

FEBRUARY 2017 DIRECTOR'S NEWSLETTER



Dear **TechStars** Families,

Advances in technology in recent years have increased our opportunities for communicating with family, friends and business contacts. Getting in touch with someone on the other side of the globe is now almost as easy as getting in touch with someone just across the street. This amazing ease with which we are able to share our thoughts and plans with others also brings responsibilities. We are all careful to keep important papers like birth certificates, social security cards, marriage certificates and passports in secure places - often a bank lock box. We must also guard personal digital information with the same level of care. Much of this personal information is found on our smartphones. Do you know how to properly wipe your smartphone's data when you no longer use - or lose - your current smartphone? Find out the specifics at <https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/how-properly-wipe-your-smartphone-data-amol-choudhary>.

The **TechStars** mascot is a turtle puppet affectionately known as CT, or Computer Turtle. The students love this fuzzy friend that greets them at the start of every technology class. CT is perhaps the most approachable reptile of all. Real life snakes, geckos, iguanas and even turtles can be intimidating to some children. If your child is frightened by reptiles, learn more about possible reasons behind this fear and some easy steps that may help to curb this apprehension at http://concordpetfoods.com/blog/45580/teaching-your-children-to-be-comfortable-around-pet-reptiles?utm_source=Concord+Pet+Foods+%26+Supplies+List&utm_campaign=bc30e2091b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_01_26&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0771a10e0f-bc30e2091b-294708953.

As the Winter season continues, February's short days and cold weather often mean that many families prefer spending time together at indoor venues. Consider the following "un-plugged" activities which are sure to warm hearts and bring smiles to family members of all ages:

- **Rogers + Hammerstein's Cinderella. Tues, Feb 7 – Sun, Feb 12.** The Playhouse on Rodney Square, 1007 North Market St, Wilmington, DE 19801. This Tony Award®-winning Broadway musical from the creators of The Sound of Music and South Pacific is sure to delight audiences with its contemporary take on the classic tale. Show times vary. Tickets \$40-\$85. All sales are final. No refunds or exchanges. Call 302.888.0200 to reserve your family's seats. <http://tickets.thegrandwilmington.org/single/PSDetail.aspx?psn=4454>
- **Peter Pan. Sat, Feb 18 – Sun, Mar 12.** Delaware Children's Theatre, Your whole family will be excited to watch Peter, Wendy and the Lost Boys and Girls battle the infamous Captain Hook in one of the most enchanting musicals ever written. Let Tinker Bell and Peter guide you to Never Neverland where dreams come true and no one ever has to grow up. Show times vary. Tickets \$14-\$16. Call 302.655.1014 to reserve your family's seats. <http://www.dechildrenstheatre.org/project/peterpan/>
- **OrKid Day, Mon, Feb 20, 11am-2pm.** Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Go on a quest to discover orchids around the Conservatory, and help your child collect stamps along the way. Look for the Orchid Quest mailbox to

discover the task to accomplish at each stop. After completing this quest your child will collect a prize. Orchid Quest challenges include: Where in the world do orchids grow? Why do orchids have flowers? Can you re-pot orchids? Are there patterns in plants? Young guests can collect a stamp at Story Reading, Puppet Play, Rainforest Exploration and Children's Garden stops. OrKid Day is also scheduled for Sat, Mar 18. Free with Garden Admission. <https://www.longwoodgardens.org/events-and-performances/events/orkid-days>

- **Science Expo, Sat, Feb 25, 12pm-2:30pm.** Delaware Children's Museum, 550 Justison St, Wilmington, DE 19801. Jump into science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM) during the DCM's annual Science Expo presented by STEAM Ambassador students from the Charter School of Wilmington and Cab Calloway School of the Arts. Free with museum admission. <http://delawarechildrensmuseum.org/>
- **Science Saturday: Pump It Up! Sat, Feb 25, 1pm-4pm.** Hagley Museum, 200 Hagley Creek Rd, Wilmington, DE 19807. Participants will work to build a hydraulic-powered robot arm! Then visit the SparkCart, Hagley's mobile activity station, to discover how innovators are inspired by two exciting new themes: the transmission of power and innovations in textiles. Science Saturday is a drop-in activity; stop by anytime in the afternoon. Science Saturday activities are included in museum admission and are free to members. <http://www.hagley.org/calendar/science-saturday-pump-it>
- **The Everett Theater.** Events, dates and times vary. 47 W. Main St., Middletown, DE 19709. Story time with the Cat in the Hat/Free, Finding Dory Movie/All tickets \$5 and Playground Series: Seussical Theatre for Young Audiences Version/All tickets \$8. Refer to the theater's online calendar for details. <http://everetttheatre.com/eventsmonth/?tribe-bar-date=2017-02>

Although our January weather has been unseasonably mild, Mother Nature will most certainly remind us that Winter rules in February. Please know that when **TechStars** classes are cancelled due to inclement weather, your child's instructor will contact the site director to re-schedule this missed time. Families will be notified of the new class date as soon as possible. Stay safe, warm and happy in the month ahead.

Sincerely,

Roni Deely

Owner/Director

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TechStars by Computer Explorers of New Castle County



www.computerexplorers.com/de