

TLC Learning Center

Nurturing success in ALL kids since 1956.

Family Newsletter January 2025

Happy New Year, TLC families!

We had an amazing end to 2024, filled with singing, swinging, running, and playing in the unusually warm sunshine. Some of our friends enjoyed cheering us on in the Longmont Parade of Lights, while others had a great time singing for families and friends at our annual Christmas Tree Festival. As we step into 2025, we are excited to welcome **9** new families to TLC and thrilled to have them become part of our ever-growing community.

This month, I am working with the Bobcat team to facilitate learning around Emotional Literacy through my Pyramid Model Training Facilitation Program. Emotional Literacy is the ability to identify, understand, and respond to emotions in oneself and others in a healthy way. We teach children about emotions in many ways, such as modeling emotions through exaggerated facial expressions, identifying children's feelings, talking about emotions in different situations, and labeling emotions in books and pictures.

It's important to teach children that feelings can change, and that it's possible to have more than one feeling about something. We also teach them that it's okay to feel differently from others about the same thing—what matters most is what you do with those feelings. We help children learn about a variety of emotions, both positive and negative, because we feel more than just happy, sad, or mad! By teaching a range of emotions, children will be better able to recognize emotions in themselves and others.

We have some books on display in the lobby to support Emotional Literacy learning. Stop by and check them out—books are a great way to introduce and strengthen Emotional Literacy in children. We're excited for the new year and look forward to continuing to learn and grow with our TLC friends.

Kristen Gregory Educational Services Manager & Childcare Center Director



A message from TLC President/CEO, Matt Eldred:

We're excited to share an important update with our TLC community as we continue to make great strides in our Capital Campaign. Currently, we've reached 80% of our fundraising goal, and construction has officially begun on our new facility at 4441 E. 3rd Ave, marking a significant milestone for TLC.

Stay tuned to the <u>Capital Campaign page</u> on our website for everything you need to know about this exciting expansion for our organization. Soon, we will feature a live cam on our website for real-time construction updates. In the meantime, feel free to drive by the site to watch the work in action — we're sure our TLC kiddos will enjoy seeing the big trucks at work! Thank you for your continued support and for sharing your children with us.

Very best,

Matt Eldred
President/CEO

ON THE HORIZON...

- Jan. 20 TLC CLOSED MLK Day
- Jan. 23 Bingo Night @ Longmont Bingo Alley (5-9pm)
- Feb. 5 Late Start School starts @ 10am
- Feb. 6 Dental Screenings
- Feb. 17 TLC CLOSED President's Day
- Feb. 18 Dinner Out Event @ Qdoba (4-8pm)
- Feb. 18 Family Toolkit Night (4:30pm)

REMINDERS:

- Please call the front desk if your child will be absent and let us know the reason for the absence.
- Please label all of your child's belongings before sending them to school.
- Please continue to send water bottles daily, as well as seasonally appropriate clothing as the weather can be very unpredictable this time of year.

Thank you!

WE OUR TLC FAMILY VOLUNTEERS!

It takes a village and our TLC families have been doing an awesome job of pitching in this year! Following are a few things we need help with around the Center:

- Thank You notes (especially Nov.-Jan.)
- Share your gifts with your child's class
- Bingo volunteers (every 4th Thursday, 5-9pm @ the Longmont Bingo Alley)
- Refer to our <u>Bloomerang</u> Volunteer Homepage for more volunteer opportunities!



You can also donate items in lieu of completing service hours. Every \$12 spent equals one hour of service, so save your receipts and share them with Ana at the front desk so they can be added to your family's volunteer log. You can find classroom Amazon wishlists posted at the end of each classroom update in this newsletter or access the Therapy Services wish list here.

CLASSROOM VOLUNTEER NEEDS

Hummingbirds would love to have volunteers help with Recipes, crafts or games!

Bearcubs could use help wiping down windows, mats, and the wall behind the highchairs.

Bobcats would appreciate donation of stationary supplies for card making and letters. OR

Any fun books surrounding the idea of friendships and gifting letters and cards.

Have questions about volunteering? Email Ana for more information!



THANKS TO THE TLC COMMUNITY FOR ALL YOU DO!



Family Toolkit Night

At our Open House in September, we surveyed families to gather feedback on the topics they were most interested in for our Family Toolkit Nights. The top three areas of focus that emerged were:

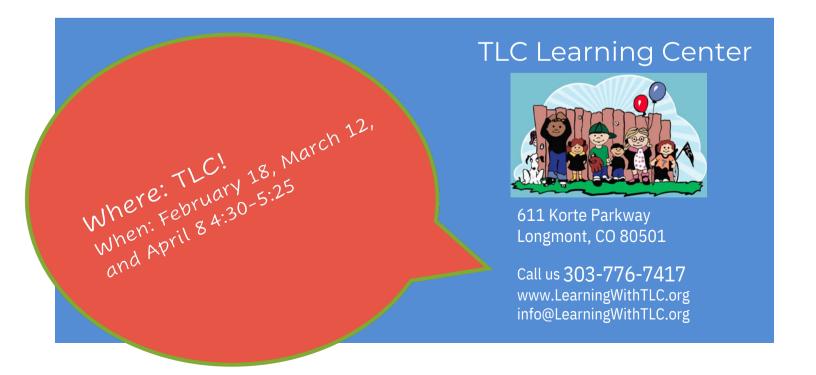
- Calming Strategies
- Challenging Behavior
- Mealtime Success

Now that we've completed the Mealtime Success series, we're excited to move on to our next requested topic. The next three Family Toolkit Nights will focus on helping you build your





Stay tuned for more details. If you have specific questions within this topic that you'd like us to address, please reach out to us at SKarmen@LearningWithTLC.org or stop by my office. We'd love to hear from you!



QDOBAIS BRINGING FLAVOR TO OUR COMMUNITY



FUNDRAISER FOR

TLC LEARNING CENTER

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 4PM-8PM

2301 CLOVER BASIN DR LONGMONT, CO 80503

25% of sales donated

Order online with the digital coupon on this flyer, or show this flyer in restaurant. Also valid on Catering orders.





CLASSROOM NEWS

Hello BearCub Families,

Happy New Year and welcome to 2025! We are excited to greet some new friends in our classroom—please help us welcome Issa, Ellory, Emerson, Simone, and Luke. With the arrival of new friends, we also have some children graduating to the toddler room. Iris, Julian, Sylvia, Josephine, Eleia, and Morgan have moved to the Chickadee classroom, and Esme has joined the Otter classroom. While we are sad to see them go, we know they are in excellent hands.

In our Winter unit, we've been focusing on the weather and will continue exploring this theme throughout January. We are working on some snow-themed art projects to do together. We were fortunate to continue our walks throughout December, and we hope the weather will allow us to enjoy more walks in January as well. Looking ahead to February, we will dive into a unit on emotions, exploring bright colors and reading fun books about feelings. This unit will help us celebrate Valentines day together.

Thank you all for your support, we love having your children in our classroom.

With Love, Bear Cub Teachers

Ms. Michelle, Ms. Sonia, Ms. Diane, and Ms. Viviana

We added a few new things. We would love one of the new play mats for our new friends.



Click <u>here</u> to access the wish list for the Bear Cubs classroom.

toddlers!

Hello Chickadee Families!

As we enter the new year, we warmly welcome a new group of Chickadees! Eleia, Iris, Josephine, Julian, Morgan, and Sylvia will be joining us from Bear Cubs, and Jasper will be a new face at TLC. While we were sad to say goodbye to our old friends, we're excited for them to experience all that preschool has to offer.

Our new group will spend the first few days adjusting to their new environment. Over the break, we rearranged the room to give our crawlers the best opportunity to become walkers, and we reshuffled toys and books to better suit our new friends. We're excited to get to know this group and look forward to everything 2025 will bring!

Ms. Sondee and Ms. Lesly

Click <u>here</u> to access the wish list for the Chickadees classroom. Click <u>here</u> to access the wish list for the Toddler playground.

Hi Pikas,

Time flies when you're having fun, it's hard to believe we are halfway through this school year. December was such a fun month for the Pikas, filled with winter crafts and activities. Thank you all for the heartwarming cards filled with kind words—we're excited to see what 2025 has in store for us! With that said, we want to warmly welcome our sweet friend Atticus to our classroom. We'll work together to establish a welcoming environment and ensure he feels nurtured and loved, just like the rest of our group.

This month, we're excited to explore and observe changes in the weather. We'll be learning about arctic animals and engaging in a fun science activity with snow as we discover the concepts of freezing and melting.

Ms. Denisse and Ms. Carolina

Click here to access the wish list for the Pikas classroom.

Hello Otter families!

We're thrilled to spend time with your children everyday and be a part of their learning and growth. In the Otter classroom, we've had so much fun playing with friends and exploring the room. Before the new year, we worked on fun art and craft projects to send home just in time for the holidays. New this winter, we've had a few friends join the Otter's crew! In the coming weeks, we will focus on building relationships with peers, practice turn-taking, and adjusting to our everyday routine. We'll also be doing a lot of fun winter activities that focus on motor and sensory skills. Some of these activities will include exploring the snow, playing with edible slime, enjoying music time, reading our favorite stories, and so much more! We're so excited to begin the new year with our wonderful crew, and we look forward to watching your child grow and reach new milestones!

Ms. Aaliyah and Ms. Libby

Click here to access the wish list for the Otters classroom.

Hello from the Owls!

We are excited to start 2025 and see where the year takes us! We'd like to welcome Jack to our class on Wednesdays and Fridays. The little Owls have settled into the routines of the classroom so nicely that we are now consistently doing a story time! They absolutely love this time, which usually includes an extension activity with the flannel board and a song. We typically read a story for two weeks, so by the end of that time, you may hear your little one singing a new song! We've also noticed some budding artists in our class, so we'll be doing lots of different kinds of art with various materials to help develop fine motor skills and offer plenty of opportunities for expression and exploration. Additionally, we're excited to have Yoga with Ms. Mia on Mondays at 9:00 AM. Hooray! This is a wonderful opportunity for the Owls to learn breathing skills and move their little bodies in new and creative ways!

As always,

Ms. Brenda C, Ms. Marissa, Ms. Mikayla, and Ms. Daniela

Click here to access the wish list for the Owls classroom.

Preschool!

Hello Bobcat Families!

Winter was so much fun talking about family traditions. The children enjoyed decorating trees and doing holiday crafts, and Ms. Meghan enjoyed sharing her Hanukkah traditions. The children had a blast playing dreidel and counting with the Menorah. In addition to these fun activities, our focus on friendship skills throughout December made a positive impact. We saw great growth in how the students are engaging and getting teacher and friends attention in a positive way.

As we move into January, we are excited to introduce the idea of writing and making cards and letters with the children. They have a general sense of gift-giving, and now we want to expand on the idea of how sending thoughts and pictures can also show someone you care. If our caregivers and families have any extra cards, stationery, stickers, or fun writing/drawing utensils, we would love to incorporate them into our activities! Additionally this month, we will be expanding our emotional literacy skills through the Pyramid Model while also refreshing and strengthening our friendship skills.

Lastly, we want to welcome a few new Bobcat students from the Chickadee Classroom! Will, Ada and Everly, we are excited to see how you grow and explore this year!

Thank you all,

Ms. Meghan, Ms. Anahi and Ms. Kaytlin

Please remember mittens and hats and LABEL everything!

If you feel inclined, please check out our Amazon

wish list.

New play food items and any group games from our Wishlist would be helpful.



Happy New Year Hummingbirds!

We are excited to see everyone back after winter break and welcome some new friends as we start the year! We are looking forward to everything this year has in store. We love cooking and baking with the class, and had a blast making gingerbread cookies before the break. We welcome volunteers and always appreciate new ideas for activities that allow us to incorporate the unique perspectives from our Hummingbird families. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to us. January marks the midpoint of winter and the beginning of the new year. This month, we will focus on welcoming our two new friends, Romeo and Alex. We'll help them settle into the big kid classroom by introducing a new "buddy" job during circle time. This will pair different friends with our newcomers to help show them around. We will also spend the month learning about winter—exploring topics like weather, animals, food, and more. We can't wait to learn, grow, and share plenty of laughs together this year!

Ms. Lupe and Mr. Sam

Click here to access the wish list for the Hummingbirds classroom.

Happy New Year Swallowtails families!

We are thrilled to welcome Artie, Piper, Lincoln, and Emery to our class—our little school family finally feels complete! Right now, we are focusing on learning about emotions and emotional literacy, as well as how to keep our bodies safe. Additionally, we practice our letters and numbers each day during circle time. Outside, we are learning to play cooperative games like *Mister Fox* and *Duck Duck Goose*. We are so excited to continue learning more about each other as the year unfolds!

Teacher Layla and Ms. Kat

Click here to access the wish list for the Swallowtails classroom.

We are in need of click markers that can be found on our wishlist.

Hello Marmots!

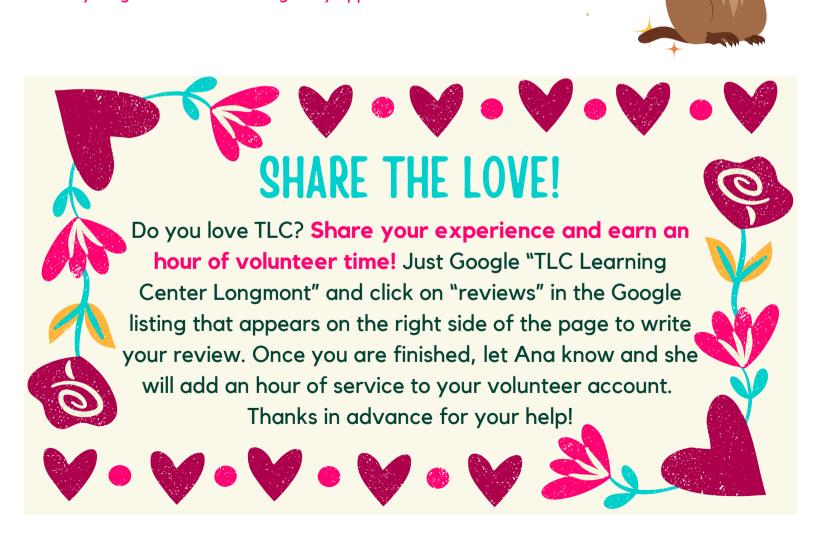
December was a lot of fun in the Marmot Room with our winter wonderland theme! We loved learning about the various holidays people celebrate throughout the month and the different traditions they follow. We also had a great time making ornaments with melted crayons and creating snow globes with our pictures and glitter. We spent a lot of time practicing and performing songs for the Christmas Tree Festival, and our hard work paid off—thank you to everyone who came to see us on stage!

This month, we are embracing the cold and excited to learn all about the Arctic. We'll explore the animals, climate, and geography of this fascinating region. We hope you all had a wonderful winter break, and we appreciate you sending warm gear for outdoor play!

Ms. Brenda and Ms. Emily

Click here to access the wish list for the Marmots classroom.

Anything from our wishlist is greatly appreciated.







Classroom Highlights!

























Dear TLC Caregivers and Families,

Mark your calendars! **Dental screenings will take place on Thursday, February 6th**. Our staff will place a dental form in your child's cubby during the week of the scheduled screening for you to complete. If you would prefer your child to opt out of the screening, please be sure to indicate this on the provided dental form. All screenings will be conducted here at TLC by Salud Family Health.

In other news, TLC consistently follows the "How Sick is Too Sick" guidelines established by CDPHE, which have been updated as of 2025. You can find the updated guidelines <u>here</u>. We are still strictly implementing a 48-hour exclusion period. Our exclusion policy defines that a student may return to school 48 hours after their last symptom has resolved without the use of medication.

For information on the latest medical updates and current illnesses, please refer to the two prominent red medical boards in our building. The boards are posted in key locations for your convenience. One is located on the right of our curved entry hallway, and the other is directly across from the preschool bathrooms.

A few important health reminders:

- TLC adheres to the AAP guidelines for well-child checks and physicals. Please provide a copy of the after-visit summary and updated immunizations after each appointment.
- Check that your child's sunscreen, diaper cream, and lotions are still within their expiration dates.
- If your child will be absent, please call the front desk. It's crucial to inform us about any symptoms if your child is sick.

Thank you for your support as we prioritize the health and well-being of our students!

Karianne Lesch
Child Health Liaison



Turn Your Shopping Dollars into Donations for TLC!

Did you know you can help support the work we do at TLC just by shopping at your favorite retailers? Read on to find out how your everyday shopping can add up to big benefits for nonprofits like TLC.

- The King Soopers Community Rewards Program gives money back to schools of your choice for every dollar you spend. Just go to <u>KingSoopers.com</u>, scroll down to the "King Soopers Community Rewards Program" at the bottom of the page, and enter "WW513" in the "Find an Organization" box. Share this info with friends and family and help TLC earn even more!
- American Furniture Warehouse will donate 2% of your purchase to a PreK-12 school of your choice. Purchases made in-store, online, and over the phone all count, so tell the cashier you're with TLC and 2% of your purchase will be donated to TLC.
- Longmont Dairy's Milk Caps for Moola is a great way to support local nonprofits. Each cap is worth five cents, and they really add up, so collect those milk caps and drop them off at TLC for big rewards. Thanks!





