

## Ms. Dent's Kindergarten and First Grade

Love is in the air for K-5 and First Grades. Both classes are continually learning about God's love for them and others. Grade 1 LOVES their science curriculum

and they are growing in their reading skills. The K-5 class LOVES getting their new reader books and playing "hangman" as we learn to read new

words. I love your kids and am pleased with how they are growing.

Ms. Aimee Dent

## Mrs. Bryant's Second & Third Grades

This month the word, "love" becomes very important. Stores center displays on love and hearts during February. In our Bible class we are continuing to learn about the life of Jesus and His love in the study of the miracles He performed. We are also reminded of God's love for us in John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son."

Spring will soon be here which may mean new clothes for growing children. Please refer to the Branches Academy dress code when purchasing school clothing.

Both grades are working on addition, subtraction fact mastery. The Second Grade is beginning multiplication while the Third Grade is working on multiplica-

tion fact mastery.

On Feb. 14th we will be having a treat time and Valentine exchange. More information will be sent home later.

May you have a blessed month as you give and receive blessings of love shown by others.

Mrs. Bryant

## Mrs. Song's Fourth & Fifth Grades

This past month has been full and interesting. The new students from Korea have settled in and are learning a lot from "American School." We are learning from them as well. This coming Monday, February 6th, our class will be singing in chapel. If you would like to come be sure to come no later than 10 am!

We will have a small Valentine's Day

party—so be watching for more info about what to bring and when.

Let Jesus be your example and remember John 13:35, "By this all will know that you are My disciples if you have love one to another."

By the end of February, our Korean students will be leaving to go back to Korea.

We have really enjoyed the time they have spent with us.

Mrs. Song

P.S. Ye-soo nim sa dang he-yo! (Jesus loves you!)



# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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12	13	14 Happy Valentine's Day	15	16	17 Midterm Reports	18
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## Who Has Your Heart?

By Dr. Fay Andrist



February is "heart" month. When we think of the heart, we usually think of things like "heart medicine", "heart

attack" or "heart surgery", in other words, that vital organ in the middle of our chest that keeps us alive. But when we celebrate Valentine's Day, the heart takes on a different meaning. We then are thinking about the emotions that are felt from the heart.

In the Bible, the heart of a person is much more than simply an internal organ that sends blood throughout the body. The heart is seen as the center, the core of a person. Jesus often refers to the fact

that it is out of the heart that comes not only the good things that we are and do but also that which breaks the heart of our loving God. The heart is the foundation of the decisions that we make that either honors God or moves us further from Him. That is why the Bible over and over again brings up the importance of "guarding our heart". The status of our hearts is extremely important to determining where our relationship with God stands.

You may think that God wants all of who you are, and He does! God wants to direct your habits. Jesus wants to influence your decisions. He wants to guide your thoughts. He wants to bless your relationships and to guide every aspect of your life.

But you know what He wants the most? Your heart! It is on your heart that God wants to make the greatest impact. You see, you can try to clean up your habits and life by your own will power and, some instances, your effort might pay off. You might do the things that "good Christians do" and think to yourself that God is pleased with you. Well, what really pleases God is having your heart! It is not your habits or lifestyle that pleases God. God is pleased when He has YOU!

You can honor God in all kinds of ways and still withhold that which He wants the most; your heart. What is the condition of your heart today? Is the work you are doing for God inhibiting the work that God wants to do in your heart?

### BIRTHDAYS...

- Feb 1—Holly Huynh 
- Feb 7—Easton Akers
- Feb 12—"Daniel" Kwang Kyeon
- Feb 12—Tanner Hesse
- Feb 15—Nicholas Finan
- Feb 17—Reagan Patterson

## Congratulations

Our *Little Caesars* Pizza Kit Fundraiser was a Success!!!

You sold 138 Pizza Kits.

Branches receives \$5.00 per kit giving us a total of \$690 profit for the school.

Thank You!!!!

**DELIVERY DATE: Thursday, February 2nd, 3-6pm**

### IMPORTANT DATES:

- Feb 2: Little Caesars Fundraiser Delivery Day, 3-6pm
- Feb 14: Valentine's Day
- Feb 17: Midterm Reports

## Mrs. Rhonda's Infants



Well Spring will soon be here but in the meantime we have Valentine's Day coming up. We will be teaching all about love this month. Love your neighbors. Love your friends. Love one another. We will also be working on letters H-L and numbers 1-10.

Lots of our little ones will be walking soon. Others will be advancing to solid foods. We will be working on these skills as well as some visual stimulus in the form of discovery jars.

We would like to welcome into our school family, Evan Perkins, infant son of Matt and Lindsey Perkins.

Remember to be sure to send weather appropriate clothes for your little ones.

Until next month we leave you with the Bible verse, "There are three things that will endure forever: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love." (I Corinthians 13:13)

Mrs. Rhonda Wooldridge

## Ms. Krista's Toddlers



In February, the Toddlers will be focusing on the truth in I John 4:16, "God is love." We will learn that we are all created differently and very special. We will learn to sing and sign "Jesus Loves Me." You may see or hear your child practicing at home. We will also sing "Jesus Loves

the Little Children," "Jesus Loves the Little Ones," and "God Made Me."

I have been blessed to hear a few little voices singing the ABC's with me during our circle time. It has been wonderful to see that the class is eager to participate in each lesson!

We are moving right along with our number and alphabet recognition. We

have covered numbers 1-5 and letters A-I. This month we will add 6-7 and letters J, K. The children are encouraged to pronounce words that begin with these letters so they can increase their vocabulary. I have been noticing all of the progress each child is making and I am excited to see all they will accomplish this month!

Ms. Krista Gudinas

## Ms. Barbara's Transitional Two's



I can't believe it's already February and this school year is really going by fast. Our babies are growing up so fast and using more words everyday.

This month we will continue learning about Jesus' teaching about being good shepherds and giving with a thankful

heart. We will also learn about Winter and Arctic animals. Hopefully we will see a little snow!

February is Dental Health Month and we will be learning how to take care of our teeth and make our own toothpaste! We will continue learning our letters J-L and counting 1-20.

On Feb. 14th we will be having "The Love of Jesus" party. We are looking forward to another month of learning and as always it's a pleasure to work with your family.

Ms. Barbara Fore

## Ms. Robin's Two-1/2 Year Old's



Ms. Robin's class will participate in a "God is Love" (I John 4:8) Valentine's Day party on Tuesday, February 14th. Please find a "Show and Tell" item or picture demonstrating God's infinite love for us.

We will work on a greater appreciation for community and it's workers while we learn about God's love and provisions. The introduction of Bible principles will highlight stories about the ministry of Jesus. During February we will cover letters Pp, Oq, and Rr with language asso-

ciated to each. We are always counting and will examine new numbers 7 and 8.

Please be thinking about just how much we are loved by our Great God.

Ms. Robin Steffens

## Mrs. Jessica's Threes



We are working our way through the alphabet. By the end of February we will have learned letters "Aa" through "Pp" and worked with

number concepts 1-12. The class is quickly grasping the number concepts and enjoys practicing the letter sounds. Some are even beginning to think of a word, say it, and figure out what letter it

begins with. These are important first steps to reading!

During February we will be talking a lot about love; what love is and how we can show it to others. We will continue discussing Jesus' ministry in Bible time and learn I John 4:19, "We love Him because He first loved us."

As we learn and demonstrate love we will be making fun Valentine's Day pro-

jects. Our Valentine's Day party will be Tuesday, February 14th during our afternoon snack time.

Mrs. Jessica Johnson

## Mrs. Christine's Fours



February is National Heart Month. In Luke 12:34, Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be

also." Where is your heart? Your children this month will be learning about the things on Jesus' heart as He taught the people and ministered to them. They're learning that Jesus wants to take their sin heart and make it clean. "I'll give you a new heart, put a new spirit in you. I'll remove the stone heart from your body

and replace it with a heart that's God-willed, not self-willed." (Ezekiel 36:26 MSG)

On February 15th we'll celebrate Valentine's Day with a "God loves me so much" party. I'll provide a list of the names of the children in our class if your child wants to give out Valentines.

Now that we've covered the alphabet in our Show and Tell, we're making Friday our science project day. We'll be exploring things like magnets, water, air, and making some fun things. Be sure to read your children's daily note to see if they need to bring something special for the

project.

I'm so pleased with the continued progress of this class. We're moving forward in our reading skills and others are making progress in learning the sounds and shapes of the letters learned. We're having fun each day as we count a different way and learn to recognize numbers 1-100. Learning is so much fun!

As always it's a joy to teach your child. I treasure them.

Mrs. Christine Daubert

## Mrs. Debbie Rucker's K-4



Much will be said about LOVE this month; "say it with a card" or "say it with

candy and flowers." The source of true, unending love said it best in I Corinthians 13; "Love is patient, love is kind..." In K-4 we are learning to show love by our actions each day. My prayer is that a seed

of understanding Godly love has been planted that will grow and bloom with your child.

We are continuing with our K-4 readers as well as our Phonics Rules. Review games are varied and fun.

Numbers are fun too as we focus on counting and grouping the teens. We are also counting by rote to 50.

We continue learning about opposites

and spatial positions through February.

Of course we will celebrate with a **God LOVES Me** day on Tuesday, February 14th. Watch for a class list and a sign up sheet.

Finally, "Thank you" to all our parents who have helped to supply our needs and shown support. You are awesome and I love you in Christ.

Mrs. Debbie Rucker