



February 2025

THEMES: Shapes, Valentines, Emotions, Friendship, I Love to Read, Presidents' Day, Black History Month



February is Packed!

February is SHORT month with a LONG list of events and people to celebrate! Black History Month, I Love to Read Month, International Book Giving Day, Valentines Day, Presidents Day... we will touch on many of these at school but I encourage you to follow up at home.

Important Dates for Everyone!

February 8 Valentine Sing at Three Links, then ODP

February 12 Valentine Celebration at school

February 17, NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day

February 20, St. Olaf Prairie visit (meet at St. Olaf Art barn the whole session)

March 24-April 1 No School*****SPRING BREAK

April 2 School Resumes

TBD Conferences

April 26 - Healthy Kids Day at the YMCA - wear your ODP t-shirt if you can :)



It's a Heartwarming Event!

We are excited to try a new way to do our annual Valentine event...

we invite your family to Three Links Care Center at 9:00 on Saturday

February 8th, where the preschoolers will sing for the residents. If you

would like to walk from ODP to Three Links with us please meet at ODP at 8:45am. After the preschoolers sing some songs for the residents, they will hand out Valentines to them, and then we will all walk back to ODP together where students and families can enjoy some light snacks and fellowship. This is a great chance for the children to show their grown-ups their favorite things at Open Door and for families to get to know each other. Partway through the morning we will be opening up our space to prospective families for an Open House so there may be some new faces too!



Valentine's Exchange

We would like to exchange class valentine's on Wednesday February 12. The children will make bags to collect their valentines at school, but each child should bring in enough valentine's for each classmate. If this creates stress of any kind for your family please contact the teachers and we will help him/her create valentines to hand out. Also, children do not need to hand out Valentines at all, but if they bring in any please be sure there is one for every child. It is easiest if children do NOT write classmate names on the valentines so they can be placed in any child's bag. It is a great opportunity for your child to practice writing their OWN name to show who they are *from* though! There are 20 children at ODP.

Open Door Preschool Tax Number

For those of you who are really organized and are thinking about taxes already, the ODP tax number you might need for tax purposes is **41 605 3204**

Winter Prairie Visits

It's time again for our visit to the St. Olaf Prairie. We will start and end our day at the ART BARN on the St. Olaf campus on **Thursday February 20**. If you would like to chaperone please let Marja know. Remember – no siblings. If your child will not be attending the field trip, please contact your child's teacher.

Let's Talk Conferences

Conference time will be held in February and March. Please watch for. If you would prefer a virtual conference, or cannot attend at the scheduled times, please let the teachers know.

Registration for 2025

We like to give current families first priority on enrollment for the upcoming school year. If you plan to enroll any of your children at ODP next year please fill out the Initial Registration Form by the end of February to ensure you get a spot on your chosen days.

Outside Play

Please be sure to send your child to school wearing outside play clothes (snow pants, boots, warm mittens and hats). When the temperature is 0 degrees or below, we will be inside. If the windchill is 10 below or greater we will be inside. Please check weather apps for current conditions (I use WeatherBug and Weather Channel).

I Love to Read Month

We will do a few simple activities throughout February to celebrate I Love to Read month. In addition, I wanted to share some resources with you to support reading (links below)! Of course, the most important thing for pre-readers is to be read to! It's a great time of year to build in extra time to cozy up with a book and read to your child.

[Storyline Online](#)

Listen to celebrated actors and actresses read some of their favorite picture books alongside animated illustrations of the book. My own children love this!

[Northfield Public Library](#)

The library has great resources for early literacy as well as baby and family story times.

[Scholastic Book Clubs](#)

Please do not feel any pressure to order from Scholastic. However, they do offer some great deals if you are interested in growing your home library. Our class code is **YGR9W**.

Take Home Box

Just a reminder that we would like the parents/drivers to pick up things out of the take home box. When children do this, it can result in missing artwork/important messages and congestion at the box. Remember that your child's things will be found BEHIND their name. If someone else is picking up your child, please remind them of this procedure.

"When there are enough books available that can act as both mirrors and windows for all our children, they will see that we can celebrate both our differences and our similarities, because together they are what make us all human."

~Rudine Sims Bishop

CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL BOOK GIVING DAY



GIVE
A BOOK
TO A CHILD

LEAVE A BOOK
IN A WAITING
ROOM FOR A
CHILD TO
READ

DONATE A BOOK TO A
CHARITY OF YOUR
CHOICE!

bookgivingday.com

