

KIDDING AROUND

Early Childhood Programs
Newsletter

Concordia on Whipple

Our newsletter shares some meaningful children's program seasonal highlights and keeps parents informed of our upcoming events and important Concordia Place dates.

From Jessica Trumbull, Assistant Director

Our classrooms are making the best of this cold winter! Even though it has been too cold to go outside, our teachers have brought the snow inside for their students to explore with cups, shovels, arctic animals and even paint and paint brushes. Filling the sensory table with snow is a great sensory play experience. Especially in Early Learning, teachers encourage language and communication skills (i.e. "It's cold", "Can you use shovel to fill up your cup?", "What color do you see?") For all ages, the sensory table is a great place to practice cooperative play skills.



In Preschool, teachers have introduced winter topics like hibernating, migrating, and adapting to help grow the children's vocabulary. Teachers also use snow and ice to introduce early science concepts. Children explore ice cubes and work together to break the ice or use water to make them melt. Our students were so interested in watching the ice melt and touching the cold water. Freezing small plastic animals inside ice cubes is an activity that is easy to try at home.

Our students have also been very busy building in the block centers. Each classroom has a variety of blocks - small and large, hard and



soft, colored and plain, etc. This allows for creative and open ended play. Block play introduces early math concepts such as measurement, length, width, and height. Children are given many opportunities to solve problems during block play. For example, they may want to build something but are not exactly sure how. They need to use problem solving skills to decide how many blocks to use, which shapes to use and how to stack or align their

blocks. Blocks can be a cooperative play experience or an independent experience. When playing together, children learn to listen to a classmate's ideas, take turns and cooperate. When playing alone, children use their imaginations to turn their blocks into whatever they want - maybe a tower, a zoo, or a house. There is not a right or wrong way to play with blocks; this is an area where all children, regardless of age or ability, can be successful. Spend some time in your child's classroom in the block area - you'll be amazed at how creative your child can be.

[3300 N. Whipple Chicago 773.463.1600 jtrumbull@concordiaplace.org](mailto:jtrumbull@concordiaplace.org)

Concordia on Seeley



From Adrianne Gonzalez, Site Director

We had a wonderful time celebrating the holidays and celebrating the diversity within our Concordia Family. We said goodbye to 2016 and are excited to see what adventures 2017 holds! We are staying warm this winter with some great learning adventures and fun activities.

Back in September we mentioned that preschool was about to start counting up to the 100th day of school. Believe it or not that day is here!

The Preschool Stars celebrated the 100th day of school on January 31st by sharing family engagement projects focusing on the number 100 and participating in several "100 themed" activities around the classroom. Early Learning incorporated STEAM learning while experimenting with the states of matter. Using balloons, air, and water the Lion's classroom experienced and experimented with the differences between gas, liquids, and solids.



We have been enjoying our monthly Move and Groove Events! As a reminder, Concordia Place on Seeley holds a monthly Move and Groove on the 4th Saturday of each month from 10:00 to 10:45 am, with time for questions and tours after. This is a free music class for families, so feel free to bring family friends to show them what Concordia Place is all

about.

We have a few upcoming events and days off that we would like to remind you about. On February 24th, Concordia Place will be closed for our quarterly In-Service day.

As we move into the spring, hopefully we will start to see some of that spring weather; we will begin preparing for our Art Show on April 12th. Just after the Art Show, we will be closed on April 14th in Observance of Good Friday.

3855 N. Seeley Chicago 773.935.3739 agonzalez@concordiaplace.org

Menus



Concordia on Seeley Menu

[Regular & Vegetarian Lunch Menus »](#)

[Snack Menu »](#)

Concordia on Whipple Menu

[Regular & Vegetarian Lunch Menus »](#)

[Snack Menu »](#)

Important Dates

Move and Groove Family Music Time

Concordia on Whipple

February 11 & March 11

Concordia Day on Ravenswood

February 18 & March 18



Concordia on Seeley

February 25 & March 25
10:00 - 10:45 am at all sites

For More Info »

Upcoming Event

***Valentine Day Party**

February 8, Wednesday at 4:30 pm till 6:00 pm

Cookie Decorating, Card Making, Fun & Games

(Whipple) (Partnered with Concordia Church)

***KaBoom Play Day--A full morning of Fun!**

February 11, Saturday at 9:30 am till noon
(Whipple) Partnered with Concordia Church's
Coffee & Open Play and Move & Groove

For More Info »

Concordia Place will be closed:

Friday, February 24 -- Staff In-service

Community Programs 2017 Sessions

*Emerging Leaders: January 17 - May 11

*Ruckus Entrepreneurs: February 21 - May 24

*Senior Fitness Classes: January 18 - May 25

*English as a Second Language: March 7-May 5

For more info gross@concordiaplace.org

Concordia Lutheran Church Events

Weekly Sunday Worship

*Concordia Church on Seeley

3855 N. Seeley 8:30 am & 10:30 am

*Concordia Church on Whipple

3300 N. Whipple 10:00 am, twice a month

Upcoming Services: Feb. 12 & 26, March 12 & 26, April 9 & 23

*Exploring Church Membership Information

Session 3855 N. Seeley Feb. 12 12:00 pm

*Coffee & Open Play dates (3300 N. Whipple

Annex) 9:30 to 11:30 am Feb. 25, March 11,

March 25, April 8, April 22

*Ash Wednesday Service (3300 N. Whipple

Annex) March 1 6:00 pm

For more info jphillips@concordiaplace.org

Visit our website at concordiaplace.org

Concordia Place is a ministry of Concordia Church, ELCA

