

## LITTLE BEARS CHILDCARE WINTER NEWSLETTER

# 2022

We are looking forward to the end of 2022, and are excited for 2023. Although the pandemic seems to be over, COVID is still around, along with other illnesses. Please be rest assured, we are doing our best to make sure that everyone remains healthy, and keep everyone informed of every situation as it comes. We also ask you to please keep your child at home if they have any symptoms of illness.

The children are excited for Christmas, and all the festivities that come with it. We would like to thank you in advance for any gifts you have chosen to donate to Little Bears. The children will love playing with the new items.

The children are also excited about the snow! As you can see the Koala children had fun with building a snowman during our recent snow storm. Please make sure your children have all the necessary gear to enjoy this weather at it's best.

Please remember that if you have any concerns to please bring them to myself, Nikki, or Terry so that they can be addressed appropriately.

Best,  
Jilleen, Nikki, and Terry





## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

The giving tree is also up. At this point, most of the ornaments have been taken, but if you are still interested in giving an item, please check with your child's teacher. The children will opening their classroom gifts Thursday, December 22. If you take an ornament please remember to return it to the office so they can be used again next year.

Classroom parties are Thursday, December 22. On this day the children will have party snacks, play games, and open classroom presents.

## TEACHERS

**In the infants we have Ms. Jackie, Ms. Justine, and Ms. Kayti.**

**In the Cubs we have Ms. Lori and Ms. Brie**

**In the Koalas we have Ms. Anissa and Ms. Izzy**

**In our Panda room we have Ms. Nikki, Ms. Kim, and Ms. Kate**

**Ms. Lori also has the school kids in the Grizzly room before and after school, and non-school days.**

**Teacher Kaedyn floats around in all rooms as needed.**

**We recently hired a new cook, Ms. Chris.**

## REMINDERS

- ◆ Please remember if you want to touch base with your child's teacher you can now send them a message through the teaching strategies.
- ◆ Please make sure your child always has adequate clothing for outdoor play, as the children do go outside daily if it is warm enough.
- ◆ Please make sure that your child has a change of shoes during the winter season.
- ◆ Please remember to keep your child's extra clothes bucket stocked in case we need to change them. We don't always have extras on hand for all sizes and seasons.
- ◆ With winter weather here we will do our best to stay open. If we have to close we will try to give as much notice as possible.
- ◆ If your child is not feeling well, they need to stay home. We are doing our best to keep everyone healthy, but we need your help to do so.



## TEDDY BEARS

Hello from the baby room! We would like to welcome our new families to the Little Bears Family.

Some of our “babies” moved over to the toddler room. They have done a great job transitioning! Some of the “little babies” will be moving to the other side to make room for our new families! The children generally start to transition/move over when they are down to one nap, eating table food and preferably walking.

We have been busy growing and learning new things every day! Some of our older babies have taken their first steps here at Little Bears! We are just as excited as you to witness their milestones! The older babies continue to work on their sign language. We teach some of the basics; more, please, all done, milk, eat and thank you. Feel free to ask one of us if you would like us to show you the signs to help communicate with your child at home.

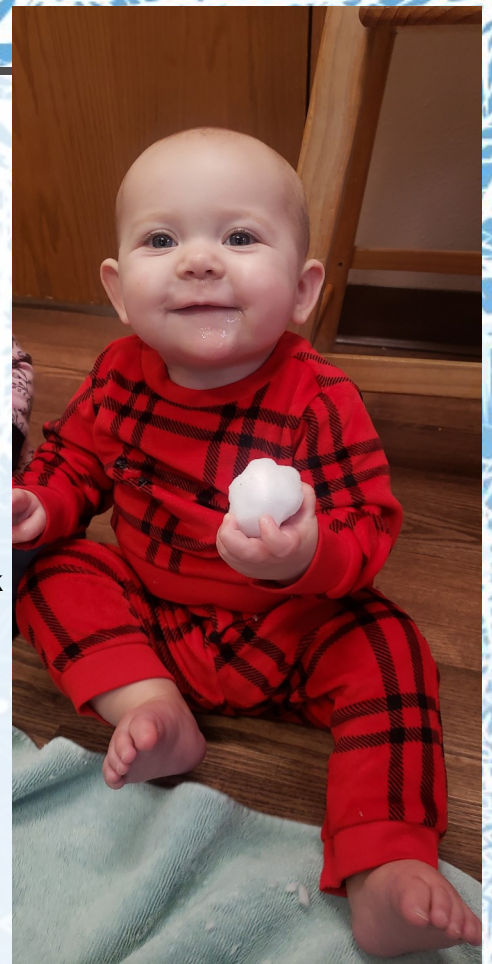
The little ones don't make it outside too often in the cold/winter months. We bring the outside in! We recently brought some snow inside after our first snowfall which made a great sensory experiment. We even made a tiny snowman. We look out the window and talk about what we see and how we can't wait for summer to return!

If there is any change in your child's feeding schedule please let us know. The center provides 1% cow's milk. We do have a few families that prefer whole milk for their child. Instead of every child bringing in a jug of milk, Ms. Jilleen has a list of these families that take turns bringing in gallons to share. Please let Ms. Jilleen or one of us in the baby room know your preference when that time comes. Table food is also offered and included in your tuition. You can find a menu on the center website if you would like to highlight or cross off what you are comfortable with your child eating when they are transitioning from purees. As the children transition from purees to table food we encourage family style dining at the table and introduce spoons and sippy cups!

All families should have received an email to join Teaching Strategies. If you have not yet joined, it is a great way to communicate with us throughout the day whether it be just to check in to see how your child is doing, check to see if they are low on supplies or if you simply miss your baby and need a picture :) You are also able to view your child's developmental progress as we complete assessments. Feel free to call the center if you have an immediate need or question and do not get a reply back on Teaching Strategies.

We will continue to help your child learn and grow over by offering tummy time, sitting with them, encouraging them to crawl and take their first steps as well as introducing sign language and reading daily to help expand their vocabulary. We also encourage “nice touches and manners” so that the children can build friendships with their peers. It is also important for us teachers to build a relationship with both the child and our families! Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns!

Ms. Jackie, Ms. Justine & Ms. Kayti



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Happy Holidays everyone! Since the start of winter we have welcomed a few new friends, some from the baby room and some new kiddos. We are going to continue to work on color and shape recognition. We are going to start incorporating finger plays to go along with our themes of Snowmen, Winter, and Valentines day!

With lots of snow headed our way, just a reminder that your child needs snow gear everyday! Even if there is no snow the extra snow gear helps keep them warm on those bitter days that we've gotta get our wiggles out outside. We look forward to watching your kiddos grow in our cub room!!!

Thanks,  
Ms. Lori and Ms. Brie



## KOALAS

Hello from the Koala Room, we are excited that the snow is finally here. I hope you all had a restful and relaxing break and lots of time with your family. We wanted to say "Thank you" for all the nice cards, kind gifts and "special treats" that we had received from our families!! We felt truly spoiled!

As we begin the New Year, we have a new month filled with "Winter Fun!" We are looking forward to our first month of the 2023 year and our batteries are fully recharged. I am sure your children are all ready to see their friends and to settle into our routine again! The toddlers will definitely be busy in the month of January! To begin the month, they will be learning about "Snowmen" in which they will be making a lot of cute crafts! During the next week, "Cold Weather Friends", the children will learn all about all our buddies from the colder lands such as penguins, polar bears and birds to name a few.

We have been working hard using our silverware at mealtimes and having good manners at the table. This is the room where we usually start introducing the potty to the children on that note. Please make sure your child has extra clothes in their buckets. We have had a blast working with your children and getting to know them. Our favorite thing to do during circle is to sing the hello song and ask all our friends how their day is going. We also like to sing the weather song, days of the week song and our month song.

Ms. Anissa & Ms. Izzy

## GRIZZLY BEARS

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! This winter we have gained a few friends to our pack! With that being said they are loving their art workshop time, hot wheels tracks and learning about science! We have added a new science area to our room and the grizzlies have been loving experimenting with water and colors recently.

Just a reminder that with winter break and days off of school coming up that our friends will need their snow gear. We have lots of fun outdoor activities planned such as building snowmen and snow angels! With gifts arriving, that means lots and lots of boxes. If you would like to bring some to our grizzly room it would be much appreciated! Our friends are very very creative and have been building rocket ships and doll houses and everything you can imagine out of boxes.

Thanks,  
Ms. Lori



## PANDAS

Hello Panda Families! Fall was a blast. We talked about many different topics and did lots of messy art projects. Fall's focus was a lot of physical development. We also focused on learning the first letter of our names and if we knew that, we moved onto the second. We talked about shapes and color. We also touched on some rhyming.

We started Winter with cultures and the focus here, is just differences. The focus for Winter will be to continue to learn differences and knowing that we are all different and that it is okay. We would also like to focus on our social-emotional development, as well as our fine motor development. We have put out scissors for our friends to use during free choice time, and they have really taken off with learning how to open and shut them. We will also be doing more activities with coloring or writing, to enhance our fine motor development. We will continue to learn the letters of our names, colors, shapes and all the other fun things we learn daily.

You can really help us, by talking with your child every day about what they did at LBC. We try and send out a little bit about our day during nap time, so you are able to discuss your child's day with them. These blurbs can found on Teaching Strategies, please try and check it daily. Another fun way is just go about your day to day activities but ask your child a few questions as you are out and about. They are eating a pizza, ask them what shape it is, or you are out shopping, ask them what colors they see or letters they can see and what sound they make. These small things can really help your child develop.

-Ms. Nikki, Ms. Kim, and Ms. Kate



## HELLO FROM THE KITCHEN

We have recently hired a new cook, Ms. Christine. We are looking forward to whatever new ideas and recipes she brings with her.



## Important upcoming dates

**Thursday, December 22—Classroom Holiday party/ Open classroom giving tree gifts**

**Friday, December 23-CLOSE at 12:00 pm**

**Monday, December 26- CLOSED in observance of Christmas**

**Friday, December 23- Monday, January 2- No School/Winter Break**

**Monday, January 2- CLOSED in observance of New Year's**

**Monday, January 16-No School**

**Friday, February 10- St. John's Early Release (12:45 pm)**

**Tuesday, February 14 — Classroom Valentines Parties**

**Thursday, February 16 and Friday, February 17- St. John's No School**

**Thursday, February 23 and Friday, February 24- Waterloo No School**