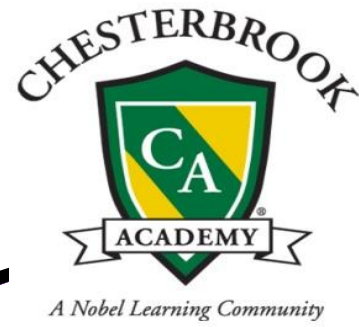


December News



December 1st, 2015

Pajama Drive and Toys for Tots **Now-December 16th**



This year we will be collecting for two great organizations to help those in need. New pajamas will be collected for the Kathleen K. Henley Home in Fairfax and new unwrapped toys collected for Toys for Tots. Donations will be accepted at the front of our school now through December 16th.

On Thursday, December 17th, our Pre-K 2 students will then be delivering all of the pajamas and toys collected to the Chesterbrook Academy Kids Campus located in Chantilly, VA, where they participate in activities and learn about helping those in need.

In honor of collecting pajamas, we will have a school wide pajama day on Friday, December 11th! Please bring in an extra set that day to help someone in need.

Summary:

Pajama Drive &
Toys for Tots

Holiday Musical

Weather Closings

Winter Break

Holidays

Recipe of the Month

Looking Forward

Holiday Musical and Party **Friday, December 18th: 3:30pm**

Our students will be learning about all types of holidays and celebrations from around the world throughout the month of December. Each classroom will be learning about holidays celebrated throughout the world including Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, Los Pasados, and more! School age students will also get to participate in our event along with the Pre-K 2 class since there is a 2 hour early dismissal this day.

On Friday, December 18th, at 3:30pm, we invite all of our families, friends, and relatives to our holiday musical and classroom parties. Your child's class will sing a variety of songs and teach you a little about celebrations around the world. After their presentation, each class will celebrate the holidays with treats. Sign-ups for the treats will be located on the classroom doors the week before.

Thank you for celebrating with us!

Weather Related Closings

The cold is here along with the possibility of snow! Chesterbrook Academy strongly considers the safety and security of our students, parents, and teachers when deciding whether to close our school or not. In the case that we decide to close or open late, an email will be sent by the principal notifying you of the closure and it will be updated on the home page of our website at, centreville.chesterbrookacademy.com. We will also have it on our school voicemail at (703)968-2939.

In the case we close early while your students are still here, you will receive an email, it will be updated on our website, and your child's teacher will call you to let you know. It is very important to plan ahead and leave early for your evening commute if there is a forecast of bad weather. We will look at this closely and keep you updated as the winter progresses.

Christmas/New Year Holiday

We know a lot of our families travel during the week of Christmas and/or New Years and may not attend much those weeks. Signup sheets for attendance will be posted on each classroom door by at least the week before. This way if attendance is low, we are able to schedule time for our teachers as well. We also wanted to remind you that if you are planning on using a vacation credit for the upcoming December holidays, you must complete a vacation request form at least four weeks before the vacation week for approval.

Closings & Change of hours for December:

Thursday, December 24th: Open 6:30-3:00pm

Friday, December 25th: Closed

Thursday, December 31st: 6:30-3:00pm

Friday, January 1st: Closed

Recipe of the Month

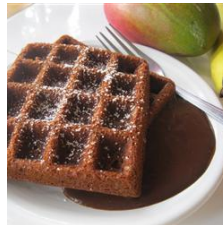
Gingerbread Waffles w/ Hot Chocolate Sauce

Courtesy of allrecipes.com

Ingredients

1 cup light molasses
1/2 cup butter
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1/2 cup of milk
1 egg
2 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups boiling water
1 cup white sugar
2 tablespoons cornstarch
1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
1 teaspoon salt
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
2 tablespoons butter



Directions

1. In a small saucepan, heat molasses and 1/2 cup butter until almost boiling. Remove from heat and let cool slightly. Stir in baking soda, milk and egg.
2. In a large bowl, sift together flour, ginger, cinnamon and salt. Make a well in the center and pour in the molasses mixture. Mix until smooth.
3. Spray preheated waffle iron with non-stick cooking spray. Pour mix onto hot waffle iron. Cook until golden brown. Serve hot with chocolate sauce.
4. To make chocolate sauce: In a saucepan, combine water, 1 cup sugar, cornstarch, cocoa powder and 1 teaspoon salt. Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. Remove from heat and add vanilla and 2 tablespoons butter; stir until smooth.

Winter Break

Fairfax County public schools will be closed December 21st-January 1st. We will be providing a winter break camp for these two weeks.

Please see the front desk for additional information and registration.

Looking Forward

December 4th

Parents' Night Out

December 24th & 31st:

Closing at 3pm

January 1st

Closed for New Years

January 15th

Hat Day! Wear your favorite hat to school.

January 18th & 19th

Student Holidays- Drop in care available for school age students
Box of Crayons Activity

January 29th

National Puzzle Day- Students will create their own puzzles.