

The Children's House News

February 2021

Dear Parents and Grandparents, The Words of the Week in February are Honor, Trustworthiness, Carefulness, and Tenacity. From the beginning of the month, we begin to celebrate Valentine's Day, finding ways to honor the people that we love. Shortly after that, we recognize Presidents' Day, remembering our country's Founding Fathers, our earliest presidents. They were models of trustworthiness and tenacity. These are all traits God wants us to develop and use in our everyday lives. He gives us our family and closest friends to love and care for, and who also care for and love us. This month, we focus on remembering to be careful to take care of the most important people in our lives, showing them our love through honoring them and being trustworthy in our relationships with them.

Important Upcoming Dates

February 1-5 Conference Sign-Ups Open, Preschool and Kindergarten **only**
February 11 & 12 Preschool and Kindergarten Conferences on Zoom, No school for Preschool and Kindergarten
February 12 No School for Grades 1-4, Conferences upon request
February 15 Presidents' Day, No School
March 10 (Preschool), **March 11** (Kindergarten), & **March 12** (Gr. 1-4) Healthy Heart Days
March 15-19 Spring Break, No School
March 26 Kuhio Day, No School

One of the best ways to make people feel honored is to listen to them and treat them well. Most of us have heard of The Golden Rule, "**Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You.**" In other words, treat others just as well as you would like to be treated. The Rule has its origins in scripture from the Bible,

*"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you,
for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."
Matthew 7:12*

Another word for trustworthy is dependable. When we can depend on someone, we feel that we can trust them. Being trustworthy and dependable is a way to honor people we love. When they ask us to do something, and we listen and do it, they feel honored. How do we teach our children to be dependable and trustworthy? We need to set our children up for success by giving them opportunities to fulfill tasks independently that show that they are indeed dependable.

The objective here is to help your child learn to be helpful without prompting and rewards. At first, of course, they will need reminders. Remember, this is a process and it will take time. You are not correcting bad behavior, but trying to build good ones. There is no need to discipline or give prizes. For this reason, the tasks you ask your child to do cannot be personal responsibilities like hanging up their towel or putting their backpack away. The tasks also should not be chores for which they may get an allowance. Personal responsibilities and chores are important, but should be separate from tasks designed to teach dependability.

Start off by giving your child small individual tasks that serve your family and home. Older children can be asked to fold laundry without supervision. Younger children can take folded laundry to the appropriate room on their own. Older children may be expected to put away dishes at the same time each day without reminders. You can give younger children a daily task such as gathering items from the floor and coffee table and putting them in one place. The key is that these tasks need to serve the family, be done independently, and without reminders. It is also imperative that you refrain from using rewards to motivate your child. In fact, rather than complimenting your child immediately after completing a task, wait until the family is gathered. Then in front of others, say "Jonah, you are really becoming so dependable. When I ask you to do something around the house, I know I can trust you to get it done. Thank you for honoring me!" This form of endorsement will strengthen your child's understanding that being dependable and trustworthy shows honor to the people we love.

The Golden Rule is definitely one we should all seek to follow, but recently, another perspective was shared,

**"Don't just treat others the way you want to be treated;
Treat others the way *they* want to be treated."**

Honor, Trustworthiness, Carefulness, and Tenacity con't.

Real love is shown when we listen to others and respect their needs and wishes. We may not have the same needs, or even agree with them. But if what they want does not hurt anyone else, then we should do whatever we can to support and meet their needs. That is the true example of honoring the people we love.

*"Love one another with brotherly affection.
Outdo one another in showing honor." Romans
12:10*

*"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility count others more significant than
yourselves." Philippians 2:3*



Preschool and Kindergarten: Second Trimester Conferences

The Preschool and Kindergarten will have Parent/Teacher Conferences on Thursday and Friday, February 11th and 12th. These will operate the same way the first conferences ran in September. Sign-ups will be online from February 1-5; the link will be emailed to parents on January 29th. Sign-ups are on a first come, first served basis. **There will be no school on conference days for preschool and kindergarten students.**

Grades 1-4 Conferences

Conferences for Grades 1-4 are optional. Conference sign-ups will be open to all. Please sign-up directly through your child's teacher by emailing them. Conferences will be conducted on Zoom. **School will be in session for students in Grades 1-4 on Thursday, February 11th. There will be NO SCHOOL on Friday, February 12th.**

Travel Plans Please continue to notify the office of any travel plans. You may send any information or dates to attendance@childrenshousehawaii.org

Re-Registration: 2021-22 School Year

Thank you to our parents for returning your Parent Contracts for the 2021-22 School Year. If you missed the deadline and would still like to submit a registration for your child, please contact the office. We are looking forward to the upcoming school year and appreciate your continued support!

Healthy Heart Day

Each March we celebrate Healthy Heart Day, a celebration of how to take care of the wonderful bodies God gave us! It has always been an exciting day that the kids talk about long after. The Kindergarten and Elementary classes usually celebrate on a Thursday, and the Preschool classes celebrate the next Friday. The students participate in a variety of activities that help them use the skills they have been learning in P.E., including locomotor skills (running, jumping, skipping, etc.), and ball skills (such as dribbling, kicking, catching). They have even learned some new skills like yoga and taiko drumming. The students also learn about healthy habits and try some new healthy snacks. This year's celebration will look different, and will not include the schoolwide activities we have done in the past. We are still working on the details and will send information out to you as soon as plans are solidified.

Other Reminders:

Students are **not** to bring in goodies or goody bags for Valentine's Day. Additionally, this year, students are not allowed to bring Valentine's cards to pass out to their friends. We want to continue to follow health and safety guidelines and minimize the transfer of items through many hands.

Please contact business@childrenshousehawaii.org with any tuition or financial aid questions.

The Children's House Tax ID numbers are:
Federal 99-0340922
State GE-012-745-7280-01