## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

# EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING CENTER PARENT NEWSLETTER —January 2026



#### PRINCIPAL NEWS -School Director Recognition Month

January is School Director Recognition Month. Our school board members put in countless hours to benefit our students. We appreciate all that they do for the children at the ECLC. They are special people who should be recognized for their service.

THANK YOU Titusville School Board Members!!!

Lynn Cressman, Jim Come, Marc Ross, Jack Roberts, Kevin O'Neill, Carol Shaffer, Monica
Chatham, Krista Steinbuhler, and Jill Neely

#### **MUSIC NOTES**

The Kindergarten students had an amazing performance! I am so proud of all of their hard work! Since our concert, both Prekindergarten and Kindergarten students have been using the Boomwhackers in the music room. Boomwhackers are pitched plastic tubes that we can use to play melodies in songs. We have discussed traditional music we hear in December and looked at instruments like sleigh bells, temple blocks, and whip. In January, Kindergarten students will begin their folk dancing unit. Prekindergarten students will begin copying rhythms and singing independently. I hope everyone has an amazing holiday break!

#### THE PULSE in PE

In January, our Kindergarteners will be kicking off the new year with energy and excitement! We are focusing on building fundamental movement skills such as tossing/throwing, skipping, balancing, and rolling. Students will participate in fun winter-themed activities that encourage cooperation, spatial awareness, and safe movement in the gym. We are already "snow-boarding" and throwing "snowballs!" Pre-Kindergarten students are introduced to these activities as well! Please remember to send your child to school with comfortable shoes on PE days so they can move safely and confidently!

#### **PTG**

There will be NO PTG meeting in January. We will plan to meet again on February 4, 2026 at 8:15 am in the Library at the ECLC. See you next month.



#### **COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

Welcome 2026! January classroom lessons will be a review of Behavior/ School Rules for both Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students. It never hurts to revisit this topic after a long holiday break.

Could your family use some additional supports? Love, INC is a local agency that serves our community in many ways. One program offered to students is the Backpack Program; a bag delivered weekly to the school packed with food and drinks. A second helpful program is Bare Necessities; a bag delivered monthly that includes a variety of hygiene and toiletry items. Both are FREE for families. Call Love, INC at 827-4882 if you would like to sign up your child(ren) for either program.



#### **HEALTH ROOM HAPPENINGS: HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



Let's start the New Year out right by practicing healthy habits with our kids. Some of these are: eating nutritious foods and drinking plenty of water, brushing teeth twice a day, getting a good night sleep, covering coughs and sneezes, staying active, and washing hands frequently.

<u>REMINDER</u>: If you received a hearing or vision referral, please have it completed by a medical provider and returned to the school nurse. If you need help finding a provider, please call and ask the nurse. We can help!!!

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

January 5 – Students Return to School
January 16 – No School for Students – Teacher Workday
January 19 – No School – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 20 – Last Day of Second Nine Weeks
January 21 – First Day of Second Semester
January 23 – PreK White Day
January 27 – Report Cards Sent Home



#### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance is very important for students to learn and be successful in school. If they are not present, they are not able to gain the most from their school experience. The early years and the skills that are being taught are crucial for developing successful readers. Research shows that these

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early literacy skills are predictors of strong readers later in life.

#### ATTENDANCE POLICY

- 1. School districts are required by law to keep track of student attendance.
- 2. Students may miss ten (10) days of school with an acceptable reason.
  - a. Acceptable reasons are: illness, doctor/therapy appointment, quarantine, family emergency, court, death in the family, religious holiday, and/or trip that has been approved by the school principal.
  - b. Doctor's excuses will be accepted for any absences that a doctor has been seen during the absence.
- 3. Once a child reaches the 10-day limit, every day following will need a doctor's excuse. Any absence after 10 days without a doctor's excuse will be considered unlawful.
  - a. An unlawful letter will be sent for each unlawful day up to three (3) days.
  - b. After three (3) unlawful absences, the principal will contact you to set up a meeting to discuss attendance and how we can work together. This is called a Student Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP).
- 4. Any further absences will then be filed through the District Magistrates office in Meadville.
- 5. Please send in an excuse for any absence. Otherwise it is marked as an unlawful day. Thank you for your support and help with attendance. We appreciate all that you do!

#### TWO HOUR DELAY AND SCHOOL CLOSINGS

School closings, early dismissals, and 2-hour delay days do sometimes happen. When an important announcement like this occurs, you will receive a call, text, or email as early and as soon as possible. If there is a 2-hour delay, school will open at 10:00 a.m. If you transport your child personally, please have your child to school by 10:15 a.m. on a 2-hour delay. Morning PreK will not be held on a 2-hour delay.



Please listen or watch for these announcements when the weather is not favorable. Also, if you have changed your phone number, please call the office and share your new number so you get the messages.

### No School for Students - January 16 and January 19

