

From the Director

Hello families!



I want to start by thanking you all for attending your Parent-Teacher conferences last month. Partnerships between school and home are extremely important, and we appreciate you taking the time to invest in your child's current and future success.

As a reminder, our first Family Partnership Group meeting of the year will be Wednesday, February 1st at 1:00 pm. Please let Ria or I know if you are interested in joining the group. We love to hear feedback and share updates with you about the center.

Black History Month is a time to celebrate and remember the important role Black Americans have played in our history. At Bright Horizons, we also believe it is a time to promote kindness, peace, unity, and inclusion. We work hard to create a place of belonging and inclusion for teachers, children, and families. We will continue to grow in our understanding and our ability to really see and value each other through shared experiences and small moments of kindness, understanding, and compassion. If your family would like to come in to share your culture and traditions, please let us know.

With Valentine's Day coming up, we will be providing opportunities for children to make homemade cards for one another, and think about what love and kindness means. We will also have a love-themed photo booth in front of the center to celebrate the month of compassion.

Spring Pictures will be on Wednesday, March 22. If your child does not attend on Wednesdays, you may still bring your child to get their picture taken.

As always, please let me know if you have any needs.

Sincerely,

Kara Lewis Almanza



Important Dates

Family Partnership Group Meeting – 2/1

Open House – 2/4

Valentine's Day – 2/14

National Random Act of Kindness Day – 2/17

President's Day – Center Closed

National Tortilla Chip Day – 2/24

Spring Picture Day – 3/22



Reasons to Celebrate

Black History Month

Birthdays

Alwyn – 2/4

Ayla – 2/10

Sean – 2/12

Nico – 2/20

BH Anniversaries

Ms. Perri – 2/28 – 1 year

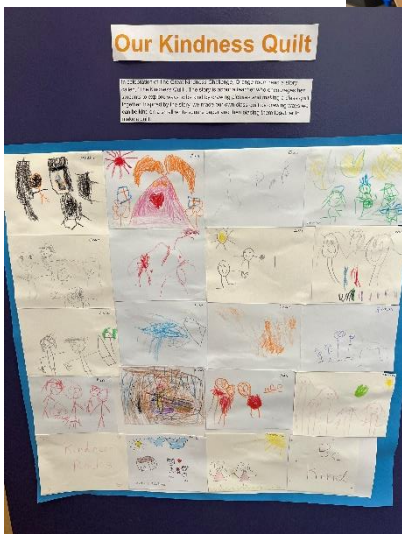
Yellow Room

This month, we wanted to document the wonderful friendships that we have seen blossoming in the Yellow Room. This small group have really connected in a meaningful way, and it has been so rewarding to see them learning how to share, take turns, and use their words to communicate with one another. This age is crucial in developing social emotional skills and learning how to interact with peers.



Blue Room

Like all of our classrooms, the Blue Room celebrated Lunar New Year. They explored red envelopes, coins, and watched a short video of Chinese Lion Dances. The teachers encouraged children to count coins and asked them to guesstimate how many coins would fit into a red envelope. Through this activity, the children were introduced to traditions celebrated in the Asian and Pacific Islander cultures; they developed their mathematical concepts and strengthened their sensory and fine motor skills.



Orange Room

In celebration of the Great Kindness Challenge, the Orange room read a story called, "The Kindness Quilt." The story is about a teacher who encourages her students to explore ways to be kind by drawing pictures and making a class quilt together. Inspired by the story, they made their own class quilt by drawing ways we can be kind on a small paper square and then placing them together to make a "quilt."

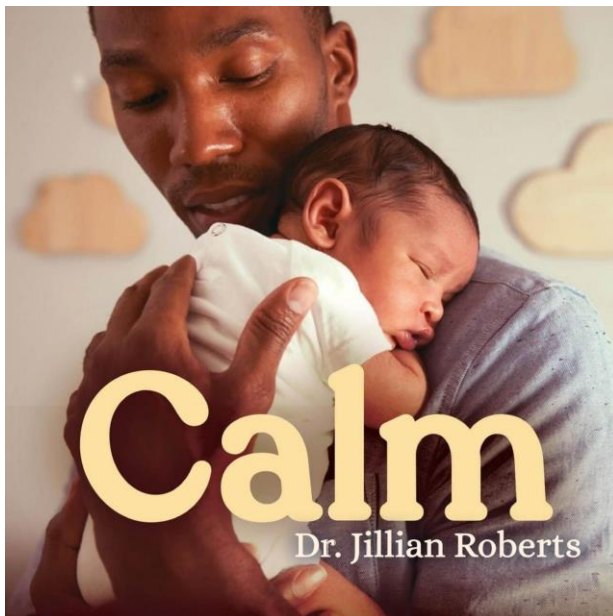
Black History Books for Kids

Black History Month is a great opportunity to celebrate diversity and speak openly with your children about the importance of compassion, tolerance, and respect.

Bright Horizons® education experts have rounded up a list of age-appropriate books that spark conversations about all sorts of topics – from kindness and belonging to character and resilience – and are sure to be beloved by the entire family.

Read these [5 black history books for kids](#) with your children all year long, and help introduce topics of kindness, empathy, and inclusion early on.

February Growing Readers Issue



February's Growing Readers Book of Excellence, "*Calm*" by Jillian Roberts beautifully depicts caregivers offering their babies kind and calming moments.

This book is a reprieve from busy days for infants and the people who love them.

[Read the current issue](#) and [watch the new book club episode!](#)

Getting Excited About STEM Upcoming Webinar

STEM is for everyone! Hear our experts' take on how to inspire your child to learn about science, technology, engineering, and math; explore big ideas; and help them dig deeper.

[Register Today!](#)

Thursday, February 16, 2023
12:00 p.m. EST

Math Matters Podcast Episode

Some love math, many hate it, but we all need it. And no matter how you feel about it, it's critical to your child's development.

Listen in to hear our early education experts discuss appropriate math activities for your child.

Go beyond counting, teach the bigger concept of numbers and what they stand for, and find out how to set up simple everyday learning experiences. [Listen now!](#)

