

# February Newsletter

## Garden Patch CLC

My daughter has always been independent. From an early age I can remember hearing, "I got it" or "I do it" so to think that independence would suddenly disappear would render me a fool. It is part of her personality and something that while I sometimes cringe at the way in which she goes about something, I truly look at with admiration. I love how she dives into a project (that she loves/enjoys at least) or how she approaches a situation. However, with that admiration has come a lot of patience as I stand back and let her "just do it".



Our Ladybugs classe sing and dance during circle time to enhance their learning. Circle time each day allows for classes to focus on academic and social emotional skills.

Over the past few months my daughter began asking to go start my car. She would go out, unlock the doors, start up the car, and then we could go on our way. Even though I have remote start, this was something she increasingly asked to do. While there was really no reason to have her do this, it was one more thing on her path of independence, although she is MANY years away from operating a vehicle, and it was fun again to watch her take on this task. However, the universe knows that parenting can never be fully easy and decided to throw some curve balls.

Twice in the past month, I have walked out of Garden Patch to find my daughter in tears as she confesses my keys are safe in the ignition, but the doors are locked. With no memory of where I actually put the spare key, AAA has come to our rescue...twice. While in the big scheme of things, both situations were nothing major and were quickly resolved, it was also nice to remind my pre-teen that I might know what I am talking about and she isn't ready for full independence, although I would argue I don't know if we ever really are.

While the desire for independence looks different at all ages, being a parent means finding that balance of allowing your child to spread his/her wings and yet have the cushion there if he/she falls.

May we all survive our children's desire for independence and always make sure you have a spare key.

Jill L. Weidenbach, Director

### February Birthdays

Cameron S.	February 1
Moriah M.	February 3
Leo C.	February 4
Jude B.	February 5
Stevie D.	February 7
Ivy R.	February 8
Kendyl S.	February 9
Bennett L.	February 19
Emmalyn R.	February 20
Enzo T.	February 23
Adalyn G.	February 27

## Strawberry Banana Bread

1 1/4 c. strawberries, diced  
2 tbsp unsweetened apple sauce  
3/4 tsp. baking soda  
2 tbsp butter, softened  
2 large egg whites

3 medium ripe bananas, mashed  
1 1/4 c. flour  
1/4 tsp. kosher salt  
1/2 c. light brown sugar, not packed  
1 tsp. vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly spray a loaf pan with baking spray.

Place the strawberries on a baking sheet and roast for 25 minutes, remove and set aside.

In a medium bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt with a wire whisk. Set aside.

In a large bowl cream butter and sugar with an electric mixer.

Add egg whites, bananas, apple sauce and vanilla, and beat at medium speed until thick. Scrape down sides of the bowl.

Add flour mixture and blend at low speed until combined, do not over mix.

Fold in strawberries and pour batter into the prepared loaf pan; bake in the center rack for about 50 minutes, or until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean.



## Two-ingredient Strawberry Sorbet

2 c. frozen strawberries, unsweetened

1-2 tbsp pure maple syrup



Blend the frozen strawberries and maple syrup. Use the blender's tamper or plunger to push the strawberries into the blades safely. Taste and add more sweetener if desired.

Enjoy immediately or transfer to a freezer-safe container lined with parchment paper and smooth top with a spoon. Cover securely and freeze for 1-2 hours for perfectly rounded scoops. Do not over-freeze.

## Tuition Increase Effective March 10, 2025

We are very thankful for all our Garden Patch families. In an effort to maintain the standard of care you are accustomed to, a tuition increase will go into effect the week of March 10th. Below reflects the new tuition prices. Please let a member of the management team know if you have any questions.

Infants (6 weeks to 18 months): \$320/week

Toddlers (18 months to 3 years): \$290/week

Toddlers (3 days a week) \$245/week

3 years to Pre-K: \$270/week

3 years to Pre-K (3 days) \$225/week

School Age 5 days: \$155/week

School Age 3 days: \$115/week

Summer Care for School Age 5 days: \$230/week

Summer Care for School Age 3 days: \$205/week

## Important Days in February

Wednesday, February 5 — Pajama Day

Friday, February 14 — Wear Pink and/or Red  
Valentine's Day parties



Just a reminder we will be closed  
Monday, February 17th, President's Day.  
Staff will take part in required  
staff development





## February Toddler & Preschool Themes

Week of February 3 Week of February 10 Week of February 17 Week of February 24	Fairytales Be Mine, Valentine Dental Health Wellness Author/Book Week
<u>Toddler Numbers of the Month</u> 12 & 13	<u>Preschool Numbers of the Month</u> 21, 22, 23, & 24
<u>Color of the Month</u> Pink	<u>Letters of the Month</u> Q, R, & S
<u>Shape of the Month</u> Heart	<u>Preschool Assessment Focus of the Month</u> Letter Recognition
Social Skill of the Month: Personal Hygiene	

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# LOVING GARDEN PATCH

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## Leave us a review



Yelp Review





Google Review



Thank you for being part of our Garden Patch family.