

# Waterloo Cooperative Preschool Newsletter

February 2018

A Place to Grow...

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*Teacher Tracey's  
Letter*

## Teacher Tracey's Letter

February is month of fun filled activities and a friendship festival! We focus on: fine motor work and literacy in our writing centre, and discover more about our feelings than ever before, focusing on love and friendship skills!

*Reminders*

*Speaking in Third  
Person*

We continue our Jolly Phonics program with letters O, F, and L. We are sure to have lots of fun finding those sounds in our everyday activities!

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We are welcoming a few new ECE and Laurier students into our classroom. Their volunteerism greatly benefits both our classroom and our preschool children directly, and we thank them for their contributions to our program!

February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentine's Day



**Please be reminded:** We do not give out treats and candy during this time. Alternatively, we would ask that we use this time to promote literacy skills; using pencils, writing names and making things for others. We encourage children to have fun making Valentines for their peers; using our fine motor and penmanship skills to write their own names on their cards to their classmates.

For the Toddler and Preschool programs, children are encouraged to write: "To a Friend," on their cards, so the Valentines are easily delivered to all of their peers. A class list will be provided to the Kinder Prep class, should the children wish to address their Valentine's specifically. All our children will create their own "mail boxes" and will be able to deliver their small cards to their classmates.

**Please no candy.** Should you absolutely wish, please ensure all goodies are delivered directly to the childrens' cubbies, as they will not be able to enjoy them in the classroom.

We will be closed for Family Day on Monday February 19th!

Tracey 😊



## February Events

Week of:

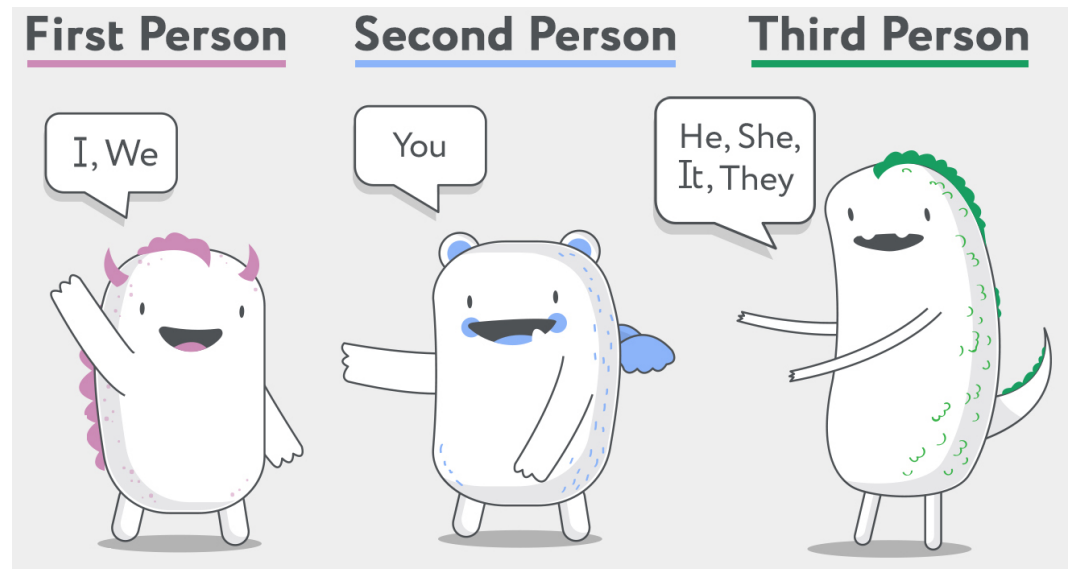
February 5<sup>th</sup> – Feelings & Emotions, Building Unit

February 12<sup>th</sup> – Friendship Festival, Mail Centre

February 20<sup>th</sup> – Duck, Duck Goose

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Simon Says

## Speaking in Third Person



### What Using the Third Person is:

Your toddler may not understand the concept of “I” or “me” until they’re close to three. Since they talk about themselves a lot — after all, a toddler’s favorite topic is themselves — but doesn’t yet know about “I” or “me,” they resort to using the third person (“Bobby want cookie” or “Bobby sit here?”).

### **Why Toddlers Use the Third Person to Refer to Themselves:**

Your tot might call themselves by their first name for the same reason they mix up “him” and “her” and other toddler words—they’re still learning to use pronouns and haven’t yet aced the usage. As well, if you and your partner regularly use the third person when referring to yourselves, your child may be imitating you.

For example: “Mommy is getting a glass of water” or “Daddy is going to change his clothes”

### **What to Know About Your Toddler Using the Third Person:**

This language development quirk should go away a few months after it first appears, say experts at the American Academy of Pediatrics. In the unlikely event that your toddler is still using the third person to refer to themselves when they turn four, talk to your pediatrician, who might suggest a sit-down with a speech pathologist.

### **How to Help Your Toddler Use “Me” and “I”:**

- **Read to your child.** Most preschool-age books are designed to clarify language rules, like how to use the third person, so start cracking them open often and make [reading to your toddler](#) a daily treat. Some books mimic baby talk, so skim through first before buying or checking them out of the library.
- **Watch your words.** It’s natural to speak in the third person around your tot — saying things like, “Mommy’s going to go take a shower” — when you want your little one to learn what to call you. But do your best to break yourself (and your partner, if need be) of this habit so that your toddler will follow suit. Teach them how to call themselves “I” by instead saying, “I am going to go take a shower” (by the way, congrats on finding time to take a shower!).
- **Bring your buddy to gatherings.** Place your little linguist in lots of social situations — they’ll likely learn what to call themselves when they chat more with people and begins to model how others speak.