

JANUARY 2021



TRI-TOWN PRESCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greetings and Happy New Year! Thank you everyone for your kind well-wishes, holiday cards, and generous gifts. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness. We are very much looking forward to having many more fun times and learning opportunities in 2021. We will begin the new year with a study of winter and the effect it has on the lives of people and animals. We will also learn about the importance of kindness and acceptance as we study the contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr.

DATES TO REMEMBER



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| Jan. 11th No School | Professional Dev. Day |
| Jan. 18th No School | Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday |
| Jan. 25th - Jan. 29th | Progress reports & Parent Conferences
Dates/Times TBA |
| Feb. 1st Half-Day | Professional Dev. Day |

Parent conferences will be held via a Zoom meeting and will begin the last week of January. A link will be sent to your email with instructions on how to sign-up. I am very much looking forward to meeting with you all.



CURRICULUM

Throughout the month of November the children participated in lessons based on the topics of farm animals, food groups and nutrition, my growing body, and feeling thankful. In December, they were introduced to Physical Science and Engineering & Technology through simple machines as well as magnets, transportation, balance & motion, and sound waves.

The preschoolers enjoyed experimenting with simple machines in the classroom, such as a lever, an inclined plane, a pulley, a wheel and axle, a wedge and a screw. They also enjoyed participating in small group lessons and free play opportunities building bridges, using Magnatiles, gears, nuts & bolts, transportation vehicles, ramps, and more.

Throughout the fall the preschoolers also participated in a variety of art projects related to the monthly themes. They worked independently and in small groups with a variety of medium (paint, markers, crayons, glue, etc.) to design, create and represent their own ideas each day. In celebration of the many different holidays that took place around the world during the month of December, the preschoolers listened to a variety of holiday music, sang a variety of songs and used rhythm instruments. They also explored bells of all shapes and sizes and investigated sound waves while manipulating different objects.

In Language Arts and Literacy the children recited several new nursery rhymes and practiced generating rhyming words. They took turns leading their peers during Morning Meeting and Circle Time. They asked and answered questions, recalled details about their own lives and experiences, and practiced speaking and listening while taking on the role of "Helper of the Day".

In Mathematics the children practiced counting by rote, recognizing numerals 1 through 10, comparing sets, classifying objects by color, shape and size, reproducing

Curriculum Themes for January:



Winter
Weather
Ice & Snow
Liquids & Solids



Arctic Animals
Opposites
Time

Colors:

Black & White

Rhyme:

“Hickory Dickory Dock”

Dramatic Play:

Fairyland Castle



patterns, as well as recognizing and naming geometrical shapes. In Motor Development the children used a variety of writing and drawing tools. They practiced writing their names and drawing shapes. They worked with play dough, legos, scissors, and various manipulatives. They enjoyed stringing beads, making puzzles, and using a variety of building blocks and materials. They also participated in various movement and rhythmic activities such as hopping, galloping, and jumping.

In Social Studies the children listened to several multicultural stories and looked carefully at posters depicting the many different holiday traditions celebrated around the world. They discussed some of the similarities and differences, as well as shared some of their personal holiday traditions. They also practiced greeting one another in a foreign language - (Hola (Spain), Jambo (Kenya), Konichiwa (Japan), and Shalom (Israel), to name a few.

Throughout the month of January the daily conversation has been focused on winter weather and activities. The preschoolers recognize winter as one of the four seasons, and each day talk about the seasonal changes taking place around them. The preschoolers have been asked to describe how the weather changes from

day to day and season to season. They describe the weather using terms such as rainy, cold, partly cloudy, windy or snowy as part of the daily routine. They look for patterns in those changes and each day record the weather on the classroom weather chart.



WHAT'S NEXT?

Curriculum Themes

for February:

Community Helpers
Jobs & Money
Light & Shadows
Feelings
Healthy Hearts
Dental Health

Color: Pink

Rhyme:

“Hot Cross Buns”

Dramatic Play:

Doctor's Office, Pet Shop
and Post Office

GENTLE REMINDERS



- **Cold and flu season** is upon us. It is important for the preschoolers to learn and practice how to cover their coughs and sneezes and how to wash their hands thoroughly. Some illnesses will require exclusion of sick children to ensure protection of other children and staff. It is best to keep your child home if displaying any of the following symptoms: a fever (within past 24 hours), diarrhea or vomiting (within past 24 hours), severe coughing, runny nose or sneezing, headache, stiff neck or sore throat.
- Please **call the school** (508-758-3745 or 508-758-0800) or email Mrs. Gauvin if your child is going to be absent.
- Please **practice** with your child how to put on and take off his/her coat, hat and mittens, as well as how to zipper. At school we encourage them to put their hat & gloves into the sleeve of their coat to avoid lost items.
- Please send in a **small blanket and pillow** (optional) each week for rest time and an extra set of **weather appropriate clothing**, if you haven't already done so.