



PRESCHOOL and PREK/K NEWS



December in the Preschool, PreK and Pre K/K classrooms is an exciting month. During this month the children will celebrate the traditions of Hanukah, Christmas and Kwanzaa. Comparing these holidays to each other the children will learn the traditions of different cultures as part of our social studies curriculum. We will light our class menorah for Hanukah and the children will weave mats (a Mkeka) for Kwanzaa. As a math project, we will count the days until Christmas on a daily basis. We will also celebrate Las Posados, St. Nicholas Day, Poinsettia Day and St. Lucia Day. Using all of these celebrations, we will review colors, shapes, letters and numbers. There will also be cooking projects such as making potato latkes and Christmas cookies.

As part of our science curriculum we will experiment to see if ice melts faster with or without the help of salt. We will discuss how a liquid is turned into a solid when frozen and then back to a liquid when melted. We will also continue our study of nutrition, healthy habits and healthy foods. In language arts we will continue with our letter of the week. Your child's teacher will post the sharing day for the letter in the Teacher/Parent Communication book.

In math we will continue to work on number recognition using the calendar and games such as jumping on the numbers. The children will also match mittens in pairs and use unifix cubes to make a menorah counting the number of cubes used to make each candle.

Preschool III, IV and PreK/K classes will be singing holiday songs on December 22nd as part of our holiday celebration. We invite you to join us at 10:00 (Preschool III and IV) and 11:00 (PreK/K). Refreshments will be served afterwards. Mrs. Claus will visit the preschool classrooms on December 14th while Santa visits on December 21st. On December 21st we will also have our annual Holiday Luncheon.

Ms. Yelena, Mr. Ken and Tom will all stop by during the month for music, gymnastics and dance.

Please remember to send in appropriate clothing for outdoor play every day. We do go out on a daily basis (weather permitting) for fresh air and outdoor play. Also please check your child's clothing bins as many still have summer clothing in them. **PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING AND SHEETS.**

Preschool Concepts

Math: Sorting, counting, number recognition, shape review, unifix cubes, matching similar items

Fine Motor: weaving, lacing stockings, cutting, stringing beads

Language Arts: Letter of the week, class bear's visits, holiday songs, books and finger plays

Science: Nutrition, healthy foods, liquid to solid, solid to liquid

Social Studies: Cultures of various countries, December holidays

Gross Motor: Mr. Tom, Mr. Ken and outdoor play, "Elf, Elf, Reindeer" (Duck, Duck, Goose)

Pre K/K Concepts

Math: Money concepts (penny, nickel), fractions, counting in 10's, measurement (length, weight)

Fine Motor: Weaving, lacing stockings, cutting, number and letter writing

Language Arts: Class bear's visits, holiday songs, books and finger plays, writing projects, reading comprehension, sound formation, simple sentence formation, reading simple words

Science: Nutrition, healthy foods, liquid to solid, solid to liquid

Social Studies: Cultures of various countries, December holidays, seven continents

Gross Motor: Number walks, Mr. Tom, Mr. Ken, "Elf, Elf, Reindeer" (Duck, Duck, Goose)

Thank you to all the parents, aunts and grandparents who have taken time out of their busy schedules to help out on the Preschool field trips this fall. We appreciate your help!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!