

THE VOICE



Winter is full of fun!

Housekeeping

1. Break day, no school: Friday, February 18th
2. Stat holiday, no school: Monday, February 21st
3. Parent teacher conferences, no school: Tuesday, February 22nd
4. Spirt Day: Wednesday, February 23rd



A Message From Our Director of Education

Dear Family, Friends, and Staff,

Although the shortest month of the year, February is a busy time for us at the centre with lots of activities going on.

On Friday, February 4th we will be celebrating the Lunar New Year outside (weather permitting). We will sing songs, make lots of noise with our bubble wrap “fire crackers”, enjoy some delicious oranges, and get out the brooms to sweep away any bad luck! Our themes this month are all about friendship, kindness, and emotions, which fits in nicely with our Valentine’s Day activities. February is also Black History month, a time to celebrate and remember all the wonderful ways people in the Black community have contributed to our history, art, and culture.

We will have IEP/teacher parent conferences on Tuesday, February 22nd. Your child’s teacher will provide you with more details in the following weeks.

Lastly, Spirit Day this month also happens to fall on Anti-Bullying Day! On this day we address the issues of bullying and how to be kinder to each other. Children can also come dressed in a pink shirt in support of the day or wear their blue CHSC t-shirt.

Have a great February!

Yours Sincerely,



Loretta Richardson
Director of Education



Lunar New Year!



Tuesday, February 1st is the start of the Lunar New Year where we'll say goodbye to the Ox and hello to the the Tiger! People who fall under the Tiger zodiac are said to be natural leaders, strong, assertive, brave, and inspiring!

Did you know that tigers have extremely acute hearing? Cats in general can hear sounds up to 60 kHz, whereas a human's upper auditory range is about 20 kHz. Their ability to detect really high pitched sounds enables them to hear their prey! They can also rotate their ears like a radar dish to hear potential prey deep in the forest.

In addition to their great sense of hearing, tigers have the ability to produce sounds below 20Hz (human's typically can't hear below 20Hz). This low pitched sound, called infrasound, can travel long distances, cut through structures and forests, and pass through mountains, and is a helpful tool in their communication. Also, their roar is not for the faint of heart and has been clocked at frequencies bellow 18Hz and as loud as 114 decibels. For reference, hearing becomes uncomfortable for humans above 110 decibels. A tiger's hearing and communication is what makes them such great hunters!

Wishing you all a happy Lunar New Year and a big shout out to all our Tigers. Gong zi fa cai! Gung hay fat choy!



Celebrating Black History Month

Black History Month is time a where we recognize, acknowledge, and celebrate the advancements, struggles, and contributions made by people in the black community. Here are some amazing people to recognize this month, who are also part of the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Derrick Coleman

Mr. Coleman is the first legally deaf offensive player in the NFL. He lost his hearing around the age of three due to genetic reasons and wears hearing aids. He was told throughout his life that he wouldn't make it as a professional football player, but he defied the naysayers and made it to the NFL and won the Super Bowl with the Seahawks in 2014! He also launched a nonprofit Derrick L. Coleman Jr. No Excuses Foundation to give back to people in need who have hearing loss.



Tamika Catchings

Ms. Catchings is a 4 time Olympic gold medalist in basketball and a former WNBA player for the Indiana Fever. She was born with a hearing loss and wore hearing aids. She recalls in an [ESPN interview](#) "I remember being teased for the way I looked with my big, clunky hearing aids and the speech problems that accompanied the hearing impairment. Every day was a challenge for me...In the classroom kids could make fun of me for being different. On the soccer field (my first sport) and eventually on the basketball court, they couldn't..."



Connie Briscoe

Ms. Briscoe is a New York Times bestselling author of romantic and historical fiction. Born with a hearing loss, she wore hearing aids and eventually received a cochlear implant. However, her hearing loss never slowed her down! Some of her popular works include "Money Can't Buy Love" and "Big Girls Don't Cry" and appeared on numerous best sellers lists. Her first novel, "Sisters and Lovers", sold more than 600,000 copies!



February Themes



The themes this month are fitting for Valentines Day and will focus on:

FRIENDSHIP, KINDNESS, & EMOTIONS

Some of the BIG Ideas include:

1. We experience a range of emotions
2. There are many ways to demonstrate kindness to others
3. Valentines day is a special day when we celebrate friends and people we love
4. Everyone has a family and all families look different

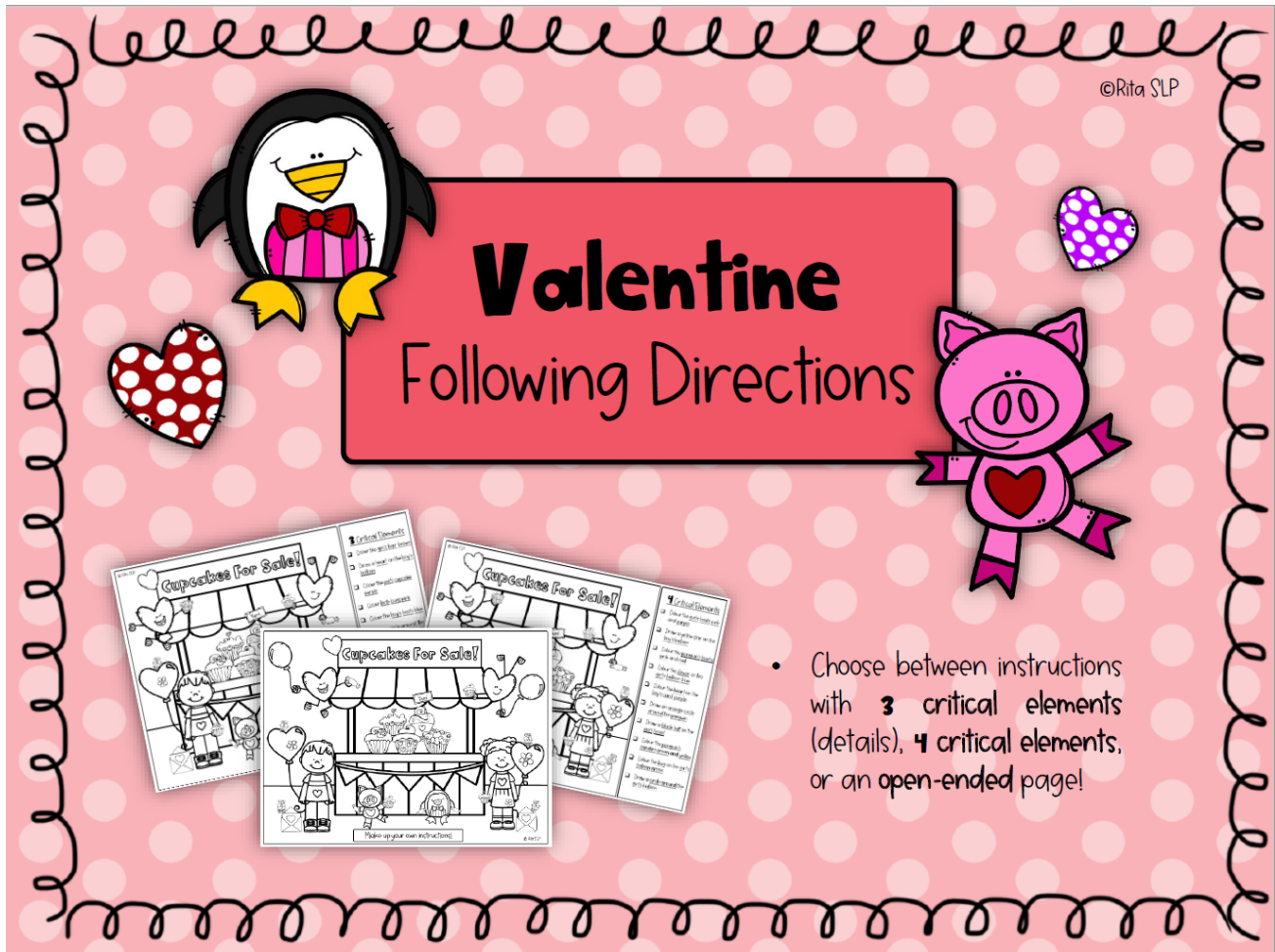
This Valentines Day our students will have the opportunity to make a beaded friendship bracelet and then give their bracelet to another student at the centre! Each student will get to make and receive a bracelet, thereby putting our themes of friendship, kindness, and emotions into practice!



Activity Time!

Here's a fun Valentines Day Activity courtesy of our SLP Rita! [Click Here for full](#)

[Activity!](#)



The graphic features a pink background with white polka dots and a black scalloped border. At the top right, it says "©Rita SLP". In the center, a red box contains the text "Valentine Following Directions". To the left is a penguin holding a pink gift box, and to the right is a pink pig with a red heart on its chest. Below the central text are four sample activity cards titled "Cupcakes For Sale!" with numbered instructions. A list of instructions is also provided on the right side of the graphic.

Choose between instructions with **3** critical elements (details), **4** critical elements, or an open-ended page!

