



News! News! News!

Calvin Hill Day Care and Kitty Lustman-Findling Kindergarten

February 2007

Winter Finally Arrives

...And so does the ice!

Although ice on the sidewalk is a dangerous nuisance, controlled amounts of ice can provide hours of exploration and play in the classroom. The Threes have been experimenting recently: by leaving water bottles outside in the recent sub-freezing weather, they have seen how water freezes, how it looks frozen, and what happens when other objects, liquids, or colors are put in with the water as it freezes.

Another fun topic of study has been drums: playing with drums leads into making drums, which is followed, naturally, by a drum parade. Hollow blocks have also provided an interesting type of percussion.

Meanwhile, Amy has had her baby, a girl named Julia Rose (congratulations!!) and Elizabeth Antle is teaching full-time. We'll enjoy having you around in the Threes more often!



In the Threes classroom, the students study water both solid...

...and liquid!



How do you feel this morning?

Along with the ice and snow, it seems, comes the season of sniffles, coughs, and fevers. We understand that it is often difficult to determine if a child needs to stay home, but if there is any doubt, please consider carefully before sending them to school. Not only will your child be miserable in the busy environment at Calvin Hill, if they are not at the top of their form, but the ease with which illnesses spread among children makes it discourteous to their classmates, as well, if they come to school contagious.

New Consultant at Calvin Hill

Jeanette Stone has agreed to act as an early childhood consultant for Calvin Hill. She is a good friend to the school and has been involved in early childhood education for more than 60 years. Turning 90 this year, Dr. Stone is as sharp and wonderful as ever. We look forward to her contributions.



Amaryllis, by Malachai

Mark the Date!

February 19

School closed for President's Day

March 12-16

School closed for Spring Break

Preschool Art and Construction

Traditionally, the Preschool children have learned about portraiture by each making a painting of themselves. This year, however, the teachers decided to mix things up a little: each child made a portrait of a friend, who also made a portrait of them. Looking at Sam, and his portrait by Sophie, we can definitely see the resemblance!



The Preschoolers have also recently designed, built, and painted a club house, which occupies some prime real estate in the art studio. The kids are often seen playing in it, alone or with friends, and are happy to discuss the finer points of construction and decoration with visitors.



Kids in the Kitchen Vegetables Galore!

How often does your Preschooler or Kindergartener asked you for some more vegetables to eat? Perhaps more often than they used to do, thanks to a nutrition study going on in their classes. It is not uncommon these days for a Kindergartener to come home talking about cauliflower, green beans, and green peppers, or rating dinner from one to five, with five meaning "I liked it a lot!" In the end, we can hope that the researchers from Yale who initiated the study will have learned

something useful about the effect of repeated exposure on a child's taste for vegetables, while we can enjoy the newly broadened horizons of our children. Cream of asparagus soup, anyone?

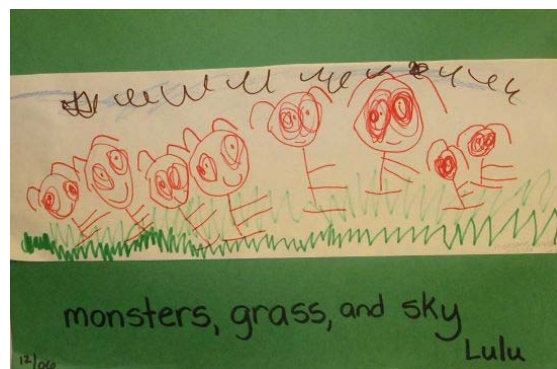
*A friend is ...
Someone that you love.
– Simon*

*A friend is...
A really good person.
– Meggie*

*A friend is...
Someone you can't hug and kiss all the time.
– Eliana*

Odds & Ends

- The teachers say *thank you!* to the parents for their amazing generosity in personal and classroom gifts.
- The kids play outside every day unless wind chill prohibits, so please dress them appropriately.
- Be looking for order forms for our annual plant sale: beautiful, healthy plants will be delivered the Thursday before Mothers' Day, just in time for gift giving.
- You may have noticed some visitors at the school recently: lots of wonderful families are in the process of enrolling at Calvin Hill for the upcoming year. Welcome to all of the new faces!



Feel free to send comments, criticisms, newsworthy pictures and stories, along with corny jokes, to the editor/writer/producer at kristin_south@yahoo.com.