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Dear La Maternelle French Academy Families,

Au revoir, January, with its unpredictable rollercoaster of weather storms, endless rain, and biting cold.

Bonjour, February! The shortest month of the year brings with it themes of love, friendship, and kindness, alongside Valentine's Day.

This month, we will explore **love**, **friendship**, **and kindness** in our activities and discussions. We encourage everyone to go the extra mile by practicing and modeling acts of kindness throughout February.



Upcoming Events and Important Dates

Valentine's Day Celebration - February 14th

To celebrate love and friendship, please have your child wear Valentine's Day colors—red to light pink—on **Friday, February 14th**. We'll have special themed activities to make the day extra memorable!



February Birthdays

This month, we'll sing "Joyeux Anniversaire" to Mathias and André on their special day!

School Closure - February 17th

In observance of Presidents' Day, school will be closed on Friday, February 17th.

Mardi Gras Parade - March 4th

The spirit of New Orleans comes alive at La Maternelle! This month, children will begin crafting their Mardi Gras costumes as part of their creative curriculum. Get ready for our festive **Parade Day** on **Monday, March 4th**. Stay tuned for more details!

Health and Safety Update

We've seen an increase in students experiencing fever, runny noses, coughs, and fatigue. Let's work together to keep everyone healthy. Please:

- **Keep sick children at home** until they are fully recovered.
- Notify us of any diagnosed illnesses or symptoms.
- Encourage frequent handwashing and hydration at home.



Your child's safety is our priority. Please stay informed about recent product recalls:

<u>CPSC Warns Consumers to Immediately Stop Using Babypark Sling Carriers Due to Fall</u> Hazard; Violations of the Federal Regulation for Sling Carriers



Yaomiao Children's Jewelry Sets Recalled Due to Risk of Lead and Cadmium Poisoning; Violations of the Federal Lead Content Ban and Federal Hazardous Substances Act; Sold Exclusively on Amazon by LordRoads | CPSC.gov

Duluth Trading Company Recalls Children's Holiday Pajama Sets Due to Burn Hazard; Violation of Federal Flammability Regulations for Children's Sleepwear; Sold Exclusively by Duluth Trading Company | CPSC.gov

If you're ever unsure about items your child brings to school, please don't hesitate to check with us.



Friendly Reminders

1. Daily Check-In/Out

Use the Brightwheel App kiosks and ensure proper PIN entry.

- 2. Lunchbox Essentials
 - o A **lunch box** and **water bottle** (NO juice, please)
 - o Silverware and napkin
 - o An ice pack for cold items
 - o Avoid **aluminum foil** if food needs reheating
- 3. Blankets

Please pick up your child's blankets every **Friday** for washing and return them on **Monday**.

4. School hours are from **7:30 AM to 3:30 PM**, with a **30-minute grace period** for pick-up. Any pick-up after **4:00 PM** will be considered **aftercare**.



What's New This Month?

1. Parent Lending Library Update

We have adult books available in **French** for parents! Borrow a book and enjoy reading in your free time.



2. Classroom Spotlight

This month, we'll be sharing highlights from our classrooms, including creative crafts, Valentine's Day kindness projects, and Mardi Gras preparations. Keep an eye out for photos on Brightwheel!

3. Community Resources

Looking for something to do as a family?

Sat, Feb 1: 2025 Lunar New Year Festival: Year of the Snake

Sat, Feb 1: Bookworm Book Festival

Thu, Feb 6: Cirque du Soleil ECHO at Sam Houston Race Park

Fri, Feb 7: <u>Humble Rodeo</u>

Sat, Feb 8: <u>Harlem Globetrotters - Houston</u>

Tue, Feb 11: Celebrate Black History Month with the African American Read-In: Join Us for

a Community Literacy Event

Fri, Feb 14: Out of School Fun 2024-2025
Fri, Feb 14: TotalTech School Break Camps

Sat, Feb 15: The Moth Project Live - Houston Debut Saturday, February 15

Mon, Feb 17: Valentine's Parent's Day Out - Texas Star Gymnastics

Tue, Mar 4: <u>Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo</u> Sat, Mar 22: International Art & Kite Festival 2025

Sat, Mar 22: <u>Heights Kids' Day of Music</u> Thu, Mar 27: <u>South Texas State Fair</u> Sat, Mar 29: <u>Holi Festival of Colors</u>

We hope February brings warmth, joy, and countless cherished moments with your children. Thank you for being part of our wonderful La Maternelle community.

Merci beaucoup,

La Maternelle French Academy Team