

FEBRUARY 2018 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 and tablets. Do you know how to properly wipe your device's data before you sell or trade it? Learn the specifics at <https://www.cnet.com/how-to/how-to-wipe-your-phone-or-tablet-before-selling/>.

There is no denying that the flu season has arrived in Delaware. News stories warn that while this year's flu shot is not perfect, getting vaccinated is one of the best ways to ward off this dreaded virus. Frequent handwashing and keeping away from sick people are also proven common sense ways to avoid illness. Following these guidelines can serve to lessen the severity of symptoms and shorten the duration of sickness for those who are unfortunate enough get the flu. Rachel Feltman, Science Editor at Poplar Science Media Group, shares her thoughts about why colds and flu strike in winter and how to best battle these ailments on your home front at <https://www.popsci.com/cold-flu-season-sick-winter#page-2>. When you or someone in your family is unlucky enough to get the flu, Feltman includes a link to some remedies at the end of her short article. Find more information about kids and the flu at <http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/ConditionsandDiseases/InfectiousDiseases/Pages/nfluenza-Flu-What-to-Do-if-Your-Child-Gets-Sick.aspx>.

As the winter season continues, February often means spending more family time indoors. Consider the following "un-plugged" activities that are sure to warm hearts and bring smiles to family members of all ages:

- **Zoo In You: The Human Microbiome. Ongoing special exhibit, Jan 27 – May 6.** Delaware Museum of Natural History, 4840 Kennett Pike, Wilmington, DE 19807. Trillions of microbes make their homes inside our bodies, and we wouldn't be able to survive without each other! Explore the vibrant world of our inner microorganisms through engaging, interactive and bilingual exhibits while discovering who our constant microbial companions are, where they live, how diverse they are and in what ways scientists are discovering just how important these microscopic creatures are to our personal health. <http://www.delmnh.org/new-exhibit-explore-microscopic-world-lives-us/>
- **Fifer's Mid-Winter Sale. Fri, Feb 9 & Sat, Feb 10, 10 am – 4 pm.** Fifer Orchards Farm and Country Store, 1919 Allabands Mill Rd, Camden-Wyoming, DE 19934. Restock all your Fifer favorites during this 2-day sale! Find local honey, jams and jellies, ice cream, Kilby Cream milk, Valentine's caramel apples, red velvet doughnuts, cider doughnuts and many other unique locally made items. <https://www.fiferorchards.com/events/mid-winter-sale/>
- **Victorine's Valentine's Day. Sat, Feb 10, 11 am – 4 pm.** Hagley Museum, 200 Hagley Creek Rd, Wilmington, DE 19807. This sweet family event celebrates the life and legacy

of Victorine du Pont Bauduy, eldest daughter of E. I. du Pont who built the mills on the Brandywine. See how chocolate is made with demonstrations by Arden-based chocolate makers Double Spiral Chocolate. Visitors can make Valentine's Day cards and crafts, write Valentine's verse with a quill pen, snack on hot chocolate and gingerbread cookies and have their picture taken with "Victorine du Pont." This is a drop-in activity, included with admission; members free. Check www.habley.org for updates in event of inclement weather. <https://www.hagley.org/calendar/victorines-valentines-day-1>

- **OrKid Day, Mon, Feb 19, 11am-2pm.** Longwood Gardens, 1001 Longwood Road, Kennett Square, PA 19348. Where in the world do orchids grow? Discover this and much more in the flower-filled Conservatory. Young guests will enjoy interactive story reading, puppets and more while children of all ages can discover unusual orchids from around the globe as they embark on an informative and fun orchid hunt. OrKid Day is also scheduled for Sat, Mar 17. Included with Gardens Admission. <https://longwoodgardens.org/events-and-performances/events/orkid-days>
- **Chinese New Year Celebration: The Year of the Dog. Sat, Feb 24, 11 am – 3 pm.** Delaware Art Museum, 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806. This 12th annual celebration includes traditional Chinese art activities, artist demonstrations, a lion and folk dance, a Chinese yo-yo performance by the Chinese American Community Center Folk and Lion Dance Troupes and Yo-Yo Club as well as a special performance by Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company entitled *Red Firecrackers: The Legend of the First Chinese New Year*. Artwork created by children from the Chinese School of Delaware will be on display. This program is presented in conjunction with the Hanlin Chinese Culture Association. Free; donations accepted. <http://www.delart.org/event/chinese-new-year-celebration-the-year-of-the-dog/>
- **Wonderland: Alice's Rock-and-Roll Adventure. Sat, Feb 24 & Sun, Feb 25 (also March 3, 4, 10, 11, 17 & 18).** Delaware Children's Theater, 1014 Delaware Ave, Wilmington, DE 19806. Bring your family out to enjoy an imaginative, rocking rendition of the classic story of Alice in Wonderland. Slip down the rabbit hole with Alice and meet your favorite characters from the Mad Hatter to the Queen of Hearts. Don't be late for a very important date! Recommended for children 4+. All shows start at 2 pm. Tickets \$14/\$15. <http://dechildrenstheatre.org/shows/wonderland/>

With January now just a memory, Mother Nature will most certainly remind us that winter weather still rules in the month ahead. 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 this February.

Sincerely,

Roni Deely

Owner/Director

Roni.Deely@computerexplorersde.com

TechStars by Computer Explorers of New Castle County



www.computerexplorers.com/de