friendship week will be the week of February 10 through 14. We will be decorating a bags for our friendship/Valentine's cards. We will have a friendship and Valentine's Day party on February 14. This year the Pre-K Class has a total of 8 children. Our friends that are here on Tuesday and Thursday only, are invited to bring in their cards on Thursday, February 13. Your child's bag will be waiting for them the following Tuesday. Due to allergies we ask that you check with Mrs. Patty, Mrs. Dawn or Mrs. Monica about any food you might bring in.

We will be reading books and doing activities that celebrate the accomplishments of African Americans throughout the entire month in recognition of Black History Month.

Don't forget that the winter program is on February 8 at 10 A.M. The children are so excited to share with all of you what they have been working on.

Mrs. Patty and the Pre-K Staff



Parent Corner

Dental Health & Hygiene for Young Children

As you might guess, the number-one dental problem among preschoolers is tooth decay.

- One out of 10 two- year-olds already have one or more cavities
- By age three, 28% of children have one or more cavities
- By age five, nearly 50% of children have one or more cavities



Many parents assume that cavities in baby teeth don't matter, because they'll be lost anyway. But that's not true. Dental decay in baby teeth can negatively affect permanent teeth and lead to future dental problems.

Teaching Good Dental Habits

The best way to protect your child's teeth is to teach him good dental habits. With the proper coaching he'll quickly adopt good oral hygiene as a part of his daily routine. However, while he may be an enthusiastic participant, he won't yet have the control or concentration to brush his teeth all by himself. You'll need to supervise and help him so that the brush removes all the plaque—the soft, sticky, bacteria- containing deposits that accumulate on the teeth, causing tooth decay. Also, keep an eye out for areas of brown or white spots which might be signs of early decay.

Toothbrushing

As soon as your child has a tooth you should be helping your child brush her teeth two times a day with a smear (size of a grain of rice) of fluoride toothpaste on a child-sized toothbrush that has soft bristles. There are brushes designed to address the different needs of children at all ages, ensuring that you can select a toothbrush that is appropriate for your child.

Amount of Toothpaste

At age 3, you can start using a pea-size amount of fluoride toothpaste, which helps prevent cavities. If your child doesn't like the taste of the toothpaste, try another flavor. Also try to teach your child not to swallow it, although at this age they are often still too young to learn to rinse and spit. Swallowing too much fluoride toothpaste can make white or brown spots on your child's adult teeth.

Brushing Motion

You'll hear all kinds of advice on whether the best brushing motion is up and down, back and forth, or around in circles. The truth is that the direction really doesn't matter. What's important is to clean each tooth thoroughly, top and bottom, inside and out. This is where you'll encounter resistance from your child, who probably will concentrate on only the front teeth that he can see. It may help to turn it into a game of "find the hidden teeth." Incidentally, a child cannot brush his teeth without help until he's older—about six to eight years old. So be sure to supervise or do the actual brushing if necessary.

Too Much Sugar

Besides regular toothbrushing with the right amount of fluoride toothpaste, your child's diet will play a key role in his dental health. And, of course, sugar is the big villain. The longer and more frequently his teeth are exposed to sugar, the greater the risk of cavities. "Sticky sugar" foods such as sticky caramel, toffee, gum, and dried fruit—particularly when it stays in his mouth and bathes his teeth in sugar for hours—could do serious damage. Make sure to always brush your child's teeth after a sugary food item. In addition, do not allow your child to have any sugar-containing liquid in a sippy cup for a prolonged period.

Dental Checkups

During regular well-child visits, the pediatrician will check your child's teeth and gums to ensure their health. If she notices problems, she may refer your child to a pediatric dentist (pedodontist) or a general dentist with an interest in treating the dental needs of children. Both the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommend that all children see a pediatric dentist and establish a "dental home" by age one.

As part of her dental checkup the dentist will make sure all teeth are developing normally and that there are no dental problems and give you further advice on proper hygiene. She also may apply a topical fluoride solution to provide extra protection against cavities. If you live in an area where the water is not fluoridated, she may prescribe fluoride drops or chewable tablets for your toddler. For more guidance on fluoride supplements, talk to your pediatrician.

Source Caring for Your Baby and Young Child: Birth to Age 5, 6th Edition (Copyright © 2015 American Academy of Pediatrics)

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/healthy-living/oral-health/Pages/Teething-and-Dental-Hygiene.aspx>

The information contained on this Web site should not be used as a substitute for the medical care and advice of your pediatrician. There may be variations in treatment that your pediatrician may recommend based on individual facts and circumstances.