

**January
2018**

The Gingerbread House



Upcoming Events

- **CLOSED** February 19th for our teacher in-service!
- **St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser: Thursday, March 15th 5:30-7:30!**
- We are proud to announce that **C&S Companies** is a platinum sponsor of our preschool's Science and Technology Program!



What's New?

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season! We are back in full swing here, and moving right along into the new year. The toddler and preschool children are working on a month long winter theme including topics such as "Winter Weather", "Ice Science" and "Arctic Animals".

Even in the winter weather, the teachers will take the children outside as much as possible (weather permitting of course!) Please have weather appropriate clothing in your child's cubby, so they can participate. If your child is in a toddler or preschool room, please have snow pants, boots, a hat, gloves and a winter coat in their cubby every day!

Don't forget to Check out our website for calendars, updated menus, curriculum information, classroom blogs and much more!

From Dave...

Dear Parents,

I have had a conversation with many of you regarding spanking and the effects it has on your children. The overwhelming response when I ask why you spank is the same; "I was spanked". Most of us emulate our parents, and repeat the behaviors they used in raising us. It's hard for me to understand the act of striking a child in any way. While I'm sure at times parents see an immediate change in their child's behavior, the negative effects over time are immeasurable to some children, and harmful to all.

The following is an excerpt from an article that is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and well as the American Medical Association...

Happy Birthday!

- Bradley Bockus (5)
- Ella Batchelor (5)
- Alexis Brostek (5)
- Danielle Gersbacher (5)
- Andrew Gersbacher (3)
- John Burney (3)
- Joseph Fusco (1)

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Evidence of harm

On the international front, physical discipline is increasingly being viewed as a violation of children's human rights. The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child issued a directive in 2006 calling physical punishment "legalized violence against children" that should be eliminated in all settings through "legislative, administrative, social and educational measures." The treaty that established the committee has been supported by 192 countries, with only the United States and Somalia failing to ratify it.

Around the world, 30 countries have banned physical punishment of children in all settings, including the home. The legal bans typically have been used as public education tools, rather than attempts to criminalize behavior by parents who spank their children, says Elizabeth Gershoff, PhD, a leading researcher on physical punishment at the University of Texas at Austin. "Physical punishment doesn't work to get kids to comply, so parents think they have to keep escalating it. That is why it is so dangerous," she says.

After reviewing decades of research, Gershoff wrote the Report on Physical Punishment in the United States: *What Research Tells Us About Its Effects on Children*, published in 2008 in conjunction with Phoenix Children's Hospital. The report recommends that parents and caregivers make every effort to avoid physical punishment and calls for the banning of physical discipline in all U.S. schools. The report has been endorsed by dozens of organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, American Medical Association and Psychologists for Social Responsibility.

After three years of work on the APA Task Force on Physical Punishment of Children, Gershoff and Graham-Bermann wrote a report in 2008 summarizing the task force's recommendations. That report recommends that "parents and caregivers reduce and potentially eliminate their use of any physical punishment as a disciplinary method." The report calls on psychologists and other professionals to "indicate to parents that physical punishment is not an appropriate, or even a consistently effective, method of discipline."