## **December Newsletter**

## **A Note from Our Principal**

Dear Families,

As the winter season approaches, we are filled with excitement for the festivities ahead. We believe in creating a nurturing environment that celebrates the rich traditions that make each family unique. This month, our students will delve into different holiday traditions from all corners of the globe through hands-on activities, music, art, and more. Stay tuned for more information via Links 2 Home.

Together, let's make this holiday season a time of warmth, connection, and shared memories.

Sincerely, Tiffany Simmons

## **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 Socks, for our Holiday giving back! We will be collecting SOCKS from December 5<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity in helping others in need.

## **Family Referral Bonus**

Do you know a colleague who has recently had a baby, a friend in need of care who just relocated to the area, or a family member who is seeking a new preschool for their child? When you refer a friend and they enroll, you're eligible for a **free week of tuition**. Ask us for details!

#### **Did You Know?**

Children develop a stronger sense of belonging when given opportunities to talk about their family members, their memories, and traditions.

# **Have School-Age Children? Join Us for Winter Break Camp!**

Join us from December 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> We offer flexible schedules for families and engaging activities for school-age students. Our Winter Break Camp is a place for exploring, discovering, and making new friends. See our admin team to learn more.

# **Important Dates**

December 4th GOOGLE Review, please leave us review!

December 5th-15th Sock Drive "Holiday Give Back"

December 7<sup>th</sup> Hanukkah Begins!

December 8<sup>th</sup> Wear your Ugly Sweater

December 11<sup>th</sup> Candy Cane Day

December 12<sup>th</sup> Hat Day

December 13<sup>th</sup> Snowman Day

December 14<sup>th</sup> Gingerbread Decorating Day!

December 15<sup>th</sup> Elf Day... Dress like an Elf!

December 19th All Aboard... Polar Express Movie Day!

December 21st Hot Chocolate & PJs

December 22nd & 25<sup>th</sup> - School CLOSED for Christmas Break

December 26<sup>th</sup> Kwanzaa Begins!

December  $29^{\text{th}}$  - End-of-month folders go home

January 1 - School CLOSED for New Year's Day

# Little Hands, Big Hearts: Benefits of Teaching Children about Giving Back

The holiday season is not just about festive decorations and presents. It's a time to reflect on the past year, learn about different traditions, and most importantly, instill a spirit of charity.



Giving back is an integral part of our school. Whether we're collecting food, toys, gifts, or clothing... it's amazing how much joy simple acts of kindness can bring.

Here are just a few of the many lifelong benefits of involving children in giving initiatives.

## Develops a sense of community

Giving back to those in need instills a sense of communal responsibility and provides children with tangible examples of how their actions directly affect others. Making holiday cards, for example, becomes more than a craft; it becomes a heartfelt gesture to bring joy to neighbors who may feel isolated during the holiday season. Children learn that their contributions, no matter how small, are integral to the well-being of the larger community.

#### Fosters empathy and gratitude

Empathy and gratitude are paramount to social-emotional development. When students participate in giving initiatives, they begin to understand the needs of others and the importance of compassion and kindness. This exposure in the preschool years sets the stage for a lifelong positive and appreciative mindset.

## **Builds important life skills**

Our students plan their community service events from brainstorm to implementation and learn valuable life skills, including teamwork, problem-solving, communication, and responsibility. These skills contribute to the development of well-rounded individuals. Not only are they academically prepared for what comes next, but they also exhibit social consciousness and work collaboratively to make a difference in their world.

## **Encourages a sense of pride**

Successfully completing a service project instills a sense of pride and self-esteem in our students. When they recognize that their contributions have left a positive impact, it boosts their confidence and reinforces the notion that their actions matter.