



## Christ the King Community Daycare

68-02 Metropolitan Avenue,

Middle Village, NY 11379

718-417-6770

[www.ctkny.org](http://www.ctkny.org)

LUNCH MENUS

WEBSITE

IMPORTANT DATES

BIRTHDAYS

CTKNY - CK CAMPUS

CKKIDSNY



# APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER



It is hard to believe that it is already April and that we have now sprung ahead. We are all anxious to hear the sounds of birds chirping, smell the trees and flowers blooming, and watch out for all the signs that assure us that spring is in the air. The first weeks of April we will learn about clouds, rain and rainbows. "April Showers Bring May Flowers."

We will also learn about our Earth, Sea and Sky, and why our planet is so special. What a fantastic month to think and learn about all the wonderful things the Earth provides for us. We want to foster in our children a love and respect for nature. This day gives us a chance to look at different ways that we can teach our children about taking care of the Earth. We will teach them about "Going Green," and the importance of the three R's - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

**REDUCE** - We can all try! Try not to make so much trash; try to use real plates and silverware instead of plastic and paper.

- Don't let the water run when you're not using it.
- Turn off the lights when leaving a room.
- Take a reusable bag to the store when buying groceries.
- Don't litter.

**REUSE** - This is a fun one! Create a box to collect ordinary items that might have been thrown away - paper towel rolls, empty baby wipe containers, magazines, greeting cards and empty colorful laundry detergent covers.

- Decorate a paper towel tube to make a great telescope.
- Laundry detergent covers become great planters for seeds and new plants.
- Cut pictures from magazines and old cards to make interesting collages.

- Give away outgrown toys and clothes - a good reminder that they are becoming big boys and big girls.

**RECYCLE** - We can't forget to do this! Don't forget to separate your trash - glass, paper, plastic and cans. This is also a great lesson on sorting.

Happy Anniversary Christ the King Daycare/ Preschool! Celebrating 33 Years of Caring Learning and Fun!



- As the weather becomes nicer, the children will be spending more time outdoors. If your child is outside when you are picking up, please remember to come in and sign your child out first. We would also like to remind parents to please refrain from picking your child up over the fence. This is for the safety of the children.
- If you have not yet done so, please return your child's re-registration packet by April 17th.
- When calling the facility, please keep in mind that calls should be ideally be made between 12-2pm while the children are napping. The daycare phone number is 718-417-6770.
- As we move into Spring, please remember to make sure your child's cubby contains weather-appropriate clothing. We also appreciate all of our parents continuing to bring in diapers and a box of wipes twice each month on the 1st and the 15th.

## Monthly Themes



- **Colors:** Rainbow
- **Concepts:** Rain, Rainbows, and Clouds; Spring; Recycle; Solar System
- **Shape:** Oval
- **Letters:** T, U, V
- **Number(s):**

Ages (1-2) # 8

## Little Einsteins



### Science with the Bunnies

Happy Spring! This month, the Bunnies are looking forward to Earth Day projects, sunny outdoor adventures, and delightful Easter crafts. Last month was equally vibrant, filled with the joy of our Little Shops and the spirited St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Our Little Shops was a creative success! The Bunnies transformed toilet paper rolls into cute colorful little butterflies. We had so much fun painting them and being creative!

Another highlight of last month was our colorful exploration of mixing paints. With a dab of two different colors on our hands, we clapped and swirled, watching the magic happen as new hues emerged. The sensation of paint between our fingers and the vibrant streaks we left on paper made for a very fun project. We can't wait for all the spring adventures ahead!

### Science with the Lions

March definitely came in like a lion, but that didn't stop us Lions from having a month full of fun. With our building unit in full swing, we wanted to examine all the different materials people use to build. The Lions got to mix a batch of oobleck, which gave us an idea of what wet cement might feel like. Using cornstarch, water, and a little food coloring, we made our own "wet cement," and the children drove construction vehicles through it. They had a great time exploring the texture—running it through their fingers and rolling "cement trucks" in the mix. It was a perfect way to combine science and play while learning about materials and what helps hold up some of our buildings.

Through this experience, the children were introduced to important science concepts such as observing, predicting, and experimenting. They learned how materials can change depending on how they are used and noticed how the oobleck could feel both solid and liquid at different times. We encouraged the Lions to ask questions, share their ideas, and describe what they were seeing and feeling, which helped build their scientific thinking and vocabulary. These hands-on experiences allow them to learn through discovery and make connections to the world around them.

We start April with our Easter celebration, and it always proves to be an eggcellent time. We will finish our building unit with our parent connection, where you will get to see all the wonderful creations the children come up with for their buildings!

### Science with the Dolphins

April is a rainbow month,

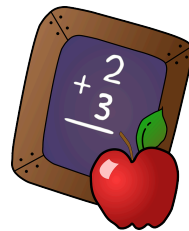
Of sudden springtime showers,  
Bright with golden daffodils  
And lots of pretty flowers.

We have finally reached April; before you know it, our school year will be complete. With all this warm weather upon us, it is only right that we learn all about Mother Earth and how to take care of her. The Dolphins are looking forward to our Earth Day celebration. As always, we thank each one of you for your cooperation and all you do to help keep our classroom successful.

During the month of April, we will be learning about gardening. During our science lesson, each child will explore how the life cycle of a plant develops. Using life cycle cards of a flower, each child will glue the correct stages showing how a flower grows. First, as a group, we will review the life cycle picture cards. Next, each student will choose a construction paper strip and glue stick. Then, Miss Diane will mix up the cards, and together we will review which step comes first, next, middle, and last. Finally, the children will draw their own flower at the end.

In March, the Dolphins explored light and how to make colored shadows. First, using colored transparent blocks, each child selected the blocks they wanted. Then, we used a flashlight with the blocks to explore how light travels and creates shadows. The children learned that light can pass through some colored objects, creating colored shadows. This helped them understand that when light passes through color, it transforms the shadow on the wall.

## Mathematicians



### **Math with the Kitties**

Welcome April! Last month we celebrated St. Patrick's Day and did many fun art projects. One project we did was a pot of gold and a rainbow. For the Rainbow the teachers painted the children's hands different colors of the rainbow. The teachers guided the children to place their hands in the shape of a rainbow onto the paper. All the kids gathered and watched as their friends began making our creation. After all the kids were painted and our rainbow was made, the teachers then made a pot of gold using construction paper and a piece of white felt for the cloud. We hung our "Kitties Pot of Gold" outside the classroom for everyone to see. The kids had a lot fun making this project

This month we look forward to celebrating Easter and making some fun Easter projects as well as our letters T, U and V and the number 8.

### **Math with the Chipmunks**

March was full of creativity, building, and hands-on fun! We learned what buildings are made of, the different parts they have, and who helps build them. The students became little architects as they designed their own blueprints using

white paint and index cards to create straight lines. They also had a blast using different shaped foam blocks to paint and construct their own unique buildings. Our learning came to life as we listened to The Three Little Pigs and recreated houses made of straw, sticks, and bricks. It was so exciting to see the children make connections and bring the story to life! One of the highlights of the month was sharing our home-to-school projects; everyone loved showing off their creative buildings and admiring their friends' work. What a fun-filled unit it was!

In April, we're diving into a brand new adventure of Recycling just in time for Earth Day! We'll discover how to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle while becoming Earth's little helpers. The Chipmunks will sort items into paper, plastic, and metal bins, and even create fun ABC patterns using recycled materials. We also have a super exciting project coming up; designing our very own garbage trucks! The children will roll dice, count the dots, and add that number of "trash" items to their trucks, then match and glue the correct number on. Learning math has never been so fun! In addition, we will do other fun math activities using recycled materials; such as counting different types of "trash," sorting items by size and shape, and creating simple addition problems using objects we collect. We will also built number towers with recycled materials to practice counting, comparing which is taller or shorter, and identifying numbers in a hands-on way. We can't wait for all the exciting activities ahead as we learn new ways to take care of our amazing Earth!

### **Math with the Turtles**

As we reflect on the month of March, the Turtles truly enjoyed diving into our exciting unit of study on light. Throughout the month, students explored different sources of light and discovered how it helps us in our everyday lives. They were engaged in both hands-on play and meaningful exploration, showing curiosity and excitement during this unit.

One highlight of our light study was when the children learned the various uses of the light table. They explored STEM-based activities such as building with translucent tangrams and tracing different light sources (e.g., light bulb, lamp, flashlight, etc.). These activities fostered creativity, problem-solving, and early scientific thinking. In addition, the students enjoyed learning about diurnal animals (animals that are awake during the day) and nocturnal animals (animals that are awake at night). The children were especially fascinated to learn how some nocturnal animals have special eyes that help them see in the dark. It was delightful to see their faces light up with excitement as they made these connections.

We are looking forward to continuing this enthusiasm as the Turtles move on to their next unit of study on "Gardening" and explore the world of plants.

## **Little Picassos**



### **Art With the Puppies**

Welcome April! This past month, the Puppies have enjoyed working on a variety of fun art projects in the classroom.

In March, we had so much fun celebrating special events together. For Dr. Seuss Day, the Puppies made Thing 1 and Thing 2 using their handprints together with paint. For St. Patrick's Day, we created shamrocks, enjoyed the parade, and had a great time meeting a leprechaun! We painted pretend dog treats for our Little Shoppes event and worked on our letters by creating Q for quack, R for rainbow, and S for strawberry, bringing each project to life with bright colors.

This month, we are looking forward to celebrating Easter with festive crafts and an exciting Easter egg hunt, along with more creative projects as we welcome the spring season.

We've enjoyed spending a few nice days back out on the playground, soaking up the fresh air and having fun together. We can't wait for more fun, smiles, and sunny days ahead!

### **Art with the Bumblebees**

Hello April! Spring has sprung and the Bumblebees are excited to be outside more in the warm sun and to see the birds. We will decorate the classroom with everything spring...flowers, rainbows, birds and of course bumblebees. This month we will celebrate Earth Day, so we will learn all about the Earth, sea, sky and our solar system. A big part will be our lesson on recycling. We are looking forward to presenting our "cool" recycling project for the contest.

The month of March kicked off with our Dr. Seuss celebration. We ate green eggs and ham. The St. Patrick's Day parade was fun to see everyone wearing green, shamrocks, rainbows and pots of gold. Next, we celebrated our community helpers like firefighters and nurses. The Bumblebees put on their nurses hats and filled their first aid kits. We were lucky to have Nurse Sophia spend some time with us while we did our nurse activity. To finish the month, we opened our CTK Little Shops. The Bumblebees sold "honey" of course. Our special recipe is orange-pineapple flavored Jell-o blocks. It was awesome to see all the stores and go shopping.

The Bumblebees love art, especially painting! We use watercolors quite often and take our time painting and mixing colors. Having our hands painted to make things like leprechauns is always fun. We also used painted handprints for a group project of green eggs and ham for Dr. Seuss. In the Art Room we will choose our favorite colors and paint flowers for mom, our pet dogs and cats, or dinosaurs. The creativity is endless.

### **Art with the Pandas**

Hello Spring! Last month, we had a great time celebrating Dr. Seuss's Birthday and our St. Patrick's Day parade with all of our friends!

During the month of March, we focused on the theme of light. The Pandas really enjoyed engaging in many fun learning activities in our classroom all about light. We discussed the importance of light in our everyday lives and how we need it to survive. Many of our classroom activities included fun tools like flashlights to cast shadows.

One project the Pandas especially enjoyed was painting with glow-in-the-dark paint. The class used special paint that glowed in the dark to create their artwork,

which we let dry overnight. The next day, we turned off the lights and watched the paintings glow! The students were very excited to see how their drawings came to life in the dark. To further explore the theme of light, the Pandas also painted their own version of Vincent van Gogh's *Starry Night*. During morning circle, the students observed the painting and discussed what they saw. They then created their own starry night scenes using blue, black, and yellow. After reading the book *Round Trip* by Ann Jonas, the Pandas painted with white paint on black paper to represent the story.

As we welcome the springtime and warmer weather, the Pandas are looking forward to learning all about gardening and plants in the coming month. The class will explore different types of plants and flowers, and we will even plant our own seeds.

## Musicians in the Making



### **Music with the Angels**

Happy April! The Angels had a great time celebrating St. Patrick's Day last month, with a fun parade and meeting our new leprechaun friend. We also had fun celebrating Dr. Seuss week with a fun theme each day.

The children all really love to sing and dance to music each day. We use music to help us remember our ABCs and to help make cleanup time fun. There are so many ways music makes the Angel room fun! One song we really enjoy is called "Listen and Move." There are fun sounds that play as the singer tells you which action to perform. For example, the singer says "hop" as a spring sound plays, and says "run," and the music will play faster. In between each action we all freeze in place. Beanbags are another fun activity the Angels love to do with music. One game we play is called "Pass the Beanbag." All of the children sit in a circle. We listen to the music and the directions of the song as we pass the beanbag to our friend sitting next to us. The music will speed up as we pass the beanbag around quickly, and the music will slow down as we pass it around the circle slowly. When the music stops, the friend that is holding the beanbag gets to sit in the middle of the circle. Each time we play we pick a different color or shape beanbag. These fun activities allow the children to work on their gross motor skills by getting our bodies moving as well as our listening skills by following the instructions of the singer. Passing the beanbag around the circle reinforces turn taking and social skills. Great job Angels!

In May, we are looking forward to showing off during our performance at our Spring Show. We will also celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a fun piñata and treats.

### **Music with the Monkeys**

The Monkeys are happy to welcome the month of April. March was full of fun, creativity, and learning! We kicked off the month with our Dr. Seuss Celebration. The children had a wonderful time creating their own Thing 1 and Thing 2 crafts

using paper plates, blue paint for their hair, and adding faces and shirts. We also celebrated by dressing up and enjoying a special treat—green eggs and ham!

As we moved through the month, we explored St. Patrick's Day with hands-on activities. The children created beautiful rainbows with pots of gold using their handprints, made colorful rainbow paper chains for our parade, and used dot markers to decorate shamrocks. These activities helped strengthen their fine motor skills while having lots of fun.

The Monkeys enjoy music each day both in the classroom and in the Music Room. We love singing and dancing at Circle Time and during wake up time. In the Music Room, the children enjoy spending time exploring different instruments. They are learning how fast and slow tempos are, as well as loud and soft sounds, building their listening skills and expressing themselves through music.

We ended the month with our annual CTK Little Shops. Our friends had the opportunity to "buy" and "sell" items using paper money, helping them begin to understand the concept of money through play-based learning. We look forward to another exciting month ahead!

### **Music with the Sunflowers**

The Sunflowers are excited to welcome the month of April! We are looking forward to a fun and engaging month filled with new learning experiences. In March, the Sunflowers had a wonderful time celebrating together. We enjoyed our St. Patrick's Day parade and celebrated Dr. Seuss Day. During this time, we read stories by Dr. Seuss and explored rhyming words, helping to build early literacy skills in a fun and playful way.

During our unit of study on buildings, the Sunflowers especially enjoyed reading Iggy Peck, Architect by Andrea Beaty. This story helped us learn about different materials we can use to construct buildings and introduced us to the idea of blueprints as a plan for building. The children created their own blueprints, inspired artwork, and shared ideas about the types of buildings they would like to design. Through this study, students strengthened their creativity, problem-solving skills, and ability to plan and communicate their ideas.

In April, we will continue to incorporate music into the classroom. The Sunflowers will learn about different types of music, instruments, rhythm, and movement. Through singing, dancing, and listening activities, children will develop important skills such as listening, memory, coordination, and self-expression. We will also celebrate Easter with a fun egg hunt, where the Sunflowers will enjoy searching for and collecting eggs. In addition, we will begin our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle study and celebrate Earth Day. This theme connects beautifully with music, as we will use songs to help us remember ways to care for our planet. The children will practice sorting materials and explore what they can create using recycled items.

To support their learning, the children will be introduced to the following song:

*Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*  
*It's very easy to do*  
*It's simple to remember*  
*Recycle what you use!*  
*Separate glass and paper*  
*Separate plastic and tin*

*Then put them their places  
In the recycling bin!*

### **Music with the Ducks**

Hello Duck Families! We are so excited to welcome April in the Duck Class! Our classroom continues to be filled with so much joy, creativity, and growing independence. The Ducks are learning more and more each day, and it is so special to watch!

Last month, we had a wonderful time diving into the world of math. The children practiced counting, sorting, and matching through hands-on play. Our Duck Clothing Store was a big hit! The children loved taking on different roles as shoppers and store workers, using pretend money, counting items, and organizing clothes by size and color. It was amazing to see them use math language during play and build confidence while working with their friends. As the children became more interested in building and creating during play, this naturally led us into our new Building Unit, where they have been using blocks and materials to construct their own ideas.

In April, we are excited to learn through music! The Ducks will be learning about different sounds, rhythms, and ways to express themselves through music and movement. One of their favorite songs is "The Excavator Song," which has been so fun to sing and move along to while also helping them learn about construction vehicles connected to our building study. We will continue singing songs, using instruments, exploring fast and slow beats, and expressing ourselves through dance and movement.

I am so proud of our Ducks and all the growth they continue to show. April will be full of music, movement, building, and lots of fun.

## **Athletes in Training & Technology Tots**



### **Gym with the Snugglies**

Welcome April! This month, we will be learning about plants and also planting flowers outside by the playground. The children will be doing art work with foot and hand prints, and smash paintings of Easter images. Also, we will be learning about recycling for Earth Day.

In the month of March, the babies had so much fun celebrating Dr. Seuss by listening to our teachers reading the stories and showing us pictures. We wore green outfits and rode in our buggies decorated for St Patrick's Day in the parade. Our teachers took pictures of our faces and placed them on shamrocks to hang them on our bulletin board.

The Snugglies also had fun going to the gym each morning. We are practicing rolling the balls to each other and love when our teachers join in with us. We also

dance and sing to the music. Some of us ride in the toy cars. We look forward to more fun as the weather warms up and we can spend more time outdoors.

### **Tech with the Bears**

In the month of March, we continued our unit on "Light." The Bears had a great time acting out shadow plays in the block center tent, playing with flashlights, and exploring different materials on the light table. We ended the unit by discussing our home-school connection project, as the children made their silhouettes on paper. We also asked everyone to bring their favorite light-up toy to school. The children enjoyed sharing their toys and discussing whether they were a natural or artificial light source.

We are looking forward to learning all about "plants and flowers." As a class, we discussed different types of plants and flowers. During small group, the students worked with the SMART Board/computer as we learned about different kinds of flowers. The children noticed that plants are all around us. During group meeting time, we talked about which plants or flowers have the same color or size. While using the SMART Board, the children clicked and dragged different flowers to complete patterns. This was a great activity for eye-hand coordination, as they had to carefully place each piece in the correct spot. In the gym, the children also practiced yoga, pretending to be different plants and flowers. They had fun bending and stretching their bodies in creative ways.

As we approach April, we will continue learning about plants and flowers. The children are looking forward to planting outdoors for Earth Day and taking nature walks around campus to observe the beautiful gardens. We will also continue setting up our dramatic play center as a flower shop, and the children are excited for its grand opening.

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## **The Nurse's Station**



### **Health Policy**

Spring has finally arrived! The children are so excited to be spending more time outdoors. For your child's comfort and safety, please have your child wear sneakers or rubber-soled shoes to school. This will enable your child to run, jump, and climb with less falls, bumps and scratches.

Below are a few important Health and Safety reminders:

Physicals and Immunizations: Child & Adolescent Physical Examination forms must be submitted in a timely fashion. Please stay up to date on your child's physicals and immunizations. Physicals must be submitted after each milestone: 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 15 months, 18 months and annually thereafter. We are mandated by the Department of Health to keep records of all physicals and immunizations. Your child will not be allowed to attend Day Care/Pre-School without the appropriate updates

and forms submitted. You may download a [Child and Adolescent Health Examination Form](#) from our website or obtain a form from the Nurse's Office.

- **Medication Administration:** During this time of year, allergies are one of the most prevalent illnesses children experience. Symptoms include itch ore watery eyes, sneezing, coughing and a runny nose. Please make your child's teacher aware if your child experiences these symptoms. Additionally, asthmatic children are even more prone to having an asthma attack during seasonal changes. Although asthma cannot be cured, it can certainly be controlled. As a preventive measure, have your child bring an inhaler to school.
- As a reminder, if medication is required for allergies and/or asthma, a medication administration form must be filled out by your pediatrician. You can obtain one from the nurse or print one from our website. For all other medications, a doctor's note must be provided and medication must be in its original box/container. No medication will be administered unless protocol is followed.
- **Absences:** As per the Department of Health rules and regulations, absences must be called in on a daily basis. Also, please remember to inform the school if your child was exposed or diagnosed with any contagious illness. This helps us maintain a clean and safe environment.
- **Nut-Free School:** Keep in mind that we are a nut-free school. Please help us to maintain a nut free environment by refraining from sending any such items (nuts, peanut butter, almond butter, any items containing nut oils, etc.) to school with your children.

## CLASS QUOTES AND STORIES

### **Angels**

One morning, Wesley finished eating his breakfast. He took his water cup and told his teacher "cup away!"

### **Bears**

While recreating the painting "The Starry Night" in the art center, Luke shared, "I watch stars with my family." When asked where he sees the stars, he replied, "At the park." This sparked a wonderful conversation, and soon many of the children were excitedly sharing their own experiences of where they have seen stars.

### **Bumblebees**

One morning Ms. Tina was helping Julian do his letter R craft. Khalisa was sitting next to him and watching. When Julian was done, Khalisa began clapping and cheering, "Good job Julian!"

### **Bunnies**

As the teachers were handing the children their water and lunch, Sonny responded, "Thank you." Such good manners!

### **Chipmunks**

During music class we were talking about which song we want to perform for the Spring show and Hannah said, "I want Elephant song!" All the Chipmunks started shouting "Elephant Song! Elephant Song!" in agreement.

### **Dolphins**

During center time, Giuseppe said, "Miss Diane, I went to Chuck E. Cheese this weekend." Miss Diane asked, "Oh, did you go in the ball pit?" Giuseppe replied, "No, they upgraded since you've been there."

While getting ready for nap, Giuseppe asked, "Miss Diane, is my mommy coming today to pick me up?" Miss Diane said, "Yes, you are leaving at regular time." Giuseppe responded, "Miss Diane, I don't know what regular time is." Miss Diane said, "3:30." Giuseppe replied, "I don't know numbers either!"

### **Ducks**

While looking out the window, Joseph said, "When it's sunny outside, I can't see with my eyes."

### **Kitties**

One morning, Ms. Robyn yawned. Gio went over to her and asked, "Are you ok?"

### **Lions**

While cleaning, Miss Melissa found a random octopus toy that she had never seen before. She asked the children if anyone knew where it came from, and Nolan said, "It's an octopus, it came from the ocean."

### **Monkeys**

While in the music room, the children experimented with loud and quiet sounds. During one activity, Pagie yells, "These loud sounds hurt my ears—let's only do quiet sounds."

### **Pandas**

During circle time, the students were listening to a St. Patrick's Day story. The teacher said, "Next Tuesday is St. Patrick's Day." Francesca said, "St. Patrick is not a saint—he lives with SpongeBob in the sea!"

### **Puppies**

When Christopher is served his snack or lunch, he is always very polite by saying "thank you!"

### **Sunflowers**

During an activity where the Sunflowers used different art materials, such as popsicle sticks and foam shapes to make buildings, they were asked, "What kind of building did you make?" Rion responded, "Eiffel Tower. It's a little one—I don't like heights."

### **Turtles**

While learning about light during circle time, Aliyna said, "This flashlight is like a tiny sun in my hand!"



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