



*Key Dates in
December:*

- **December 1st:** Tuition Due
- **December 6th:** Yoga
- **December 13th:** Yoga
- **December 20th:** Yoga
- **December 21st:** Holiday Craft Day— NO EXTENDED DAY
- **December 22nd:** Winter Break Begins — NO CLASS
- **January 1st:** Tuition Due
- **January 8th:** Classes Resume Following Break



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Tidbits From The Teachers

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with their family and friends!

This month we will be exploring winter holiday traditions around the world. Using crafts, foods, books, folklore stories, and personal family experiences to expand the children's understanding of the other cultures around them. Tolerance and respect of other people's beliefs begin with our children.



We will be eagerly awaiting the reappearance of our Elf on the shelf as well. "Rosie" is always doing something silly and even naughty sometimes.

 We would like to thank all our families for attending their parent/teacher conferences last month. It was very nice to chat with everyone and share how your children are progressing and adjusting to the school year.

We would also like to express our sincere gratitude for everyone's generosity with our wish list items. It truly has helped and is greatly appreciated!



Extended Day Updates

MATH

After a month of practicing quantity counting and number recognition, we will now focus on odd and even numbers. Using concrete math manipulatives will we be able to show how all even numbers have a partner and odd numbers don't. Identifying even and odd numbers is an important skill that helps children understand our number system and provides them aids in their preparation for whole number operations.



Science Discoveries

In the last month, we have been learning about the different properties of animals, whether they are nocturnal or diurnal, whether they are vertebrates or invertebrates. This month, we will continue learning about our amazing animal kingdom and the different animal species.

Art Appreciation

This month we will be exploring the artistic methods of Pablo Picasso. His specialization in cubism art, showing multiple angles of one object simultaneously, will be focused on in our projects for December.

Phonics Fun

During the month of December, we will be learning about more letters and the sounds they make. We will be doing fun holiday crafts related to the season to make letter sound recognition even more fun!

Fun Friday

In the spirit of the upcoming Holiday Season we will be making a different ornaments/decorations each week. Since we have such a wonderful diverse group of students we will keep winter our theme for our creations. Our students love to be creative and its always fun to practice our cutting, gluing, painting, and coloring skills.

Reminders from the Office

- **Scholastic books** Please remember there will be no Scholastic Book Ordering in December. Thanks to everybody who supports this program. The teachers are able to add to their classroom library because of the many bonus points earned each month!
- **January tuition** is due by January 1st, 2024. Because we do not return from winter break until January 8th, we are asking all families who pay tuition under the 10 payment plan to **please post date your check and send it in with the form that will be coming home.** As always, tuition payments are due on or before the 1st of the month. A \$20 late fee will be applied if payment is not received within two days of the due date. If your tuition is received after this time, you will receive a late fee notice. Thanks for your cooperation!
- **Call or text the school when your child will be out sick:** When you are calling your child in, please include a brief description of your child's symptoms. It's especially important for our staff to be aware of any illnesses that are contagious. School phone number: 815-254-0136.
- **Severe weather closings** can occur any time over the next few months. To find out if our school is closed, you may visit the www.emergencyclosings.com, or tune into local radio and TV stations for up-to-date information.
- **Winter break** begins on Friday, December 22nd (no school on this date). School re-opens Monday, January 8, 2024. Our staff and students would like to wish everybody a safe and happy holiday season!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Thank YOU!

The teachers and children would like to extend a huge thanks to all those who donated items to our school during November. Your generosity contributes to the success of our school. Thanks so much!

- Crowley- Glue sticks, Expo markers
- Morales- Fall craft items
- Rzemyk- Cardstock, Pipe cleaners, envelopes, popsicle sticks, cotton swabs, white towels, Ribbon, beads
- Lin- Fall foam shapes, Q-tips, Hobby Lobby gift card
- McColgan- Ribbon, popsicle sticks
- Flores- Green tissue paper, pipe cleaners
- Pena-Rios- Pipe cleaners, tissue paper



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