



Village Voyager



Rainbow Station®

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February 2012

A Word from the Mayor...

Volume 3, Issue 2

It's February, and love is in the air! According to the Greeks, there were four different types of love: eros, agape, philia, and storge.

Eros is the type of love you (as adults) feel for your partner or spouse.

Philia is the type of love that you feel towards your friends.

Storge is natural affection, or "I love you because I'm supposed to."

Agape is unconditional love, and as such, is the hardest form of love to maintain.

Storge comes very easily. You love children because they are young, they need help, and they love you.

Watching parent pick-ups, I've seen so many parents who, even if their

child is grumpy, or doesn't want to leave the Arcade, will make the extra effort to show agape. Whether it's giving extra hugs, listening to a minor complaint, or sometimes even sitting down and taking five minutes to watch your child as they participate in the activity even though you're exhausted from work, you parents are amazing!

As you go about your daily routines, just take a few extra minutes to pat yourself on the back. You are an incredible parent. Even when things get tough, you love your children unconditionally, and it shows :)

-Mayor Renata

Important Dates this month:

- ✓ February 1: Early Release at 12:45 for RRISD
- ✓ February 6-8: No School for LISD
- ✓ February 6-10: Parent Appreciation Week
- ✓ February 10: Valentine's Day Pick-Up Treats!
- ✓ February 14: Valentine's Day!
- ✓ February 15: Parent Meeting in the Food Car at 4:15 p.m.
- ✓ February 18: Parent Date Night
- ✓ February 20: No School for RRISD and Holy Family

February Birthdays

Brynnz L.	2/7
Samantha C.	2/8
Callan G.	2/8
John Luke R.	2/10
Abigail B.	2/12
Alexandra P-G.	2/17
Vincent L.	2/21
Diego H.	2/23
Marissa P.	2/27



Cake Designers

If you build it, they will come...well at the Village I think...if you let them build it more Villagers will come. In Café during Youth Art week, the Villagers became **CAKE DESIGNERS!** Villagers made their canvas (ie a cupcake) and put together their supplies (ie frosting, marshmallow, sprinkles,

etc) and on the final day they were ready to design. Villagers made frogs, pigs, cats and even monsters. As each Villager came out of the Café to show others their creations, more Villagers entered to try their hand at cake designing. At the Village, anything is possible when you have supplies and opportunity!

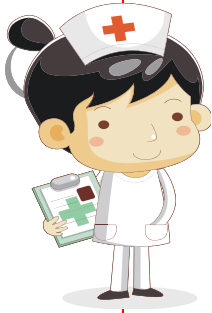


Curriculum Corner

Friendship...everyone needs it! Friendship keeps you sane when things around you are not. Friendship can keep you from making a bad decision and not being depressed. Friendship can come in many forms: a spouse, childhood friend, neighbor, co-worker or even your child. Friends can come in waves, as your life experiences change so might your friends. A good and healthy friendship allows you to grow

as a person because they challenge you to be a better person. In Village during the month of February we will be focusing on friendships. Not existing friendships but people who are willing and available to help another person who is need of a friend. Most people started out this year with goals. Our Village goal for January was to be self disciplined. We looked

for Villagers who could be crowned Most Valuable Villagers for Self Discipline and we found Callan G. and Adam V.. Both Villagers are self aware of what is expected, and self responsible to identify a need and do something about it. This goes to show that even in kindergarten we can have expectations on our children. Dawn Hunter— Assistant Director



Nurse's Notes

By: Chara Dozier,
your Get Well Place
Registered Nurse

American Heart Month: February Means Heart Disease Awareness!

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States. The month of February is dedicated to raising awareness about heart disease and increasing knowledge about prevention. Educate yourself on the dangers of heart disease and get on track to better heart health!

Everyday Heart Health Tips

If you're not convinced about the need to develop an exercise program for your life, you can at least try following some of these tips in your everyday routine. Take advantage of any opportunity for exercise. Try some today.

- Take the stairs instead of an elevator or escalator at school or the mall. Just start with one flight. Soon, you'll be ready for two.
- Park your car at the far end of the parking lot. The short walk to and from the store or school helps your heart.
- If you ride a bus or subway, get off a stop before your destination. Walk the rest of the way.
- If you can, spend a few minutes of your lunch break taking a stroll around the campus grounds. It should help you stay awake after lunch.
- Think of housework as an extra chance to exercise. Vacuuming briskly can be a real workout.
- Mowing the lawn, pulling weeds, and raking leaves are chores that can be done yourself as a chance to exercise.
- If you have a dog, think of the dog as an exercise machine with fur. A brisk walk with the dog is good for both of your hearts. Make it a part of your daily routine.
- If you want to have family time, schedule an after-dinner walk. Make it quality time.

For the lunch menu, please see the Preschool newsletter or look at the posted menu near the check-out computer in The Village!

Questions? Comments? Concerns? Please let us know how we can help :)

Staff Highlights

My name is Soraya Giaccardi. I graduated from the University of Texas with a B.A. in Psychology in 2011. I hope to continue on to a PhD program in Developmental Psychology later. I love being a part of the Rainbow Station family as a counselor in the Village and as an extracurricular Spanish teacher!



My name is Cassie Thomason! I am originally from Abilene, Texas, but I've lived in Austin for about two years. I received my teaching certificate in May 2011 when I graduated from Texas State University. I truly love working with kids and being able to motivate and inspire them to achieve anything they want to do!

Private Kindergarten with Ms. Wood

This month the Kindergarten has some very exciting news to share. We have all worked so hard in Math that we finished the Saxon Math Kindergarten Curriculum and we have now begun First Grade

Math! The kids are very excited and raring to go on this new challenge. The staff is all very proud of them and can't wait to see where the kids are by the end of the school year.

This month we have

also been studying Chinese New Year. The children were very enthusiastic about this holiday and persuaded Ms. Wood to let them have a Chinese New Year parade. We wore



costumes, made a sign with Chinese characters, and built our own Chinese dragon. The children then visited each classroom wishing them "Gung Hay

Fat Choy!"

During our weekly spelling test Ms. Wood has introduced the bonus word. The bonus word is always a word that we have seen several times during the week and challenges our spelling skills. Recent words include: Matilda, quarter, and dragon. If we are able to spell the bonus word Ms. Wood gives us a golden ticket to spend.

