



The Grace Times

A World Filled With Love

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Family Love



Today, my dad came home with roses for my mom and I. "What are these for I asked?" He said that several of his co-workers were complaining about their wives and children today. He realized how lucky he was that after 20 years of marriage, and raising a daughter for the last 17 years, he still had nothing to complain about.

Finding Love



Today, when I asked my grandfather for some relationship advice, he said, "Honestly, the moment I stopped trying to find the right woman, and started trying to become the right man, your grandmother

walked up to me and said, 'Hello.'"

Friends & Lovers



Today, it's been 10 years since I told my best friend Diego that I wouldn't be able to attend the prom with him because my family was struggling to make ends meet and couldn't afford to buy me a ticket or a dress. Diego ended up buying me a dress, a ticket, and helping my folks out with money by helping my dad, who had been unemployed for six months, find a good job. Ten years, a marriage, one kid later, and Diego is still here.

Fatherly Love



Today, after nearly 12 years without a intelligible word

spoken, my deaf daughter hugged me tight and said, "I love my daddy!"

Richest Love



Today, I am a poor student, struggling to afford groceries and all the luxuries I was accustomed to. But every time I get a letter in the mail from my poppa telling me how much he loves me, or a phone call from my best friend just because she was thinking about me, I feel like the richest person in the world - in those moments I feel like I have everything I need.

Do you have any love stories you'd like to share with us? Your story could be featured in next month's issue.





HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Near You Valentine

*I am happy each day
I'm near you;
When you're around me,
I'm fine.
Now that I've said how
I like you,
Will you be my Valentine?*

-Karl and Joanna Fuchs

Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14. It is a festival of romantic love and many people give cards, letters, flowers or presents to their spouse, family, and friends. They may also arrange a romantic meal in a restaurant or night in a hotel. Common symbols of Valentine's Day are hearts, red roses and Cupid.



Background

There are a number of Saints called Valentine who are honored on February 14. The day became associated with romantic love in the Middle Ages in England. This may have followed on from the Pagan fertility festivals that were held all over Europe as the winter came to an end. Traditionally, lovers exchanged hand written notes. Commercial cards became available in the mid nineteenth century.



Symbols

Cupid is usually portrayed as a small winged figure with a bow and arrow. In mythology, he uses his arrow to strike the hearts of people. People who have fallen in love are said to be 'struck by Cupid's arrow. Other symbols of Valentine's Day are couples in loving embraces and the gifts of flowers, chocolate, red roses and lingerie that couples often give each other.

REMINDERS
 Our PTA meets on the first Tuesday of every month. Please get involved! You can and will make a difference.

 Please Parents make sure your child is here on time! School begins at 9A.M. SHARP!

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

<p>Jacqueline J. Feb. 3</p> 		<p>Zeniyah F. Feb. 16 Jahmya W. Feb. 16</p>
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Words of Wisdom



<p>"Darkness cannot drive out darkness: only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate: only love can do that." -Martin Luther King Jr.</p> 	<p>"It is not a lack of love, but a lack of friendship that makes unhappy marriages." -Friedrich Nietzsche</p> <p>"Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none." -William Shakespeare</p>	<p>"Love is like the wind, you can't see it but you can feel it." -Nicholas Sparks</p> <p>"Love is that condition in which the happiness of another person is essential to your own." -Robert A. Heinlein</p>
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The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister



Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by black Americans and other peoples

of African descent. Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.



In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week. By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses. President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history."

RESOURCE CENTER

8th Annual Gospel Explosion & Soul Food Tasting

Saturday, Feb 8
5pm—9pm
Miami Dade College
(North Campus)
Room 5120
Building 5

The Miami Black Heritage Cultural Experience Tours

Saturdays
Feb 1, 8, 15, & 22 @ 8:30am
249 NW 9 St.
Miami, FL 33136
More info: (305)636-2390

Ankara Miami 2014 (Adults Only Event)

AFRICA Meets The Runway... Miami STYLE!

Saturday, Feb 22 @ 7pm
Kovens Conference Center
More info:
AnkaraMiami.com

OUR CENTER NEWS

Teacher's Planning Day (No school for VPK)
Friday, Feb 7

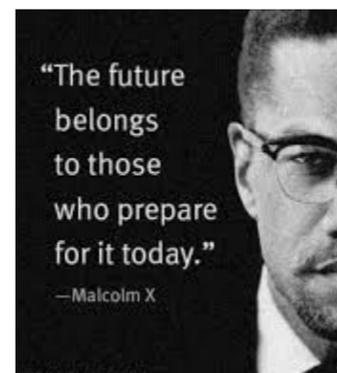
President's Day
SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday, Feb 17



Valentine's Day Party
Friday, Feb 14 @ 3pm

Black History Show
Friday, Feb 21 @ 7pm

Parents Please read
with your child
daily "because
learning never
stops"



Valentine Tracing

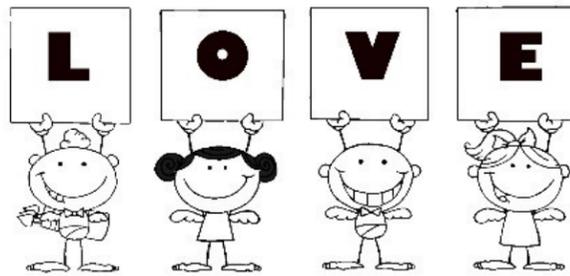
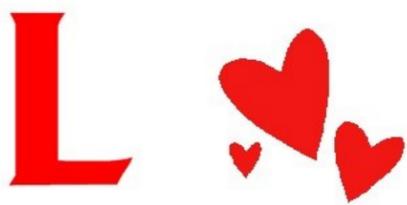
Trace the letters and color the pictures



C is for cupid



V is for valentine



L is for love