

J A N U A R Y

the Children's Center News

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Carrie Rain, Director of Early Childhood Programs



WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA
SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Reading Corner

Sheri Morgan, Reading Teacher

How can you help your child with reading?

1. Let your child see you reading! Have magazines and books in your home.
2. Keep a dictionary on hand to help your child look up new words.
3. Set aside a time and place for your child to read with a comfy chair and reading light in a quiet place!
4. Visit your public library together regularly.
5. Encourage your child to write or draw a picture about their experiences, stories they have read and to-do lists.
6. Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading!



Attack Theater

Katherine Kolosky, Preschool Teacher

The students in the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes had the opportunity to participate in an in-school workshop with the Attack Theater over the last few weeks. Attack Theater is a company of dancers and artists based in Pittsburgh who enjoy engaging their audiences and interacting with their environment. They also offer classes, productions, and workshops for the community and schools. While working with our Children's Center students the program focused on kinesthetic learning and encouraged the students to become creative and imaginative with their body movements. The students were encouraged to copy movements such as clapping, stomping, and worked with each other to create shapes with their bodies. Our time with Attack Theater has been very fun and productive. We have three more sessions that we are looking forward to!



Upcoming Events

February 4th

Literacy
Workshop
10:00-12:00

February 20th

No School-
President's
Day

March 2nd

Read Across
America

March 24-25

Family
Learning
Weekend

The Gingerbread Man!

Patty Greeno, Preschool Teacher

Coming back to school after our Holiday break is always sooo fun for the three-year-old class because we get to play with the Gingerbread Man. We learn various concepts and skills while playing with the Gingerbread Man: patterning, sizes, shapes, numbers are different than letters, body parts and clothing, identifying the characters in the story, sequencing the story and predicting what will happen next. Of course, we act out the story and learn the famous phrase; "Run, Run as fast as you can. You can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man." We eat some gingerbread cookies. A giant Gingerbread House is set up in our room for everyone to play in. But even with all of that fun the most exciting activity by far is taking the Gingerbread Man home for a visit. The children and parents take pictures with the Gingerbread Man and write a brief description of his visit to their home. The children are delighted to have a chance to show pictures to their friends and tell of their adventures. It is an exciting way to ease back into the routine of school. The children love having time to spend with their new friend the Gingerbread Man.



Join us for

Hooked on Books about Winter!

Family Literacy and ASL Workshop

For children of all ages through 4th grade and their families!

**Saturday, February 4th
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

WPSD Children's Center Playroom

Share a special day with your family and get free books!

RSVP to Martha at mhutchinson@wpsd.org

Inclement Weather

Just a reminder... Should there be inclement weather, follow your home school district's closings and delays as they provide transportation for your child. If school is canceled or delayed in your area, the district has determined that it is not safe for buses to travel.



PJ Day!

Janine McTighe, CC Speech Therapist

"Any day that you can stay in your pajamas is a good day!"

Pajama Day at the Children's Center was a very good day! The halls were filled with students and teachers wearing their favorite pair of PJ's, slippers, robes and carrying blankies. The kitchen smelled of pancakes and bacon being prepared for snack. Inside the classrooms there were lots of 'going to bed' activities. We all enjoyed a bedtime story, a putting your teddy to bed relay race, crafts, games and yoga. It was such a busy morning that we all needed a nap!

We'll Miss You, Patty!

Miss Patty will retire on January 31st after 37 years serving the students and families at WPSD. Her energy and enthusiasm will be difficult to replace. We wish her all the best in her next chapter... may it be filled with all the things that she loves most! Congratulations, Patty!

