

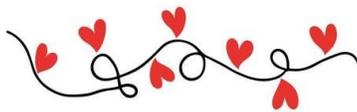


# Kountry Kids News



## February Birthdays

- Cody "CJ" Boston (2nd)
- Miner Reavis (2nd)
- Bailee Gaines (4th)
- Lillian Silva (15th)
- Abel Hobbs (18th)
- Charlie Smith (19th)
- Lainey Pherigo (20th)
- Quincy Shafer (22nd)
- Ophelia Rieger (23rd)
- Callie Cleveland (24th)
- Mrs. Tiffany (28th)



Print off our February Menu from our website

## February 2024

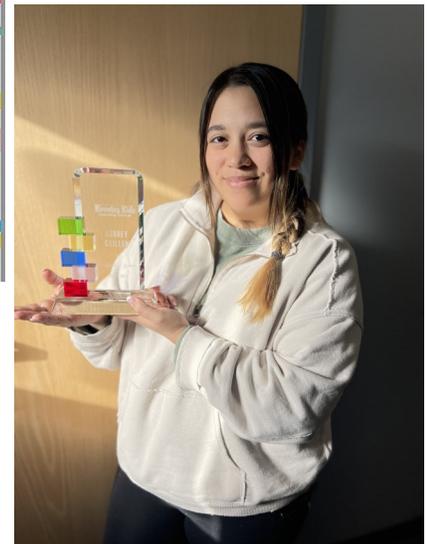
# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!

**Valentine's Day and classroom parties are quickly approaching! Classroom parties will be on Wednesday, February 14th around snack time!**

**Check with your child's teacher for exact party times as well as sign up sheets for the classroom! Happy Valentine's Day!**



Around KKLC, we like to celebrate big milestones and with that being said, we would like to recognize two staff members on these big milestones. We would like to say congratulations to Miss Eliza on 10 years of service and Miss Aubrey on 5 years of service. Miss Eliza has been with Kountry Kids since 2013, she has been little bit of everywhere throughout her years at KKLC. Miss Aubrey has been at Kountry Kids since 2018, she has worked with PreK and most recent with Newborns and Infants. If you happen to see them, make sure you congratulate them on their accomplishments.



# Fostering Friendships and Relationships

Building Social-Emotional skills is one of our most important jobs here at KKLC! See the attached link from NAEYC to read about the impacts of building these skills and check out the snapshots of us learning and using them at school every day!

[Promoting Young Children's Social Emotional Health](#)



## Kids at PLAY



PLAY GIVES  
CHILDREN  
A CHANCE  
TO PRACTICE WHAT  
THEY ARE  
LEARNING.  
-MR. ROGERS



# From Farm to Table with Mary

You know what comes from the kitchen is good when parent's joke about "to-go containers" for themselves as they drop off in the morning! We are blessed here at KKLC to provide the highest quality meals to our children and our staff! Miss Mary serves made from scratch meals with the finest ingredients! Fresh fruit is served to children daily and our beef is sourced from local farmers!

## Loaded Baked Potato Soup

### Ingredients Needed-

- 4 large potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 4 tbsp butter
- 1/2 med onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 1/2 cups of whole milk
- 2 1/2 cups of chicken broth
- 1 cup mild or sharp cheddar, shredded
- 3/4 cup sour cream
- 1 tsp salt, or to taste
- 1/4 tsp pepper, or to taste
- Green onions, to serve



### Instructions-

1. Place sliced potatoes into a stockpot and completely cover with 1" of water. Season with  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp salt and cook 8-10 minutes or until potatoes pierce easily with a knife then drain.
2. Meanwhile, saute bacon in a dutch oven until crispy then transfer to a plate, reserving 1 Tbsp bacon grease in the pot.
3. Add 4 Tbsp butter and chopped onions then saute until tender. Add garlic and cook another minute until fragrant.
4. Quickly whisk in the flour. Slowly add 2 1/2 cups milk and 2 1/2 cups broth, whisking constantly then bring to a soft boil.
5. Add drained potatoes and season soup with 1 tsp salt and 1/4 tsp pepper or season to taste
6. Stir in 3/4 cup sour cream, 1 cup shredded cheddar, and half half of your cooked bacon (reserving the rest for serving). Bring to a boil then remove from heat and serve with your favorite toppings.

## STAFF TOP 5 PICKS FROM MARY'S KITCHEN

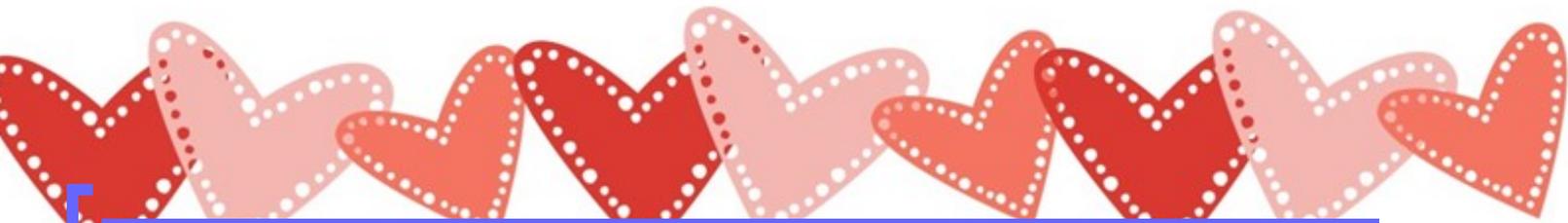
1. Loaded Baked Potato Soup
2. Chicken Fettuccini Alfredo
3. Tomato Tortellini Soup
4. Taco Casserole
5. Chicken Bacon Ranch Pasta

Miss Mary has been with KKLC since 2010. She started in various classrooms and eventually became the cook. She is currently cooking not only for KKLC but for our sister center, CCLC as well. She and Miss Tiffany keep the kitchen going and our bellies full! Miss Mary's favorite thing about being the cook is when the kids really enjoy the food she makes! Miss Tiffany's favorite thing about being in the kitchen is to help Miss Mary cook fresh and healthy meals.

New menus are available monthly! If you see something you would like a recipe for just stop and ask Mary! She's always happy to share!



# Kountry Kids



# FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Groundhog Day! 	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Lincoln's Birthday! 	13	14 Valentine's Day! Class Parties! 	15	16	17
18	19 President's Day! KKLC Closed 	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

## Using Groundhog Day for fun in your own home!



According to legend, groundhogs can predict the beginning of Spring. On February 2nd, Groundhog Day, the famous groundhog Punxsutawney Phil wakes up and if he sees his shadow he goes back in his den for 6 six weeks, indicating 6 more weeks of Winter. If he doesn't see his shadow, Spring will come early!!

Use this opportunity to bring fun activities into your home! In Early Childhood we call these, *teachable moments!* The opportunity to learn in the moment based on interest, events, or questions from your child!

### Here are some ideas for fun at home:

- Reading books for Groundhogs
- Find a fun snack to make together
- Talk about shadow, grab a flashlight and make shadow puppets!
- Take a poll in your house to try to guess what the groundhog will choose!
- Get outside & talk about the weather!! (Dress appropriately of course kids thrive with time outside!)