



## UNO Child Care Center Chronicle

### January 2026

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#### Happenings: Mark Your Calendars

##### UNO Child Care Center Closed

**Monday, January 19, 2026**—In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.  
We will re-open on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 6:30 A.M.

##### The UNO Child Care Center CLOSES promptly at 5:30 P.M.

Please make sure you are here by 5:30 P.M. to pick up your child. Your account will be charged \$1.00 late pick-up fee for every minute you are late picking up your child past 5:31 PM and you will be responsible for paying this fee. If you are unable to be here by 5:30 P.M., please make other arrangements to have someone else pick up your child. You need to call the Child Care Center and let us know. We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

##### Winter Weather Outside Play

The children do play outside and will go for walks on campus. With the weather getting cooler, please make sure your child has a jacket/coat, hat, and/or gloves for outdoor play. As long as the temperature, including wind chill, is above 32 degrees, the children will be able to play outdoors.

##### Illness Reminder

As wintertime approaches, so do illnesses. Remember that if your child is experiencing any illness type symptoms, to please keep them at home. If your child develops a fever of 100.4 or above, your child must be fever free without the aid of Tylenol or Ibuprofen before they can return. If your child has vomited or had diarrhea 2 or more times in a 24-hour period, and/or develop additional symptoms, they must be out for 24 hours, symptoms improving before returning. If your child is diagnosed with an illness, please let us know.

##### Inclement Weather Guidance

Please listen to your local news and radio stations for updates on closings or check the UNO announcement web page. If you see that UNO has closed, then the UNO Child Care Center is also closed. If UNO has a late start, the UNO Child Care Center will open 30 minutes prior to the start time. Example: If UNO has a 10 A.M. late start, the UNO Child Care Center will open at 9:30 A.M. If UNO closes early, the UNO Child Care Center will close 30 minutes after that time. (Example: If UNO closes at 3 P.M., then the UNO Child Care Center will close by 3:30 P.M.). I will send out an email to families and staff informing you of any closures or late starts. Please make sure that we have your correct or updated email address(es).



## Happy Birthday!

- 8 – Kelly H.
- 13 – Daniela M-L
- 19 – Iсиаk S.



## February

### American Heart Month

- 2 – Groundhog Day
- 4 – World Read Aloud Day
- 8 – Super Bowl
- 14 – Valentine's Day
- 16 – President's Day, CCC open
- 17 – Mardi Gras

## Reading Fun!

Book Orders for this month are due on **Friday, January 16, 2026!**

Books are an important part of a child's development and can help your child gain pre-literacy skills. When you order your child's books through Scholastic Book Orders, the center earns points to use towards free books and educational materials we scan use in the classrooms!

Please visit <https://orders.scholastic.com/GKFX> to order.

If this is your first time ordering online, you will need to create an account using our center's code GKFX. This is the center's account under "Dawn Hove." Please make sure you are using this account, or your order may not be processed. You will be able to pay online, and the books will be delivered to the center.

Happy Reading!

## January

### National Soup Month

- 1 – New Year's Day, CCC closed
- 2 – Winter Shutdown, CCC closed
- 5 – Child Care Center re-opens
- 12 – UNO Spring Semester Begins
- 15 – National Hat Day
- 19 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day, CCC closed
- 23 – National Pie Day

## Recommended Books for the Month

- January is the start of a new year. With the new year, come resolutions. Why don't you resolve to expand your child's library with some good books? Here are some books that we recommend:
  - Terrible Storm by Carol Otis Hurst
  - The Snowy Nap by Jan Brett
  - Ten Ways to Hear Snow by Cathy Camper
  - Colour and Me by Michaela Dias-Hayes
  - Daisy's Dragons by Frances Stickley and Annabel Tempest
  - Wintergarden by Janet Fox
  - Go, Sled! Go! By James Yang
  - Malaika's Winter Carnival by Nadia L. Hohn
  - The Snow Monster by Jodi Dee
  - A Big Bed for Little Snow
  - Samson in the Snow by Philip C. Stead



## Talk With Toddlers

Happy New Year!

Welcome to the spring semester and 2026! We are looking forward to a fun-filled January.

Our theme this month is transportation. This is a fun theme, and we look forward to all the learning activities that are being planned!

The letters for the month are M, N, and O; the numbers are 10 & 11; the color is white, and the shape of the month is diamond.

We never know what kind of weather we will have in January and February, so the toddler staff are working to provide activities that can be done at home in case of inclement weather. We want to make sure that our families stay busy and happy during these winter months.

Thank you to our families for the holiday gifts and treats. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated, and we hope you enjoyed your time with family and friends!

Parent Reminders:

- Make sure you are providing a change of clothes, including socks and shoes in your child's tubbie.
- We will try to play outside if the weather allows us to. Please provide hats, coats, and mittens so that your child can enjoy outdoor play.
- Please bring in a container of diaper wipes for the month of January

"Time spent playing with children is never wasted" – Dawn Lantero

Mr. Fred and the Toddler Teachers



## Time With Transition

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a relaxing holiday break. We would like to welcome all our new friends from Toddler 2. This semester, Mae, Luna, Carson, Elena, and Ofelia have joined our class. We look forward to watching them learn and grow over the semester! Our new friends tubbies and coat hooks have moved over by our classroom, so this is a great opportunity for **all** our Transition friends to be checking their tubbies and backpacks for extra clothes. Please take a moment to ensure your child has extra weather-appropriate clothing and shoes in case of spills or accidents.

We have many fun activities planned for the month of January. Our Themes this month are Nutrition and Exercise; Winter, Snow, and Ice; Setting Goals – Cause and Effect; Safe Choices and Helping Others. Our Letters are L, M, & N and our numbers are 12 and 13. Our color for the month is blue and our shape is the diamond.

Please make sure you are checking your child's daily sheet so you can stay up to date on what is happening in the Transition room. We also use the sheet to send home reminders of things your child may need, like diapers or clothes.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via email or during my scheduled hours at the center. My email is aleciakeller@unomaha.edu.

Let us have a great 2026!

Ms. Alecia and the Transition Staff



## Preschool Perspective

Welcome to the Spring Semester!

This month, we have a winter theme going on! We will be talking about Winter Clothing, Snow, Snow people, and Ice; Arctic Animals; and Nursery Rhymes. Our letters for the month are M, N, & O. The numbers are 13, 14 and 15. The color for the month is yellow and the shape is oval. Hopefully, we get a little bit of snow to add to all of the exciting learning activities that are planned!

We were so happy to welcome and reconnect with Sarely, Wolfgang, Isla, Malayah, and Anakin! Our friends are having a great time playing with preschool friends and learning!

Some reminders:

- Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for playing outside. We do go outside whenever the weather permits and we are excited to use the lower half of the back playground now that the fence is completely repaired!
- Check your child's mailbox daily. The children enjoy using the art center and love to take their masterpieces home along with any of our completed daily activities. Sometimes those mailboxes fill up quickly!
- Make sure your child has a seasonably appropriate change of clothing in their tubby. You never know when something will happen and your child will need to change.

We are looking forward to a great month and semester, growing and learning together!

Ms. Monica and the Preschool Teachers



## Pre-K Press Release

Dear Pre-K Parents,

Happy New Year!!!

This month's theme is My Body and Five Senses. Our letters are M, N, & O and the numbers are 13, 14, and 15. Our Color of the month is yellow and the shape is oval. We have started introducing sight words this month as well!

As we look ahead in the semester we will start to slowly shorten nap. We will start the process in March. We will give you more information about this process in February.

As a reminder, please check to see if your child has an extra change of clothes in their tubby, you never know when they might need a change of clothes.

Please check your child's hook and mailbox daily. We would like to have you bring back your child's red folder so we can use it to send home learning extensions.

As always if you have any questions, please let me know.

Mrs. Patty and the Pre-K Staff



## Parent Corner

### Omaha Public Schools and Bellevue Public Schools Kindergarten Round-up Information

Does your child turn five by July 31, 2026? Enroll your child in kindergarten for the 2026-27 school year. We cannot wait to meet them! This year, all elementary schools will hold a district-wide **Kindergarten Registration on Jan. 16, 2026**. This replaces the former Kindergarten Round-up.

This exciting event brings families together at their [neighborhood school](#) to get ready for kindergarten next year. Your child will meet teachers and spend time in their future classrooms while you learn about the school and register.

This event is the best way to get connected before school begins in August.

Choose your time to visit your neighborhood school on Jan. 16, 2026:

- Session 1: 2 - 3 p.m.
- Session 2: 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

No need to sign up. Pick what works best for your family - both sessions offer the same great experience!

- Meet school leadership, staff and other families
- See learning spaces and materials
- Get help registering your student
- Activities for your student while you learn more about the school

Bring these documents along to help with registration:

- Birth Certificate – student must be five years old before July 31
- Proof of Address - Acceptable documents must have the name of the parent/guardian and current within 3 months:
  - OPPD / MUD utility statements
  - Cox Cable or Century Link statements
  - Mortgage Statements
  - Rental agreements
  - HHS Statements (dated)
- Immunization Records (if available)

Questions? Contact your neighborhood elementary school for more information.

### 4 Things Kindergarten Teachers Want You to Know

by Karen and Tom Buchanan (NAEYC On-line Resource)

Kindergarten teachers are passionate about partnering with the families of their students. When families and teachers work together, kids win! Here are four things that kindergarten teachers want you know.

#### 1. Parents Play a Critical Role

Kindergarten teachers value you as your child's first teacher. They are honored to take their place as another significant adult in your child's life. Kindergarten teachers want to facilitate your child's continued development and help him learn how to be a successful student in a school setting.

##### What you can do:

- Welcome your child's kindergarten teachers as an important partner in your child's development.
- Share what you have discovered about how your child learns and include examples of times when your child has learned something new.

#### 2. The Value of Families and Teachers Working Together as Partners is Research-Based

Research tells us that when families are involved, children do better academically and socially. Kindergarten teachers are committed to developing a collaborative partnership with your family on behalf of your child's growth and development.

##### What you can do:

- Tell the teacher that you sincerely want to work with them to help your child learn and grow.
- Ask the teacher to offer specific ideas and strategies that will involve you in your child's learning.

#### 3. Communication is Key

Communication with families is such a high priority that kindergarten teachers are willing to use a variety of methods to correspond. Some parents prefer to connect via email or text, while others prefer to receive a phone call or a printed letter in their child's backpack. Kindergarten teachers want to communicate in the ways that make sense for you and your family.

##### What you can do:

- Ask the teacher the best way to access information about the classroom and the school.
- Share with the teacher your preferred method of communication.

#### 4. Teachers Want to Know What Makes Your Family Unique

The families we work with have varied backgrounds and different configurations. Kindergarten teachers want you to know that they value the distinctiveness of your family. Learning about those qualities and values that make your family unique, improve our ability to partner in the healthy development of your child.

##### What you can do:

- Tell your child's teacher about the unique characteristics of your family.
- Let the teacher know about family changes and challenges at home that may impact your child's attitudes and behaviors at school.

Building bridges between kindergarten teachers and families is an important step in supporting your child's learning and development.