Greetings Rudolph Parents and Families,

Happy February. I am so glad that we all survived the Polar Vortex! It was so cold. Only in Chicago do we have a 50 degree increase in temperature in less than a week. It was so warm when we started this week, I was ready for a summer vacation! Nonetheless, we are getting closer and closer to spring. I know that February 2nd was Groundhog Day. I can't remember if he saw his shadow or not, so I will just stay positive and think warm thoughts. Did you know that on Wednesday, February 20th, it is the 100th day of school? We encourage your child to dress in their 100 day attire! Who will have the best outfit/costume?

Did you know that on Wednesday, February 20th, it is the 100th day of school? We encourage your child to dress in their 100 day attire! Who will have the best outfit/costume? A safe learning environment is key for our students’ success. Please make sure that we have your most current contact information at the school. There have been several cases we have tried to contact parents and have not been able to. If you have a new phone number, address or would like to add an additional emergency contact, contact Ms. Cristina.

Finally, February is a very short month, it also marks the end of 1st semester and the start of 2nd semester. Make sure you check your child’s bookbag for his/her report card and IEP updates. As we start the new semester, you should be getting regular communication from your child's teacher. Should you have questions on how to contact your child’s teacher directly, email address are located on the school's website at www.rudolph.cps.edu. This month your child is learning about Fairy Tales. What is your favorite Fairy Tale? Reading to your child is just one way to connect learning at home. AP Galati will be providing you additional strategies.

Here is to a warmer month and 100+ days of learning!

Yours in Education
Principal Holly

From Texas, to Chicago to France where she learned to fly!

We are having our annual Family Valentines Dance on **Thursday, February 14th**. We hope you can come out and join us! We all had so much fun last year.

This month there are some many things to celebrate. For starters, it is Chinese New Year! Ms. Anna has lots of fun learning and projects to bring in the new year. Also, February is African American History Month. Did you know that the 1st African American female pilot was Bessie Coleman? Coleman moved from Texas, to Chicago to France where she learned to fly!
Dear Parents and Guardians,

I can't believe it’s the start of second semester already! Where has the time gone? We are looking forward to our second annual Family Sweetheart Dance on Thursday, February 14th from 1:30-2:00pm. If you are interested in attending, please complete and return the brief sign-up form sent home earlier by February 12th. We’d love to have you join us! Additionally, we have a Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting on Monday, February 25th from 9:30am to 10:30am. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Our February CORE words “Who, What, Where, Play, Like, Big and Little” are being used in conjunction with the February theme of “Fairytales”. We will be using these words for a variety of communicative functions within the classroom and throughout the school day (i.e. request, greet, protest, describe, comment, ask/answer questions). Throughout the month at school, we will use these words during all activities including literacy, mathematics, transition, and gross motor. Please keep reading for a variety of activities and ways to model these words during our everyday routines.

Please join me in welcoming our new Preschool Teacher, Ms. Iris C. Louderman, to Rudolph! Ms. Louderman received her BA from DePaul University as well as an MBA from the Illinois Institute of Technology and a Med from DePaul University. This is a second career for Ms. Louderman and her 5th year teaching. Ms. Louderman’s passion is to work with students who are diverse learners. We are very excited for her to start with our full day preschool program!

As Principal Holly stated, we wanted to share a variety of ways on how to incorporate learning at home with your child. The Department of Ed and Early Childhood Development has provided a list of “74 Ways for Parents to Become Partners in Learning”, which you can find the complete list of suggestions by going to the following website:


I've included 12 of the tips below for your reference as well.

1. Share expectations and set goals for your child with his or her teacher.
2. Attend family-teacher conferences with specific questions you want to ask.
3. Decide with your child’s teacher the best way to stay in touch (phone, e-mail, notes, etc.).
4. Discuss your child's school day and/or homework.
5. Know your child's academic strengths and weaknesses.
6. Talk with your child's teacher about creating home learning games and activities.
7. Assist with homework, but avoid doing it for your child.
8. Respond to school surveys regarding your interests, talents, and skills.
9. Assist your child’s teacher in the classroom or on excursions when you are able.
10. Collaborate to develop creative ways to use volunteers at school.
11. Find out about and use information on community resources and organizations.
12. Help coordinate and participate in events that support community groups.

All the Best,

Assistant Principal Galati
**FEBRUARY CORE VOCABULARY**

For the month of February, we are targeting the core vocabulary words **Who, What, Where, Play, Like, Big and Little**. We will be using these words for a variety of communicative functions (i.e. request, greet, protest, describe, comment, ask/answer questions). Throughout the month at school, we will use these words during all activities including literacy, mathematics, transition, and gross motor.

You can model these words at home using Aided Language Stimulation (touch and talk). All you need to do is use the sign or touch the picture symbol when you say the corresponding word (see attached). For example, touch the word “my turn” when sharing a toy. Or modeling “all done” when finished with a task. Here are some examples of opportunities to use (model and reinforce) these core vocabulary words of the month at home.

**WHO, WHAT, WHERE, PLAY, LIKE, BIG/LITTLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Ways to model</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Play time</strong></td>
<td>While taking turns playing a game of hide and seek, ask your child “WHOse turn is it?” You can also work on pronouns my/your by prompting hand to chest for my and pointing to partner for your. During the game you can intermittently comment “we are PLAYing” OR “I LIKE this game”.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Daily Activities</strong></td>
<td>When someone comes to the door, ask your child “WHO do you think that could be?” When sorting laundry ask “WHO does this belong to?” or “WHERE does this go?”</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dinner Time</strong></td>
<td>When making a meal plan, ask “WHAT would you like to have this week?” or “WHAT is your favorite meal?” When making everyone’s plate, have your child decide if he wants a BIG scoop or a LITTLE scoop of each item. You child can also decide scoop sizes for each family member using BIG/LITTLE. While eating comment on how you LIKE something.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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