

Windmill Creek Academy Gazette

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Letter from the Director

All I can say is, "Wow!" January has been such an exciting month!

The children enjoyed discovering all things "Winter," -- ice and snow, snow-angels, snowmen, polar animals, and igloos. The Kinderkins enjoyed a field trip to Germain Arena to go ice skating! We also learned about Martin Luther King, Jr., and we ended the month wearing crazy colors, sport jerseys, and some of us even wore our pajamas to school!

Another exciting, "Wow!" has been the transformation of the playground! Mid-month about a dozen gentlemen from Davey Tree Service trimmed our trees to open up the canopy for our new playground. Irrigation was installed followed by 12 pallets of sod! (I have to tell you, I've never been so excited about grass before in my life!) On top of that, our concrete "tricycle path" was repaired (leveled) and specially coated with a natural looking, soft-textured coating. We ordered and put together six new Schwinn tricycles and "big wheels," installed over 100 plants, two sixteen-foot palms trees, over 450 bags of pine mulch, over 600 feet of weed barrier (under the mulch and in the landscape beds), a playhouse, two gnomes, a clock/thermometer, five slides, a tire swing, a picnic table, soccer goals, and, finally, a sandbox! We had a ribbon-cutting ceremony -- complete with red ribbon, punch and cookies. The official word from the children is that the new playground is, "Awesome!" I'm sure you're already noticing cleaner clothes -- not to mention children who are ready for bed after a full day of running and playing. If you'll allow me to say so, I am very proud of the new playground -- it truly has a park-like setting -- just as my husband and I had hoped it would have once it was completed. It is tremendously rewarding to see the children lay on their backs in the grass and watch the clouds go by, playing soccer, and observing their games of make-believe in the playhouse.

A big, "Thank You!" goes to so many people who made the transformation possible. My husband's 89 year old father planted many of the plants, my husband, brother and sister-in-law and Larry Sweet built the playground and wheeled bag after bag of mulch around. My mother-in-law and daughter, Madison, painted the sign out front and yours truly opened, split and spread over 400 bags of mulch! Another big thank you goes to Chuck Wolfe (Ryan's dad) who helped level the playing surfaces and moved various playground equipment. It has been such a rewarding -- albeit exhausting -- experience but the results are well worth it!

Looking forward, February will be an exciting month as well! The infant and toddler concrete playground area will be topped with "astro-turf," and will also enjoy a newly landscaped area along the perimeter fence. All the interior chain-link fences are being replaced with pristine, white fencing to complete the park-like setting!

In the classrooms, we will be studying about "Healthy Teeth," "Friends," "Presidents," and "Black History Week." We will also enjoy a "Valentine's Exchange" on Friday, February 13th. We have slated our "Parking Lot Sale" for Saturday, February 28th. We encourage your donations to benefit the playground refurbishment. The Parking Lot Sale is not just for children's items or toys -- feel free to take this opportunity to lighten the load from your garage and closets! More information regarding the sale will be distributed later in the month.

Warmly,

Janine Connell
Founder & Director
Windmill Creek Academy



Character Training

February's Character Training Values

Love - Gentleness & Empathy
Honesty - Integrity & Truthfulness