



February 1, 2012

Volume 11, Issue 02

CLC Newsletter



3859 & 4200 Wheeler Street Houston, TX 77204 PH: 832/842/0500

CLC Celebrates Black History Month



During Black History Month, we hope you'll take the opportunity to enjoy the diversity and commonality of our country and its people. Celebrate Black History Month with your child this February, and spend some extra time learning about the extraordinary accomplishments of African-Americans and recognizing their role in U.S. history.



CLC Staff enjoyed kicking off Black History Month early with our 6th Annual Soul Food Celebration. This professional development experience provided an occasion for many CLC staff to share their culture. By preparing food, performing diversity awareness presentations, and demonstrating cultural awareness activities for the classroom, all staff had an opportunity for learning.



Guest speaker, Mrs. Girtha Billingsley (Grandmother to CLC employees Shenae and Shevia Champ), shared her story about growing up in a small Texas town. CLC parents, Sandra Owens & Marrio Hinkle, provided special entertainment with *Capoeira Angola*, a martial art with combined elements of dance and music.



Special Points of Interest:



- * Black History Month
- * Teachable Moments
- * The Comforts of Family
- * CLC Calendar
- * President Khator's Day
- * Go Texan Day

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Children will be celebrating Valentine's Day in their classrooms on February 14th. Check with your classroom teachers for details. Please remember, our no candy policy!





Teachable Moments



The existing Cougar Place buildings, next door to CLC @ Wheeler, are being demolished. How fascinating for the children to have this opportunity to watch and connect to what happens during this time. The demolition activities will continue through February. The children are so excited that they look outside everyday with curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. New construction is scheduled to begin sometime in February and continues through June 2013. This is a fun example of how “teachable moments” are something unpredictable that follows the interest of the children. As early childhood educators, we always have to be ready with a sense of wonder that matches the young child’s!



The Comforts of Family www.parentpagesnews.com



Cool Connections The routines of home and family life are something children can count on. Family traditions and rituals are even more important when there are changes coming at kids from all directions. Sitting down at the table for a meal together is good for families. Research is conclusive on that point, so it’s worth the extra effort— and it can become a reality even in these days of fast food in the car. There are other activities, such as a game of “I love you more”, a marathon of “knock-knock” jokes, or cuddling in a rocking chair that build family closeness. Shared traditions such as summer picnics, apple picking, and fall gardening add to the family security children learn to depend on. They also look forward to celebrations that roll around once a year such as birthdays and holidays. No time for albums? That’s understandable, but capture as many memories as you can with pictures. They extend family memories and are excellent for conversation starters.

Bedtime Is Prime Time Believe it or not, bedtime can be peaceful and is a great time for family closeness. Separating from parents at night is not much fun for kids – it’s understandable that they’d rather stay up with you. To make it easier, create a routine and a ritual. Baths and books seem to go together perfectly and calm even the most active child. These two activities offer a transition between play and winding down for a good night’s sleep. Try to schedule bedtime for the same time each night. End the day just like it started, with hugs and kisses. It’s comforting for children to know that at home some things never change.

Ties That Bind It takes a lot of effort to plan play dates and keep the peace! If you’ve ever wondered whether it’s worth all the effort, the latest research suggests that it is. Building friendships during toddler and preschool years gives children the skills needed for dealing with siblings and, later, classmates. Families play an important role in providing time and space for family friends and extended family members too.



CLC February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Will you be my Valentine? (Sung To: 'London Bridge Is Falling Down')</i> Will you be my Valentine, Valentine, Valentine? Will you be my Valentine, Be a friend of Mine.</p>			1 CLCAB	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 	15	16	17 Early Dismissal	18
19	20	21	22	23	24 Go Texan Day & Children's Parade	25
26	27 CLC School Picture Days @ Wheeler 2/27-2/29	28	29	CLC School Picture Day @ Cameron 3/1	President Khator Day @ CLC March 1, 2012	

President Khator Day!

Go Texan Day!



A Special Celebration!
March 1, 2012

CLC will honor UH President Khator in a President's Day celebration, which will serve as the culmination of learning modules involving the Presidents of the United States and individuals who serve as leaders in the community.

There will be a "Little Cougar" art exhibit in the lobby featuring children's artwork.



In order to preserve a proud Texas tradition and build awareness of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo™, schools, businesses, organizations, and clubs participate in a one-day event, *Go Texan Day*, that builds pride in our Texas and Western heritage throughout Houston and the surrounding areas.



Please join CLC in celebrating "Go Texan Day" on Friday, February 24, 2012.

Children's parades at 10:00 a.m.



Note from the editor:

Greetings! This is the 2nd installment of the CLC's E-News for 2012. For your convenience, an archive of all E-News is available at www.uh.edu/clc. If you would like to be removed from this distribution list, please email your name and email address to ccenter@mail.uh.edu. Thank you and enjoy reading!