



**PITSCH**  
EARLY LEARNING CENTER

# NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2024

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ★ Jan. 2 First day back to school
- ★ Jan 5 Ice Rink Field Trip  
Mrs. Stilson PM & Mrs. Lang
- ★ Jan 12 Ice Rink Field Trip  
Mrs. Stilson AM, Mrs. Jessica &  
Mrs. Doerrler
- ★ Jan 15 - NO SCHOOL  
Professional Development Day

## SESSION TIMES

### Morning

**8:50-9:00** Drop Off/Bus Arrival

**11:35** Pick Up/Bus Dismissal

### Afternoon

**12:40 – 12:50** Drop Off/Bus Arrival

**3:25** Pick Up/Bus Dismissal

**Please call the attendance line if your student will not be in school. (see below)**

If your pick up plans change, please notify the office at least **30 minutes prior** to dismissal to ensure the message is delivered promptly.

## CONTACT US

501 17<sup>TH</sup> Street South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

**715.424.6779**

Press 0 - Secretary Tracy Weiss  
Press 1 - Teri Thomas/Kelly Schaeffer  
Press 2 - Report absence

### Attendance Line

**715.424.6765**

Press 2 for elementary schools  
Option 8 for Pitsch Early Learning Center

### Bus Companies

**Safeway 715.423.1117**

(Typically east of Wisconsin River)

**Lamers 715.421.2400 opt. 2**

(Typically west of Wisconsin River)

## Happy New Year Pitsch Families,

The new year gives us an opportunity to reset ourselves and brings a sense of energy and excitement. Although the days are cold and long, we can use this time of year to set goals for ourselves and others.

Our teachers have **goals** that they work on every day with their students, too. Each day presents itself with an **opportunity** to work on foundational skills in academics and social/emotional learning. On any given day in our classrooms, you will see students cutting, writing, playing, creating, counting, and solving problems. **You can help with these goals at home too!** Counting aloud is a skill that students practice daily and there aren't any materials needed for it! You can help your child find shapes in the world around us (traffic signs are great for this). Students are also beginning to recognize letters in their environment—they see letters on restaurant signs, on store signs, and in grocery stores. Their world is opening up for them with joy and excitement.

On a separate note, this is the time of year that we will be seeing an increase in colds, flus, and other illnesses. Please remember to call Tracy in the office to report your child absent if he/she is experiencing symptoms. We appreciate your cooperation as we work together to keep all of our students healthy and safe.

We wish you a wonderful 2024! Thank you for being such an important part of our Pitsch community.

Wishing you well,

Kelly Schaeffer, Principal

Teri Thomas, 4K Coordinator and Student Engagement Facilitator

Tracy Weiss, Secretary

715-424-6779



# CREATIVE CORNER

Activities to do at home to support your child's learning.



## It's Snowing

Look! It's snowing! Let's go outside!

We'll romp and stomp;  
we'll slip and slide.



We'll sled down hills as fast as we can.

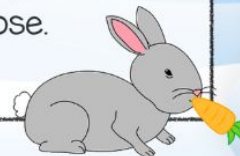


We'll make snow angels and  
a fat snowman.

So grab your mittens - and let's go play,  
Before our plans all melt away!

## A Chubby Little Snowman

A chubby little snowman  
Had a carrot nose,  
Along came a bunny,  
And what do you suppose?  
That hungry little bunny,  
Looking for some lunch,  
Ate that snowman's nose.  
Nibble, nibble, crunch.



## EXTRA FLUFFY SNOW SLIME



In a large bowl, pour  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (120mL) of  
Elmer's White Glue.

Add 2 cups of Shaving Cream and 2 Tbs. of  
Corn Starch.

Add  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tsp. of Contact Solution.

Knead and work the ingredients together  
with your hands.

Let the kids pull, poke, and roll it! Add  
plastic arctic animals for added fun!

## Roll-A-Snowman Dice Game

1. Roll a one, draw a hat.



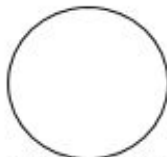
2. Roll a two, draw a head with a face.



3. Roll a three, draw a scarf.



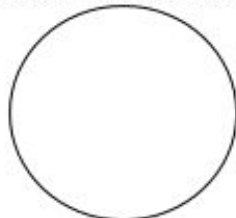
4. Roll a four, draw middle body.



5. Roll a five, draw some arms.



6. Roll a six, draw a bottom body.



## Snowman Snack Instructions

1. Use sliced banana to make a snowman body.
2. A strawberry slice for a hat.
3. Raisins and carrot piece for a face.
4. Pretzel sticks for arms.
5. Cereal or raisins for buttons.
6. Mini marshmallows to decorate!



## Getting Ready for the Snow

1 Folder in backpack



2 Shoes in backpack



3 Snow pants on



4 Boots on



5 Jacket on



6 Hat on



7 Mittens on



8 Backpack on



9 Line up



# Notes From the Nurse



Happy January! I hope everyone survived the winter break happy, healthy and ready to rock the new year. As a general rule of thumb, please keep your student home if they are not feeling well enough to attend. Students are required to remain home until fever-free (less than 100.4 degrees) without the use of medication as well as 24 hours after the last episode of vomit/diarrhea. Reducing the spread of germs is a great way to start the year off healthy and strong. Another way to stay healthy is getting enough sleep. For our young students, that means 9-11 hours of sleep each night. For example, if your child wakes up for school at 7am, he/she should go to bed before 9pm. Good quality sleep can strengthen your child's immune system and reduce the risk of infection and illness. Getting enough sleep can reduce the risk of heart problems, diabetes, and combat symptoms of ADHD. Sleep is the time that children's brain's recharge and retain information they have learned throughout the day. During deep non-REM sleep, important brain development hormones are released. When children are getting enough sleep, moods and behavior are also improved. Sleep can also improve rationalization and working memory. Several studies have shown that children who have poor school behaviors are more likely to be sleep deprived; sleep problems occurred twice as often with children with poor behaviors than their peers. Parents that participated in these studies also reported a decrease in the number of days they were late for work when the children got adequate amounts of sleep. Sometimes getting children to sleep can be the biggest battle in getting enough sleep. Setting a bedtime routine and sticking to it can help the brain learn when it is time to go to sleep. In just two weeks, a routine can show signs of improvement in length and quality of sleep. Some things that could be in a bedtime routine are taking a bath, brushing teeth, reading a book, journaling or meditating. Stay happy, healthy and safe this winter!

-Nurse Mandy

Winter is in full swing! Your children work towards independence with getting themselves dressed for winter. This chart is used at school to provide visual cues to your children so they can get ready with minimal help. Please consider using it at home, too, so you can follow the same sequence as our teachers.



501 17th Street S.

Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

715.424.6779

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**Statement Concerning Special Accommodations to Include in Handbooks, Newsletters,  
and All School or District Related Communication**

WRPS is committed to ensuring that all students and parents have access to school district information, policies, procedures, and programs. If you need assistance with interpreter or translation services, or other special accommodations that would be helpful to you, please contact either your child's school office or call the Pupil Services Department at 715-424-6724 so that we can assist you.

**Spanish**

WRPS está comprometido/a a garantizar que todos los estudiantes y padres tengan acceso a la información del distrito escolar, pólizas, procedimientos y programas. Si necesita ayuda con servicios de intérpretes o traducción, o cualquier otra adaptación especial que le sea útil, por favor, póngase en contacto con la oficina de la escuela de su hijo/a o llame al Departamento de Servicios para Alumnos al 715-424-6724 para que podamos ayudarle.

**Hmong**

WRPS xav kom txhua tus menyuam thiab niam txiv sawsdaws tau kev pab ntawd lawv lus tsev kawm ntawv txog peb cov ntaub ntawv, kev cai, thiab lub hom phiaj. Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais lus lossis lwm yam, thov hu rau koj tu menyuam lub tsev kawm ntawv lossis hu rau Pupil Services Department ntawd tu xov tooj 715-424-6724. Peb zoo siab pab koj.