

## JANUARY & FEBRUARY ISSUE



Greetings to all SPA Families;

What a busy month February has been. The 100th day of school, Valentine's Day, The Sweetheart Ball, and Vacation week.

Let's hope the snow is finally over!

March looks to be just as busy, with Dr. Suess Day, National PI Day, St Patrick's Day, Spirit Week, and the start of Spring!

I am proud to say that the students have been just as busy with their school work. I have had the pleasure of observing our students, and they continue to impress me with their knowledge.

I am proud of what the school, our staff, and our students are accomplishing. I look forward to the warm weather and the students continued progress.

Sincerely,

Andrius Dilba  
Chief Educational Officer



Here at SPA, we are so lucky to have such incredible families and community members that contribute to the success of our classrooms. Amazon Wishlists can be found by clicking the below links. Thank you for your help in keeping our classrooms fun and engaging!



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### ART/STEM & MUSIC Dr. Jo

February was a good, but cold month! For those of you who I haven't been able to tell yet, my wife and I welcomed our first child into the world in January, so I have been happy to be back and making music with our students this February.

In our Early Education Division, we have been working hard to remember all of the songs we have been singing since the beginning of the year. After a month-long break, I have been happy to hear our young students jump so quickly back into singing. We have also been doing a lot of painting using watercolor in STEM which I hope you will come to see during Special Persons Day at the end of the year! By using our water colors, we are learning all about how water moves, flows, and dries which has yielded some pretty paintings, as well!

In the Elementary Academy, our older students have been working on instrumental songs for a Spring Show that we are planning for the beginning of April. We hope you can make it to see everything that our students are learning through music classes. In art, our students are finishing up the panels that have lined our playground for many years. We are not only restoring some of our old favorites, but also painting some new faces and scenes to decorate our playground for years to come! We hope to show you soon, they are truly wonderful.



### AFTERSCHOOL

Ms. Brittney



February! The Month of LOVE! February has been such a wonderful month! It is truly special to be loved by each and every one of your children. We filled our community room with hearts and decorated everything in pink and red to celebrate the season of love! We also celebrated the 100th day of school – I cannot believe we have been in school for 100 days already! The children had so much fun dobbing 100 “gumballs” onto their gumball machine papers to mark the big milestone. Our Sweetheart Ball was an absolute hit! We loved dancing the night away, and everyone looked amazing. Thank you so much for helping make the night so special, we couldn't have done it without you! Valentine's Day was full of creativity and fun. The students enjoyed making paper hearts and drawing pictures inside showing what they love most. They also created their very own “Sweetheart Candies” by dipping their hands in paint to design candy-heart creations. Another favorite activity was making flower bouquets using heart-shaped toilet paper rolls dipped in paint to stamp beautiful heart-shaped flowers. We wrapped up February with our February ESCAPE Camp and went on so many exciting adventures! We enjoyed ice skating, a scavenger hunt around the city of Boston, bowling, and lots of fun indoor activities. What a fantastic month it has been! We are so grateful for your continued support and for sharing your wonderful children with us each day!

### TODDLER GREEN

Mrs. Christina, Ms. Equaria, Ms. Elvria,  
Ms. Breanna, Ms. P, & Mrs. Suzana

2026 has been flying by! Our toddlers have been busy wrapping up our World of Colors unit and are now beginning our third unit, "Wind and Water."

The children have had a blast participating in hands-on activities such as exploring snow, engaging in water play, and creating watercolor art with Dr. Jo in S.T.E.M. class. We are just getting started and look forward to diving deeper into how wind and water affect our daily lives and the environment over the next few weeks.

We have also enjoyed some exciting special events! The children had a fun dress-down day wearing their Patriots gear to celebrate our team heading to the Super Bowl, along with a cozy pajama day where friends proudly showed off their favorite pajamas. We were fortunate to celebrate our 100th Day of School as well – the children created some adorable arts and crafts that they were so excited to bring home.

In addition, we had a wonderful Valentine's Day celebration. It was so thoughtful of our families to help spread love and kindness throughout our classrooms. The children truly enjoyed celebrating with their friends and sharing special treats and surprises.

As March approaches, we are looking forward to spending more time outdoors and learning about the spring season and all of the exciting changes it brings.



### TODDLER BLUE

Ms. Rhi, & Ms. P

Toddler Blue has been having a blast in January and February! We recently wrapped up Unit 2, World of Colors, which the children absolutely loved. They enjoyed exploring all the colors of the rainbow through literacy activities, hands-on experiences, and even connecting colors to our emotions. One of our favorite highlights was reading *The Color Monster* and talking about how different colors can represent different feelings.

With all the snow we've had over the past two months, we've been staying busy indoors with lots of dancing and movement activities to help get our energy out. The children are becoming more independent each day by choosing their own snacks, cleaning up after snack and lunch, and helping with classroom routines. We are so proud of how much they are growing!

Our sensory table has been a huge hit lately. Whether we are bringing in fresh snow from the playground for hands-on snow exploration or filling it with water to explore pouring, scooping, and splashing, the children are always excited to investigate and learn through sensory play. This connects beautifully to our Wind and Water unit, as we have also begun learning about the water cycle in simple, age-appropriate ways and exploring how water moves and changes in our world.

We jumped right into our new unit, Wind and Water, just in time for our first snowstorm. Exploring real snow in our classroom made the learning even more meaningful and fun.

February was full of special celebrations! We celebrated our 100th Day of School, and the children had so much fun participating in themed activities and creating special projects to mark this exciting milestone. We also celebrated Valentine's Day, which was filled with so much love and kindness from our families and children. We truly enjoyed all of our Valentine's Day crafts and creating special keepsakes to bring home. Thank you all for your thoughtfulness! The children also had a wonderful time dancing the night away at our Sweetheart Ball.

We are looking forward to finishing up Unit 3 and hopefully welcoming some warmer spring weather.

Bring it on, March!

### TRANSITION

Ms. Francine & Ms. Marlene

Wow February has been quite the busy month here at SPA in TT and we cannot believe we are nearing the end! We have wrapped up Unit#3 Wind & Water and jumped right into Unit #4 Shadows and Reflections, starting with Mr Groundhog! The students had a fast and fun Month Celebrating 100 days of school, tag days, Saint Valentine's Day, Student birthdays, Black History Month, Presidents Day and of course the Valentine's Sweetheart Dance. The students have been enjoying music and movement, dance parties, so much water-play Ie: measuring, mixing, sinking and floating, gluing, as well as name identification & letter tracing, dramatic play, rhyming, and learning the sounds of their alphabet letters: upper and lower case I, J, K, and daily sight words, too. We continue daily self-esteem & confidence building affirmations to help our students spread awareness with kindness, love, patience, and sharing to each-other. Transition children a.k.a. the cool kids have been getting it done! February has been filled with so much love and laughter. I would like to say thank you to our parents for your thoughtful contributions and Valentine treats. Your simple generosity to all of us does not go unnoticed. Thank you doesn't always seem like enough - I do hope the smiles on your children's faces show you just how grateful we are! I appreciate you. We are all so excited Dr. Jo is back! The students enjoy their time with Dr. Jo during Music and STEM. They are becoming much more independent and less shy, coming out of their shell learning, laughing, solo singing, responding to Q & A, all while finding their artistic sides! Hopefully the snow will be gone sooner than later - We are ready to welcome March in the wink of a Leprechaun's eye & with open arms doing a jig. We look forward to long outside play, fresh air and giggles, neighborhood walks, Library trips, and much more. We are super excited and can not wait to see what March brings to The Coolkids! "Bring on Spring!" As we are all missing Miss Cindy, she checks in daily and her schooling is going well. She will be visiting soon. Please continue to warmly welcome Ms. Marlene to Toddler Transitions! She is permanent in Toddler Transitions alongside me. The students admire her and I do too! She is Amazing! #newestcoolkid2026 #TeamworkMatters

Please check out our Amazon Class Wishlist - We appreciate each of you!

-Nana Fran

\*Be Kind, Smiles are Free



### PREK

Ms. Carmen

February was a month full of celebration in Pre-k as we celebrated the 100th Day of school and Valentine's Day. In Owl Unit 3 Wind and Water, the students learned about the Water Cycle, many ways that water is used, and the things that move with the wind. Stem and Science was a blast with Dr. Jo. The students experimented with different objects that sink and float. We enjoyed the stories Tab, Tab, Boom, Boom, Kite Day, Sail Away, and Water in Water. In Math, we learned Tangrams, composing shapes into large figures, and recognizing shapes in multiple orientations. Pre-K is looking forward to the Spring weather which will allow us to get outside more. Welcome March!



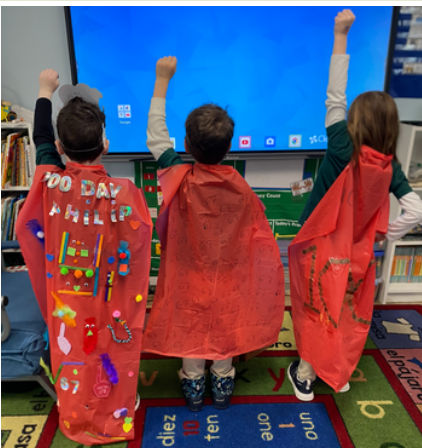
### K1 Mrs. Stewart

We kicked off February learning about GroundHog Day. 8 children were hoping for an early Spring but it doesn't seem like Mother Nature is going to cooperate!! We celebrated 100 Days of School and showed school spirit by dressing in our Patriots apparel as we wished our beloved team good luck in the Super Bowl. In CKLA, the children have been learning Nursery Rhymes, identifying the rhyming words in the Nursery Rhymes, and to put pictures of the Nursery Rhymes in sequential order. We have enjoyed getting out as much as we could to play in the snow. In Literacy, we read *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats and completed some fun activities and crafts to go along with the story. We celebrated National Read Aloud Day with a visit to the South Boston Public Library. Librarian Ms. Dani read aloud to the children before helping them check out books. Reading aloud to children is one of the most important things to do. It fosters a love for reading for pleasure, introduces children to different genres, builds foundational skills, introduces vocabulary, develops cognitive and language skills, and so much more!! For Valentine's Day the children made gifts for their families and enjoyed dancing the night away at our SweetHeart Ball!!!! We are hoping for warmer weather in March!!



### K2/I Mrs. Heseck

Greetings and welcome to K2/I! February slipped through our fingers like the long-awaited snows that came our way. We started our month talking about the groundhog and how seeing the shadow gives us six more weeks of winter. We decided that we have definitely loved this winter and all the snow, so we were sure we were ok with that. The class was proud to help kick off our Soup-er bowl challenge to support our New England Patriots. We decorated bags and put in soup with a spoon to share with neighbors in need. Our 100<sup>th</sup> day of school came and our superhero capes were decorated with 100 items of all our wonderful thoughts. We enjoyed counting to 100 in many ways on our capes including the beloved 6-7 tradition, 100 pennies and spelling out names with 100 items. (Of course, Mrs. Heseck had 100 words on her cape) Through all of these activities we dominated our reading/writing skills through daily practice and 1:1 time in small groups. We are enjoying our time working independently and alongside each other as we master educational and social skills here in K2/I.



### GRADE 2/3

Ms. Dixon

Grade 2/3 started off the new year by writing our very first personal narratives - A true story about something that happened in our lives. We chose to write about something that happened over Winter break. Our stories came out amazing, and we were so proud to share them during our Publishing Party with the rest of the elementary students in K1, K2, Grade 1, Grade 4, and Grade 5. I am so proud of everyone's hard work, and bravery in practicing public speaking!

We had so many holidays to celebrate over these months including: Martin Luther King Day, Groundhog Day, Valentine's Day, the 100th Day of School, and the Superbowl! We will learn about Presidents' Day and Lunar New Year after the fact, since our surprise snow days caused our plans to change. But not to worry - We still spent tons of time learning! In January, we wrote about what dreams we had that were similar to Dr. King's. In February, we wrote about what we would do if we had \$100 and what we would do if we were 100 years old on the 100th Day of school. We also wrote letters to our Valentines for Valentine's Day. Last, we wrote about what we would do if we were trapped in a snow globe for a fun winter-themed activity to go with all of the snow we have been getting! In Reading, both grades continue to work on reading fluency, comprehension, answering multiple choice and short answer questions, vocabulary, and spelling words. In Math, Grade 2 students have been working with counting and place value - specifically, with money. Grade 3 students finished up their unit about multiplying and dividing friendly numbers, then moved on to learn about measuring. We had two cool field trips to the JFK Library and to Dorchester Heights, and we can't wait to see what March has in store for us!



### GRADE 4/5

Ms. Welch

Grade 4/5 has had a busy and exciting start to the new year! There has been a long list of holidays and celebrations, such as Martin Luther King Day, Groundhog's Day, Valentine's Day, the Super Bowl, 100th Day of School, Presidents' Day, and Lunar New Year that we integrated into each of our core academic subjects. In addition to our Science curriculum, we also included current events such as learning about the Artemis II mission and aerodynamics leading up to the Winter Olympics. The students have also enjoyed our hands-on Science experiments, such as creating the most effective paper airplane, a sink or float test, and making jelly 'worms' by mixing sodium alginate and calcium chloride. As always, we enjoy exploring Boston to further our learning, like visiting the John F. Kennedy Museum and walking to the Dorchester Heights Museum. We look forward to what the next few months will bring!

