

Broadway Children's School of Oakland Newsletter

February 2023

Feb 3 — Lunar New Year Parade at school, 9:20am, please join us!
Feb 4 — Open House at school for prospective families, 10:30am-12:30pm
Feb 13 — MWF All Classes Valentine's Day celebration
Feb 20 & 21 — Presidents' Day Holidays, No School
TBA — Parent Education Event at BCSO with Julie Johnson, RN
TBA — #BuildUpBroadway Park Meet Up
Feb 27 — No Extended Care due to Staff Meeting; 12:00 Pick Up for all children
Feb 28 — Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:30pm via Zoom. All are welcome!
Mar 4 — Open House at school for prospective families, 10:30am-12:30pm

Gung Hay Fat Choy! The Year of the Rabbit has begun and we continue to share stories and traditions around the Lunar New Year with the children, including having our own Lunar New Year parade on Friday morning. We'll open the gate to the yard at drop off, so that you may gather there while we ready the children. The parades generally last about 15 minutes or so—some longer, some shorter, but always fun! See you in the yard at about 9:20.

Open House for Prospective Families: We're having another Open House to welcome new families to visit and learn what Broadway Children's School is all about on Saturday, February 4th, 10:30-12:30. There will be another on March 4th, too. Keep spreading the word and sparking interest in BCSO—and don't forget that for every referral through the end of the school year, upon enrollment of a new student, we'll apply a \$250 credit on the referring family's next invoice!

Park Meet Ups: We had a wonderful time at Dracena Park last weekend—special thanks to autoharpist extraordinaire Teacher Lisa and to all who attended! We're planning to have another one soon, stay tuned!

Parent Education at Broadway! We are delighted to share that Julie Johnson, RN, will speak at a Parent Education evening event for BCSO and the wider community in late February or early March. Julie is a parent coach and trainer at Bananas and has been leading workshops in the Bay Area and coaching individuals and couples for over ten years. She specializes in helping parents manage challenging behaviors in their children--tears, tantrums, aggression, power struggles, and more. Julie will be presenting to us on the topics of mindful parenting and how adults can work together despite differing views of child-rearing.

Valentine's Day and Cards: Valentine's Day is coming up soon! At school, we will read stories about friendship, families, and how we show others we care about them—things we do all year long :) We'll also have a little celebration on Monday, February 13th. If your child wishes to bring Valentine cards, please send cards in on the 13th and include a card for every child in the class (Rainbow Room: 14 students; Sunshine Room: 11 students). The children will "mail" their set of cards into a special Valentine Box on arrival at school, which parent volunteers will distribute for us shortly after drop off. Room parents will be asking for volunteers soon.

Valentines are *much easier* to distribute if you leave off writing names in the "To: _____" area of the card. Simply leave that line blank, please. It's also very helpful if all your child's

valentines are held together with a rubber band or placed inside a paper bag to keep them all together. Thank you. Bringing valentines is optional; if you or your child are not interested in participating, that's ok!

From the Classrooms:

Why is it the Year of the Rabbit? What happens when I mail a letter? What is a friend? How am I different from my friends, and how am I the same? These are among the many questions your children may wonder and learn about this month at school. The teachers look forward to exploring these topics with the children through dramatic play, discussion, and songs such as *Love is Something If You Give It Away* (aka *Magic Penny*) and *I'm Gonna Mail Myself to You*, and African American spirituals *There's a Little Wheel Turning in My Heart* and *This Little Light of Mine*. We will continue to read and celebrate stories by Black authors and artists; this month a few of the titles we'll share are *Firebird* by Copeland/Myers, *I Am Every Good Thing* by Barnes/James, and *Saturday* by Oge Mora. If you have traditions or plans for honoring Black history with your families, please share with your child's teachers so that we may incorporate these at school. Thank you!

Best wishes,
Jennifer McManus