

# Chesterbrook Academy Gaithersburg

DECEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER



## A NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

The holiday season is a time to celebrate community, diversity, and the universal joy of giving. Our students will be learning about traditions observed around the world by singing songs, making art, tasting seasonal treats, and so much more! We'll be sending additional information in the coming weeks via Links 2 Home. As always, thank you for allowing us to teach and care for your children.

Sincerely,

Narema Deonarine



🕯️ THEME OF THE MONTH : WINTER HOLIDAYS AROUND THE  
WORLD 🌙



HOLIDAY GIVING

Our annual holiday giving initiative is a way for students to spread cheer this holiday season while developing an appreciation for what they have, showing gratitude towards others, and seeing the positive impact of their actions. This year, we are collecting used or new toys of all kinds including books, backpacks, board games, car/trucks etc. Thank you for your generosity in helping others in need.

## CUBBY REFRESH

Please make sure to refresh the spare clothing in your child's cubby. Take home anything that no longer fits and leave a spare set of well-fitting, weather-appropriate clothes, including a winter hat and gloves.



# Links to Learning

## LINKS TO HOME: SHARED ACTIVITIES FOR PARENTS & CHILDREN

### DECEMBER BEGINNERS

Each month's Links to Learning activities build on the month before, connecting previously learned skills with new learning. These activities include the essentials of language and math, along with a variety of other skills.

This month, your child will continue to use descriptive words, understand the concept of three, and share her family holiday traditions.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child:

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

- Go on a color hunt with your child. Walk through your home and ask her to find items of a certain color. Afterwards, ask your child to describe the items she found.
- Reinforce the concept of three throughout the day. At mealtime, give her three pieces of food. Count to three as she eats each piece.

- Gather some family photos and point out activities that are family traditions (i.e. unwrapping presents, eating holiday dinner, making a snowman).

Encourage your child to talk about what she sees in the photos.

## DECEMBER INTERMEDIATES

This month, your child will learn to use sequence vocabulary (i.e. first, second), recognize the meaning of holidays, and identify how families' customs and traditions are similar or different.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child.

Links to Home: Shared Activities for Parents & Children

- Ask your child to explain the steps she takes to wash her hands. Listen for sequence vocabulary.
- Take a drive with your child. Look for and identify different holiday decorations in your community.
- Ask your child about your family's customs and traditions. "What foods do we eat during the holidays?" or "What movie do we watch during the holidays?" Share additional details to add to your child's understanding.

## DECEMBER PRE-K

This month, your child will predict the outcomes of stories, sort and identify pennies, nickels and dimes, and share family holiday traditions.

Here are some suggested activities to practice these skills with your child:

- Read a book with your child. Pause after a few pages and ask him to guess what will happen next. Encourage him to explain his prediction.
- Ask your child about your family's holiday traditions. "What foods do we eat during the holidays?" or "Who do we visit during the holidays?" Share additional details to add to your child's understanding.
- Hand your child a jar of coins. Ask him to identify and sort the pennies, nickels and dimes.

## THE GIFT OF GIVING: TEACHING STUDENTS THE IMPORTANCE OF GENEROSITY AND COMPASSION

The holidays are a wonderful time of year for many reasons. We enjoy spending this time with our students as we reflect on the past year, learn about different traditions, and give back to those in need. Our annual holiday giving initiative is a way for students to build the important foundation of generosity and compassion. Through this event, they develop an appreciation for what they have, show gratitude towards others, and see the positive impact of their actions. It brings a smile to our faces to see our students get so excited to lend a helping hand.

Below are just a few ways we're helping our communities this season.

1. Students will collect toys, art supplies, games, books and other gifts for children in need. These special items will be delivered to Toys for Tots, local shelters, and children's hospitals.
  1. During Thanksgiving, many of our students collected nonperishable food items. They will continue their collections throughout December, tour the food banks, and learn about how their contributions will make a difference in their community.
  2. Students will help stock the shelves of local shelters by collecting essential winter accessories, such as coats, mittens, hats, and blankets.
  3. The gift of time is precious. Students will make cards and visit senior centers to spread holiday cheer. They will enjoy snacks with residents, make holiday decorations, read books, and sing carols.
  4. Students will show their appreciation for community helpers by delivering baked goods. They'll measure and mix ingredients, roll the dough, place the baked goodies in boxes, and deliver them with handmade cards.



## OUR SCHEDULE DECEMBER

## IMPORTANT DATES

### Important Dates

#### December 1 - TUITION DAY

- December 16 - Classroom holiday celebrations
- December 23 - School closes at 12pm
- December 26 - School closed for holiday
- December 30 - School closes at 1pm, end of month folders go home
- January 2 - School closed for holiday



## CHESTERBROOK ACADEMY GAITHERSBURG

📍 10 Kent Gardens Circle, Gaith...

✉ narema.deonarine@chesterbr...

☎ (877)959-3746

🌐 chesterbrookacadmeygaithe...