

UTC Children's Center Newsletter February 2026

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Information Sources for Weather-Related Campus Schedule or Operations Changes

- Email message sent via campus-wide listservs:
@UTC-INFO, @UTC-NEWS and @SCRAPPY
- Text message to all [UTC-ALERT](#) followers
- Digital displays on building/classroom messaging boards
- RSS feed/home page bulletin on utc.edu
- UTC official social media accounts
 - [@UTChattanooga](#) (Twitter)
 - [Facebook.com/UTChattanooga](https://www.facebook.com/UTChattanooga)
- Media advisory to all Chattanooga and regional news media
- On-campus NPR affiliate WUTC-FM 88.1
- Recorded telephone voice message at:
 - UTC Main Switchboard 423-425-4111
 - UTC Inclement Weather 423-425-4766
 - UTC Communications and Marketing 423-425-4363



Special Announcements

Insurance

Dear Parents,

Regardless of how diligent we are, how closely we supervise your child/children, or how carefully we equip the rooms, there may still be accidents. We are now able to ensure that every child is protected by an insurance policy specifically for the time your child/children are in our care.

The University has obtained an accident insurance policy for the children enrolled in the Children's Center. The coverage dates are January 1, 2026- December 31, 2026. This policy is an "excess policy" and will pick up after primary insurance benefits. It is on a voluntary basis if you wish to get this coverage for your child/children. The premium per year is \$5.58 per child. If you wish to have your child/children covered by this policy, please return the form to Ms. Jackie or Ms. Doreen. The insurance premium will be added to the ledger sheet, and you can pay with your regular tuition payments.

Again, this is a voluntary enrollment—you are not required to obtain this insurance coverage.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Jackie-tate@utc.edu or Doreen-Watt@utc.edu

Thank you!

UTCCC

Tax Documents

2025 tax statements are available by request. Please email Jackie or Doreen for more information

Lead Coordinator: Cindy Hornsby
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<u>UTCCC Battle Academy Site</u>

Site Coordinator: Regis Richard
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<u>Infants:</u> Katie Griffin (interim)
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<u>Young Toddlers:</u> TK Brooks, Christin Harvey, Nadia Burris
--

<u>Older Toddlers:</u> Amy Blackburn, Jheri Cabral

<u>Preschool:</u> Jean Walston, Nardia Ingram
--

<u>Pre-K:</u> Emma Gray, Sunny Smith

Staff Floaters: Kathryn Friedle
--

Administrative Support Assistant: Doreen Watt
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<u>UTCCC Brown Academy Site</u>
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Site Coordinator: Kristen Mounce

<u>Infants A:</u> Katie Griffin, Tiffany Vick
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<u>Infants B:</u> Taylor Parker
--

<u>Toddler 1:</u> Macaria Hudson, Veronica Banks, Tionna Wright
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<u>Toddler 2:</u> Jennifer Hunt, Jasmine Jackson

<u>Preschool 1:</u> Ashley Burnette, Hannah Antone

<u>Preschool 2:</u> Andrenique Moore, Jada McCray
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<u>Pre-K:</u> Shawn Winters, Angela Mackler
--

Staff Floaters: Millie Tramel, Amarree Hardaway
--

Administrative Specialist: Jackie Tate

<u>Little Miss Mag at UTC</u>

Site Coordinator: Jameshia Borders

ECS/Teacher Trainer: Ann Mayer

<u>Infants A:</u> Shakira Roberts
--

<u>Infants B:</u> Lori Adkins, Tashia White
--

<u>Infants C:</u> Tavia Blanks, Wallika Sheckley

<u>Toddler 1A:</u> Amy Hansen, Mo Diaello, Shianne Tirado
--

<u>Toddler 1B:</u> Tehya Long, Katie Robinson
--

<u>Toddler 2A:</u> Sarah Trumbore, Payton Smith
--

<u>Toddler 2B:</u> Pearlene Kelly, D'anerys Doe
--

<u>Preschool:</u> Taylor Winnie, Amanda Anders

<u>Pre-K:</u> Beverly Eller, Andi Callahan

Staff Floater Samantha Derryberry
--

Administrative Assistant: Cecily Macomber
--

Front Desk Volunteer: Parker Davis

UTC Children's Center at Battle Academy

Infants

Hello families!

Wow! What a wild whirlwind of a winter month! We have had so many changes to our classroom, most excitingly our new friends! I can't thank you all enough for your help and support during our transition time. We loved learning about different Arctic and Antarctic animals and music. This month we will be learning about Dinosaurs, Eric Carle, and pets!

Our Dinosaur party is February 13th at 3:15; we hope that you can join us for some fun and games!

Thank you,

Ms. Katie

Young Toddlers

February in YT we will be focusing on friendship and sharing! We will make cards and art for our friends and have sweet treats to celebrate friendship in our classroom and Center! Sharing is an ever-flowing project in Toddlerhood- but we will be highlighting all the fun ways to share with friends! :)

Through our explorations with art and making treats, we will also learn about the colors pink and red! We will get to mix and match these colors and see how they show up all around us (and even more so in February.) Lastly, we will be investigating shapes— hearts, squares, rectangles— and using a variety of tools & materials to create our own unique shapes (and colors!)

If you'd like to bring any goodies to share with the class, we welcome that! As well as cards, etc. to share/exchange! We're looking forward to highlighting the great friendships we have here in YT and at UTC-CC!

YT CLASS

Older Toddlers



For the month of February, we will be discussing shapes. The Older Toddlers will explore all the shapes in their indoor and outdoor environments. We will also be discussing the differences in shapes, how many sides they have, learning to draw some shapes and going on shape hunts. We would love for you to take your child on nature walks or walks around the house to see what shapes you can find outside of school.

Thank you for your support!

Ms. Amy and Ms. Jheri

Preschool

Dear Parents,

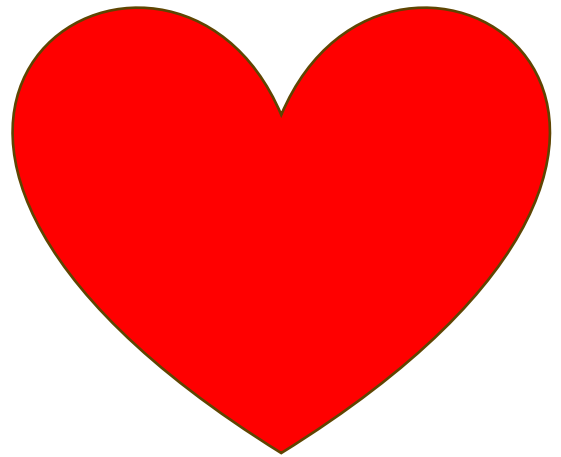
I am so proud of all our snow people! Everyone did a great job and it was such a fun project!

January was a busy month. We have learned:

- Ice crystals make snow
- Snowflakes are different shapes and sizes
- We need to wear warm clothing for winter weather
- Some animals hibernate during winter

For the month of February, our units include:

- Healthy hearts
- Friendship and Valentine's Day
- Post office
- Dental health
- Groundhog Day
- Black History

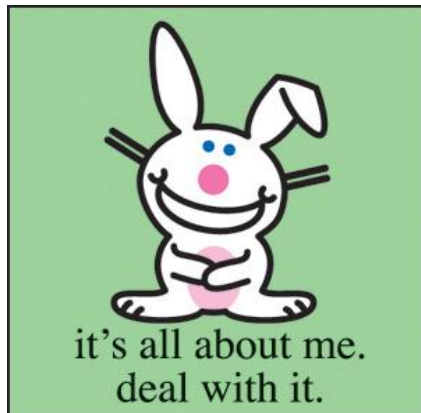


Please send in a small box or shoe box with your child by February 3. We will be decorating our boxes for Valentine's Day.

As always, thank you for your support,

Ms. Jean and Ms. Nardia

Pre-K



Hi families! We had a fun January learning about arctic animals and also exploring all kinds of habitats. In February, Pre-K will be doing an All About Me unit! We have lots of fun projects planned to get to know our classmates better. We will add a Friendship theme to go along with this and then lead into our annual Friendship Party. Be on the lookout for the date on that! Lastly, as you have probably noticed, Miss Sunny has been out of the room more recently. She has to leave for a few hours each day for part of her graduate program. We are glad to have help from Miss Kenedy and our other student workers when she is out!

Thanks as always for the support!

- PreK

UTC Children's Center at Brown Academy Infant A

It's been a wild baby winter! We loved learning about different Arctic and Antarctic animals and music. This month we will be learning about Dinosaurs, food, and pets!

I would like to encourage you all to continue communicating with Tiffany and I while I am helping in the infant room at Battle while we find the perfect match for the classroom teachers

Our Dinosaur party is February 13th at 3:15; we hope that you can join us for some fun and games!

Thank you,

Tiffany and Katie

Infant B

Hello, families! I hope you all had a great January! This past month we explored the topics of winter and snow. In February we look forward to learning about friendship and kindness, Groundhog Day, and dinosaurs. In February our friends Ellis, Owen, and Zeela will be moving to the Toddler One room! We will miss them dearly, but we are so excited that they will have new fun adventures with their new friends and teachers. Our friend Ellis also celebrates his first birthday this February, Happy Birthday Ellis!



Thank you for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to another wonderful month of learning, growing, and playing together!

Ms. Taylor

Toddler 1

Dear Toddler 1 Families,

I hope everyone had a great month! As January comes to an end, I'd like to say the kids had a great time learning about their shapes and colors!! In February, we will learn about friendship, love and hearts, and feelings and emotions! Additionally, T1 would like to say goodbye to our friends John, Abel, Sophie, Joelle, and Linnea as they move up to T2. We will miss them, however, we are excited to welcome Zeela, Owen, and Ellis to our family!



Here are some important reminders:

- Please remember to send a jacket with your child to school.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Email, text, or reach out on Procure, and I'll get back to you as soon as I can.

Ms. Macaria, Ms. Veronica, and Ms. Tionna

Toddler 2



Dear Toddler 2 Parents,

It's so hard to believe that it is already February! We are welcoming five new friends to our class this month. Abel, Joelle, John, Linnea, and Sophie will be joining us from Toddler 1. We are looking forward to having these friends in our class. Please help them and their families feel welcome in their new classroom.

This month, we will be learning about groundhogs, the Olympics, friendship, and feelings. We will also be having a "Friendship Party" on Friday, February 13th at 4:00. Please feel free to come join us for snacks. If you can help, there will be a list posted on the wall outside our classroom door. Also, feel free to bring in friendship cards or treats, if you would like to do so. Please do not feel obligated to participate. I will send out a list of children in class, for those who would like to do this.

Hopefully, we will be able to enjoy warmer weather this month! Here are just a few reminders:

- Please make sure to bring a full set of warm clothes (including SOCKS and SHOES) to keep in your child's cubby bags. Two is a busy age, and you never know what sort of messes we might get into!
- In the event of inclement weather, remember that we close with UTC, not Hamilton County. If you have not, you may want to sign up for the UTC text alerts. We will also pass information along through our Procure.

Thank you all for your continued support and help! Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Ms. Jasmine and Ms. Jennifer

Preschool 1

Dear Preschool One Families,

February is here! In January, we loved learning about winter, snow, and arctic animals. I hope we get some more snow, so the kids can try out some of the winter activities we learned about. They seemed especially excited about snowmen and snowball fights!

This month we are going to learn all about our feelings and emotions, Valentine's Day, friendship, and family. On Friday, February 13th, we will have a friendship/Valentine's Day party in class. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet!

This month is going to be a fun one! If you have any questions, please let me know.

Looking forward to another great month!

- Ms. Ashley and Ms. Hannah



Preschool 2

So excited to say Ms. A has returned!

We are excited to welcome Ms. A back to Preschool 2. The children are adjusting well, and we appreciate your patience and support as we continue this transition together. We're looking forward to a great month of learning, growth, and fun.

What We Learned in January

During our recent lessons, Preschool 2 explored a variety of exciting topics, including:

- Winter holidays
- Zoo animals
- Science exploration and discovery
- A special field trip to the Challenger Center and UTC, where students engaged in hands-on learning experiences

The children showed curiosity, enthusiasm, and great participation throughout these activities.

What We're Learning in February

This month, we will continue building both academic and social-emotional skills. Our focus areas include:

- Being kind and respectful to our friends
- Encouraging independence and confidence
- Learning about Groundhog Day
- Valentine's Day activities centered around friendship and caring
- Continued exploration through stories, crafts, and interactive learning

Looking Ahead

February will be filled with meaningful learning moments, creativity, and social growth. Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we help your children learn and thrive.

We're excited for all that's ahead in Preschool 2.

Pre-K

Dear PreK families,



We have had a fun and busy January learning all about the Arctic, Antarctica, and animals in the wintertime.

Our upcoming February lessons will include fairy tales, folk tales, math, and more.

On Friday, February 13th, we will have a Friendship Party! This will also be a costume day. Your child is welcome to bring Valentine's cards to pass out to their friends if desired. Details to come.

Tell us if your child is going to be out of school so we can have accurate snack and lunch counts. Please be sure to send your child with appropriate clothing so they can enjoy the outdoors and always have a complete change of clothing to keep at school.

Thanks again for your support and all you do for us,

Ms. Shawn and Ms. Angela

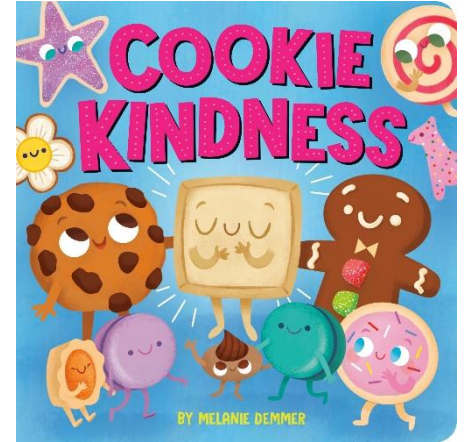


Little Miss Mag at UTC

Infant A

Greetings and salutations families,

This February we will focus on love, connection, and cozy moments. We will spend the month focusing on building secure attachments through gentle routines, one-on-one interactions, and lots of smiles, songs, and cuddles. Our focus colors are pink and red. We will learn about kindness and compassion by reading books such as *Cookie Kindness* and *Love You, Hug You, Read to You*. Your little one will also enjoy a dance party to songs such as *You Are my Sunshine*, *Love Grows*, *I Love You*, and *Beautiful Boy*. Our love inspired artwork will include splat painted hearts and cute made with love Valentine's Day cards for parents. And finally, we will explore different textures and colors using infant safe play dough and heart cookie cutter paintings.



We would also like to wish our friends Karsyn and Eleanor good luck on their move up to T1B and welcome our new friends Elliot, Nolan, and Georgia to Infant A. And as always if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (423) 320-6365 or email me at shakira-roberts@utc.edu.

Infant B

Hello Families,

As we settle into January, our classroom has been filled with cozy winter fun! We've been exploring winter through gentle, sensory-based activities like soft textures, cool colors, winter songs, and simple movement experiences that are just right for our infants. As we move into February, we'll continue building on our winter theme with even more winter-inspired play—such as snow-themed sensory bins, icy color art, mittens, and hats for dramatic play, and plenty of stories about winter weather. Whether it's snowy outside or not, we'll be bringing

the magic of winter indoors in safe, engaging ways for your little ones to explore and enjoy.

Ms. Lori & Ms. Tashia



Infant C

Hello Parents,

The infants have been busy learning all about winter! We have been talking about the different clothing we wear when it's really cold outside, and the babies enjoyed exploring items such as gloves and hats. They also had fun using white paint to create snowy pictures.

All of the babies are growing so much, learning new things, and reaching their milestones. We are so proud of them!

If you need anything, please don't hesitate to let us know.

Thank you,

Tavia and Wallika



Toddler 1-A

Dear Families,

January was a month of transition for our classroom. We welcomed our friend Quinn into our class. We are excited to learn and play with him! We had four friends—Crew, Weslyn, Arthur, and Bennett—move up to the Toddler 2 room. We will miss their energy, smiles, and laughter, but we know they are ready for wonderful new adventures and brilliant things in their new classroom.

Throughout January, we sang songs about falling snow, created snowy artwork, and explored the animals of the Arctic. It was a month full of curiosity, creativity, and learning. In February we will talk about hibernating animals, friendship and hearts. We will have a friendship snack time party on February 13th. If you would like to bring in fruit of a treat that will be great.

A reminder: Please make sure your child has the appropriate gear for the weather. We will

go outside unless the playground has too many puddles or the temperatures are freezing. Please make sure to have a change of clothes in their bags.

We appreciate your support in making these experiences enriching and enjoyable for your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Ms. Amy and Mr. Mo



Toddler 1-B

We had so much fun in T1B this month! We played with ice water, painting pictures with ice cubes, and we even made our very own snowmen! In February, we will say goodbye to Bennett and Riley as they move up to Ms. Pearlene's room in T2B. We have had so much fun with them, and we will miss having them in our class. With Bennett and Riley leaving, we are also welcoming two new friends into our classroom! We want to wish a warm welcome to Karsyn and Eleanor! We have lots of exciting things planned for February and the year ahead!



We just wanted to give a reminder about extra outfits and ensuring that they are weather appropriate outfits (don't forget a warm winter coat). Although it is winter, we do still like to go outside for a few minutes when the temperature allows.

Thank you!

Ms. Tehya & Ms. Katie

Toddler 2-A

Toddler 2-B



Theme: Random acts of kindness/ The color Red

Toddler T2-B

Hello Parents,

Please help us welcome three new friends to our class, **Riley Schellder and Bennett St. Charles from T1B and Arthur Draper from T1A.**

Our class enjoyed lots of fun things in January! The Arctic Sensory Play was the best! We engaged with the fake snow, along with the polar bear, penguins, and the walrus and ice. We made a polar bear collage with white tissue and construction paper. After reading the story "The color Penguins", We created our own penguins, choosing our own color hat to put on the penguin.

We found ice sickles on the playground, Brrrrrrrr it was cold. We enjoyed books like the "snowy day", Polar bear, Polar bear. We played with color ice cubes then put them in warm water to melt.

For the month of February, we will be learning about and sharing acts of kindness and focusing on the color red.

Thanks a lot for all your support for our class!!!!

Mrs. Pearlene and Ms. D'anerys



Preschool

Pre-K

Baby, It's Cold Outside!!! January finally brings cold weather and hopefully some much anticipated snow. We have had so much fun reading different Gingerbread Man stories, decorating gingerbread houses and Run, Running as fast as we can on the playground. We've made icicles, salt snowflake art and cut what seems like hundreds of paper snowflakes. Next month we will explore hibernating animals and make bird-seed bagels, birdfeeders and squirrel feeders. We will also be doing a lot of mitten activities to go along with *The Mitten* by Jan Brett.

Please remember to dress warmly and put names in their coats, hats and gloves. Stay safe and stay warm outside!

Ms Beverly and Ms Andi



Lunch Box Catering
Donna Laster 423-802-1938
Donnalaster@epbfi.com

February 2026 Lunch Menu

01	02 Cheese Pizza w/ Mozzarella Carrots Apples Milk	03 Creamy Chicken Noodle Bake Corn Bananas Milk	04 Beef a Roni Green Beans Oranges Milk	05 Ham and Cheese Roll-up Peas Bananas Milk	06 BBQ Chicken on Slider Bun Sweet potato Fries Apples Milk	07
08	09 Chicken Quesadilla Pinto Beans Apples Milk	10 Creamy Chicken Brown Rice Casserole Carrots Bananas Milk	11 Beef Stroganoff Corn Oranges Milk	12 Turkey and Cheese Roll-up Green Beans Bananas Milk	13 Chicken Nuggets Biscuit Tator Tots Apples Milk	14
15	16 Ham and Cheese Slider Baked Beans Apples Milk	17 Spaghetti with Meat Sauce Peas Bananas Milk	18 Chicken Alfredo Carrots Oranges Milk	19 Beef and Cheese Burrito Corn Bananas Milk	20 Cheeseburger Slider Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	21
22	23 Turkey and Cheese Slider Pinto Beans Apples	24 Baked Ziti with Beef Green Beans Bananas Milk	25 Teriyaki Chicken and Brown Rice Peas Oranges Milk	26 Ham and Cheese Roll-up Carrots Bananas Milk	27 Chicken Patty on Slider Bun Tator Tots Apples Milk	28
01	02 Beef and Cheese Burrito Baked Beans Apples Milk	03 Cheeseburger Mac Corn Bananas Milk	04 Baked Ham Mac and Cheese Green Beans Oranges Milk	05 Turkey and Cheese Slider Peas Bananas Milk	06 Chicken Tenders Biscuit Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	07



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February 2026 Lunch Menu

01	02 Cheese Pizza w/ Mozzarella Carrots Apples Milk	03 Creamy Chickpea Noodle Bake Corn Bananas Milk	04 Black Bean a Roni Green Beans Oranges Milk	05 Hummus and Cheese Roll-up Peas Bananas Milk	06 BBQ Veggies on Slider Bun Sweet potato Fries Apples Milk	07
08	09 Spinach Quesadilla Pinto Beans Apples Milk	10 Creamy Chickpea Brown Rice Casserole Carrots Bananas Milk	11 Mushroom Stroganoff Corn Oranges Milk	12 Cheese Roll- up Green Beans Bananas Milk	13 Veggie Nuggets Biscuit Tator Tots Apples Milk	14
15	16 Hummus and Cheese Slider Baked Beans Apples Milk	17 Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce Peas Bananas Milk	18 Mushroom Alfredo Carrots Oranges Milk	19 Bean and Cheese Burrito Corn Bananas Milk	20 Veggie burger Slider Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	21
22	23 Cheese Slider Pinto Beans Apples	24 Baked Ziti with Veggies Green Beans Bananas Milk	25 Teriyaki Chickpea and Brown Rice Peas Oranges Milk	26 Hummus and Cheese Roll-up Carrots Bananas Milk	27 Veggie Chicken Patty on Slider Bun Tator Tots Apples Milk	28
01	02 Bean and Cheese Burrito Baked Beans Apples Milk	03 Black Bean Mac Corn Bananas Milk	04 Roasted Veggies Mac and Cheese Green Beans Oranges Milk	05 Hummus and Cheese Slider Peas Bananas Milk	06 Veggie Tenders Biscuit Sweet Potato Fries Apples Milk	07