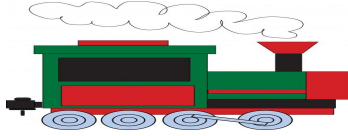


Happy New Year Preschool Families!

We hope that you had a magical holiday season!

December Recap



The preschoolers had great fun throughout the month of December! We enjoyed learning about the multiple **modes of transportation**. We especially enjoyed working with and building our **magnetic train station** as we explored **magnetic connection** and **simple machines**. Additionally we had fun creating a **map** of a train station and road system; our collaborative map of a neighborhood with our own school building was a great display of **teamwork** in our classroom throughout the month.

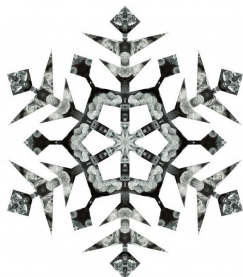
We considered many **different holidays** that families celebrate in the month of December. The preschoolers shared and illustrated some of their **favorite family traditions**. We had a lot of fun “baking” **gingerbread** cookies in our dramatic play area as well using playdough to create gingerbread people. We enjoyed comparing, using storyboards, and even singing different versions of the classic tale The Gingerbread Man. Mrs. Gauvin’s student teachers enhanced our preschoolers’ learning throughout December with many **math lessons** based on **holiday traditions**, for example counting lights and counting with buttons on evergreen trees. December in preschool was full of **joy**!



Upcoming in January

We were excited to “**Welcome Winter**” on December 21st! We have continued to observe our environment and our own experiences in order to discover multiple **signs of winter**. Additionally we are exploring what we look forward to this winter season, and reflecting on past experiences that we recall enjoying in the winter. Our classroom library is filled with excellent literature depicting such experiences.

We have already begun painting extraordinary “**snowpeople**” and we look forward to using multiple materials to discover the two contrasting colors of the month, black and white. We will continue to examine the changes in **temperature** through January...and yes, we are hoping for lots of **snow** in preschool!!! With snow will come great opportunity to explore the scientific concepts of **liquids and solids**, and observe what happens to snow and **ice** in modifying temperature.



January will also serve as a time to learn about **arctic animals** and their **habitat** . We will use many classroom materials to create a model habitat for arctic animals. We will consider why their habitat is important to their survival. We are very excited for January in preschool!

General Announcements

- Please remember mittens, gloves, and hats as the temperature gets colder
- If you send your preschooler to school in snow boots, please include comfortable shoes to change into, we will assist preschoolers in the changing of shoes (snow boots can become very uncomfortable and hot indoors)
- Thank you for your incredible donations of playdough, tissues, paper towels and cleaning wipes!! We will thankfully accept any of the above mentioned donations through the month of January.
- We will continue to send resting blankets home every other week to be washed and returned for the following week. (this applies only to our full day preschoolers)
- The preschool will be **closed Friday, January 13th** for a district wide professional development day and **Monday, January 16th** for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.
- Progress Reports will be sent home this month in your preschoolers' folder in their backpack.
- I will contact you via email to notify you that your preschoolers' Progress Report was sent home, and to arrange for a conference time that is convenient for you.
- January Helper of the Day will start next week January 9th (with the exception of 2 make up days from December who have already been notified) your preschooler will get an updated, January, Helper of the Day calendar in their folder, in their backpack.

Have a great January!

Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Trombley

