

EXTRA.....EXTRA.....READ ALL ABOUT TSOC

21st Century Community Learning Center



The Origin and History of Saint Valentine

Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14th every year. It is a day to display affection. People send cards, called valentines, to their friends, family, and loved ones. Verses on valentines often rhyme and express love and affection. Sometimes valentines contain humorous pictures or puns - but almost all ask, "Be My Valentine."

Valentine's Day falls on the feast day of two different Christian martyrs named Valentine. The customs of Valentine's Day has nothing to do with the lives of the saints. It is believed that the customs come from an ancient Roman festival called Lupercalia which took place every February 15. The festival honored Juno, the Roman goddess of women and marriage - and Pan, the god of nature.

Valentine's Day is a great day to celebrate our friends. School children decorate their classrooms with bright red paper hearts. They exchange gifts, candy, flowers or "*valentines*."

Source: www.apples4theteacher.com

Rose Cupcakes



Ingredients

12 mini cupcakes
White Icing
Scissors
6 rolls of Fruit by the Foot fruit leather in Cherry Rage or strawberry flavor
1 roll of Fruit by the Foot fruit leather in Color by the Foot flavor

Instructions

1. Frost 12 mini cupcakes with white icing.
2. To make a rose, unroll a piece of the cherry or strawberry fruit leather and divide it in half along the wavy perforated middle line. Take one of the halves and roll up about 5 inches to form the flower's center. Set the rolled strip wavy side up in the middle of a cupcake, as shown, and continue to loosely wrap the remaining fruit leather around the center at a slight angle until the flower is completed.
3. Repeat this process for the remaining flowers. (You should be able to get 2 mini roses out of each roll of fruit leather.)
4. Cut leaf shapes from the wavy edge of the Color by the Foot strip as shown, and then tuck the leaves under the roses.

Source:
www.familyfun.go.com

The History of Black History



Dr. Carter G. Woodson

Americans have recognized black history annually since 1926, first as "Negro History Week" and later as "Black History Month" What you might not know is that black history had barely begun to be studied-or even documented-when the tradition originated. Although blacks have been in America at least as far back as colonial times, it was not until the 20th century that they gained a respectable presence in the history books.

Blacks Absent from History Books

We owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson Born to parents who were former slaves, he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines and enrolled in high school at age twenty. He graduated within two years and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. The scholar was disturbed to find in his studies that history books largely ignored the black American population-and when blacks did figure into the picture, it was generally in ways that reflected the inferior social position they were assigned at the time.

Established Journal of Negro History

Woodson, always one to act on his ambitions, decided to take on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. He established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History) in 1915, and a year later founded the widely respected Journal of Negro History. In 1926, he launched Negro History Week as an initiative to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout

American history. Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population, Frederick Douglass, and Abraham Lincoln.

Source: www.factmonster.com

Black History Quiz

- _____ was the first state to legalize slavery and _____ was the first state to abolish slavery.**
 - Massachusetts and Pennsylvania
 - Virginia and Tennessee
 - Maryland and Florida
 - Vermont and Georgia
- What was the average price of a healthy male slave at the start of the slave trade?**
 - 10
 - 15
 - 60
 - 150
- He is the first African-American inventor in the history books. He invented the first clock in the New World. He laid out the city of Washington, D.C. for the first time. His name is:**
 - Elijah McCoy
 - William Purvis
 - Benjamin Banneker
 - George Washington Carver

Source: www.familyeducation.com

What's Going on at Think Smart??



Kinder Prep (2 years old to 5 years old) meets Monday-Friday from 6:30 am-6:00 pm. We also have 2nd shift available until 11:45 pm

After School Program Meets Monday-Friday from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm. We also have 2nd shift available until 11:45 pm.

Pre-Collegiate (Middle and High School Students) meet the 1st Saturday of each month from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm and then attend trips as they come available

Tumble Bus (for the Kinder Prep Program) comes to the center the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am

The Storyteller (for the Kinder Prep Program) comes to the center the 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:45 am

Think Smart's Radio Station airs every Wednesday from 9:00 pm-10:00 pm at 646-381-4846 or www.blogtalkradio.com/thnk-smrt-undgrnd

Family Reading Night meets Bi-monthly (see monthly calendar)

Male/Female Mentor Night meets Bi-Monthly (See monthly calendar)

Our Jamaica Fundraiser Cruise Payments are due the 1st working day of the month (we have NO more cabins available)!! Sorry, we will be doing it again next year if you missed it this year! The event will raise money for Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. 21st Century Community Learning Center.

From the After school Corner:

Mrs. Anita-Site Director
Ms. Norma-Enrichment Counselor
Ms. Christy-Enrichment Counselor
Tatyana-Part-time Dietary/Technician/Office Assistant



Cupid is not the only one busy this month so is our After School Students. The students are doing various sporting/educational academic games such as Math Baseball and Reading Jeopardy. Our aim here is to make learning FUN and Exciting!

The students are also doing Black History Facts and everyday the students are doing a brainteaser in reference to Inventions. They are given an invention and the students have to tell the teacher who was the inventor. The first student to get it right receives a "prize". Students also planted lima bean seeds and made peanut butter from scratch in relations to George W. Carver being a scientist.

Students are also doing the Cougars Olympics in relations to Jesse Owens. During this time frame, students are also studying the health pyramid in correlation that you have to be healthy in order to be good in the Olympics.

Students are also doing "Cooking around the World" for one of their Special Sessions. For England, students made cheesecake and Christmas Crackers and for China the students made Moon Cake.

From the Kinder Prep Corner

Ms. Chona-Lead Childcare Specialist
Ms. Shontavia-Assistant Childcare Specialist
Mrs. Brenda-Asst. Childcare Specialist



February might be a “short” month but that has not stopped the Kinder Prep classroom from “putting it in high gear” this month. Under the Directions of Mrs. Chona, Ms. Shontavia, and Mrs. Brenda, the students are ready for Kindergarten.

The students are doing Kindergarten worksheets and they take sight word test on every Friday.

2 and 3 years old are learning to spell their name and the 4 and 5 years old are writing their names.

The Kinder Prep Program is also working on their Kindergarten Assessments and writing short sentences.

Students are also learning Black History Facts daily. It is a joy to hear the teachers call out a name and hear the students say what they invented or how they benefited the United States. So do not forget to ask them-What did you learn on today?

Remember your family and friends in this month set aside for love, but not just this month but all year long.

“Owe no man but to love him” Romans 13:8

The Kinder Prep staff would like to say a special thank you to the parents for their support and dedication!!

Sweetheart Ball



Our program hosted a Sweetheart Ball on Thursday, February 11, 2010, for our participants and their families. The theme of the event was Expressing Family Love. The event was from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm and was held at the Coats Community Building. The event had a Dj, food, fellowship, photographer and a GREAT time! It was a Semi-Formal Event and was absolutely beautiful. It was open to the entire family however the event was targeted for Mothers/Sons and Fathers/Daughters (or opposite sex role models). Thanks to the staff and volunteers that decorated the event.

The Pastor's Breakfast Date Changed New date March 6, 2010



The Pastor's Breakfast that was scheduled for February 27, 2010, **has been changed to Saturday, March 6, 2010**. The event will still be held at Central Carolina Community College located at 1075 East Cornelius Harnett Blvd Lillington, NC 27546 in the Multi-Purpose Room in the Sam Miriello Building. Registration starts at 10:30 am. Please RSVP by February 25, 2010.

From the Pre-Collegiate Corner

Pre-Collegiate Director-Ms. Pam
Pre-Collegiate Assistant Director- Ms. Nell



The Pre-Collegiate Program had its monthly workshop on Saturday, February 6, 2010. Fayetteville State University's Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) program came to the center to do the Financial Aid for our seniors that are heading off to college in the fall.

Prior to completing the Financial Aid paper, the staff of EOC spoke to the students and their parents in reference to scholarships and various topics in reference to college. The event was very informative and it answered the main QUESTION that parents had on their Minds~ How can I afford to send my child to college?

Some of the Pre-Collegiate students also volunteered at our Sweetheart Ball that was given by our center for our "younger" students and their families. In order to eligible for a scholarship at the end of the year, the participants have to be active members, attend the workshops, college campus tours, community service projects, and help with the fundraiser activities. Last year our program handed out 17 scholarships.

The Pre-Collegiate next meeting will be held at Central Carolina Community College. Participants are asked to be at the college at 10:30 am. Dr. David Washington will be the guest speaker at the event. He is currently a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Management, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at North Carolina State University.

From the HCPAL Corner

Ms. Nell-PAL Director
Mr. Walter-Athletic Director



Our 18 and under boy's basketball team have been experiencing a great season this year. Our team is currently 4-1 (losing our first game on this past Saturday against Lillington). The boys are really working hard and understanding the importance of teamwork. If you have not come out to watch one of your games, you have been missing some great basketball. You still have another chance; we have our last game scheduled for February 20, 2010. We will be playing against Lillington which has been the only team that has beaten us this year. If we win, we will be tied for first place with Lillington.

Based on our record and our team, our team has been chosen to represent this area in the SWAC tournament that will be held in Chapel Hill from March 19-21, 2010.

Saturday 2/20

Lillington vs Think Smart
Old Lillington High School 10:00 am

Athletic Department:

**Boys Basketball Coaches-Deoward McLean,
Marco Spears and Lamont Massey
Cheerleader Coach-Trudi Martin; Assistant
Coach-Shontavia Williams
Bookkeeper-Christy Douglas**

Welcome



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mr. Ryan to the Think Smart Family. He will be the Financial Director Assistant here at Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. He has six months experience working in an office setting. When you see Mr. Ryan, give him a BIG Think Smart Welcome!

We have NO cabins left for our Jamaica Cruise!!!



We are so excited about our 2nd Annual Fundraiser Cruise. We have NO cabins left. We are filled to capacity. We will be heading to Ocho Rios Jamaica and Grand Cayman Islands for a 5-day Carnival Cruise from December 4-December 9, 2010. If you didn't make it this time, please look out for the information that we will be providing for our next cruise that will take place next year.

Thought for the Month



Whatever you are doing, let your hearts be in your work, as a thing done for the Lord and not for men~Colossians 3:23

Think Smart's February Events:



Community Leadership Day (Hosted by Dunn Chamber)	4
Super bowl Party	5
What a Face	5
Basketball Game	6
Pre-Collegiate Meeting	6
Parent Orientation Night	9
Umbrella Day	10
Fayetteville State EOC	10
Sweetheart Ball	11
Valentine's Day Event	12
Basketball Game	13
Our program will be conducting Home visits	15-19
Trip to Fire Department (At our site)	17
Female Mentoring Night	18
White T-Shirt Day	20
Basketball Game	20
National Chili Day	22
Our program will be conducting School Visits	22-26
The Brother's Grimm	24
Black History Program at Site	25
Parent Teacher Conference (At our site)	26

Activities above coincide with a project



Volunteers Needed



Our program is currently seeking volunteers to assist with our program. We need individuals to assist in anyway that you can. We would like to say a special thank you to Ms. Sharonda and Ms. Jalissa for taking time out of your busy schedule to volunteer at our facility and our Athletic Department for volunteering. In order to make a program work, volunteers will be the KEY!

Cooking Classes



Starting next month we will begin offering cooking classes to our older participants (13 and older and their parents/guardians). We will be providing you with information later on in March.

SISTA Project



The SISTA (Sisters Informing Sisters on Topics about AIDS) was developed by African American Women and is tailored towards the needs of African America women. 155 people

were reported to be living with HIV/AIDS in Harnett County as of December 31, 2006

The SISTA Project is made up of five 2-hour sessions, taught in the community by a Peer Educator. The sessions are for African American women and include group discussions, lectures, role-playing, video viewing, and take-home test. SISTA is interested in implemented their program at our site. We are encouraging all women over 18 years of age to enroll in the program that will be at our site. If you are interested, please sign up in the lobby



Where our aim is "Reaching for Success one star at a Time"

Newsletter Prepared by Ms. Pamela Williams

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We were established on April 24, 2001. Eight Years and Still Growing Strong!!

We would like to say a Special Thank You to our Wonderful Staff and our Volunteers. You complete the puzzle at Think Smart Outreach Center, Inc. 21st Century Community Learning Center!!