



Winter Newsletter

Fun & Friends Child Development Center
2011

Mark Your Calendar!

December	
Visit from Santa Claus	20th
Hanukkah begins	20th
1st day of Winter	21st
Merry Christmas!	25th
Kwanza begins	26th
January	
Happy New Year!	1st
MLK JR. Day (Closed)	16th
February	
Ground Hog Day	2nd
Valentine's Day	14th
President's Day (Closed)	20th
Happy Holidays	



Director of Operations—Elizabeth Garcia

We had a very busy Fall and are now getting ready for the Winter. We hope all our Fall activities were enjoyed by all. It certainly was enjoyed by the children and staff. I especially enjoyed seeing all the families who participated in our Thanksgiving Feast, it was great you were able to attend. As we move into the Holiday Season I hope yours is filled with happiness and joy with your family.

Our staff have been attending numerous trainings and workshops throughout the area and will be implementing lots of new ideas in the classrooms.

We congratulate Rossie Gonzalez (Cubs) and Jessy Gonzalez (Dreamers) on the acquisition of their CDA. Congratulations to Soila Arriza on promotion to Head Teacher in the BBB's class. She is doing an excellent job. Please take some time to congratulate these ladies on their great accomplishments.

There are endless benefits from reading to your child. At Fun & Friends, all our curricula are literacy based. Infants love listening to the tone and rhythm of your voice and looking at the pictures you point to and identify. Your child will enjoy looking at and holding picture books, even if he or she is not yet able to actually follow the story. And, in addition, books expose your child to vocabulary, word use, and picture identification—all of which foster language development. Reading to your child regularly from the earliest age is one of the best ways you can encourage the love and value of books. Children learn to be lifelong readers from their adult role models. For this age range, make sure you select books with engaging pictures. Pictures in books provide an opportunity for babies to relate what they are seeing and hearing to the world around them. Make reading a fun experience that your child will want to repeat again and again.



Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow

Have a wonderful Winter!



Pre-K Butterflies



We have said good-bye to the older Butterflies, who are now in Kindergarten. Several have visited, while dropping off or picking up younger brothers or sisters. The Cubs that transitioned over are doing wonderful. We have welcomed Hannah Vargas, Kushal Jivan and Jack Watts to Fun & Friends as well as a new teacher, Ms. Hana.

Throughout the fall season we have enjoyed stories and projects on the themes of families, apples, good manners,

fall, squirrels and Halloween. We decorated the room for Halloween and Miss Donna from Westgate let us visit her 'haunted house'. We heard some silly scary stories from beginner reader books and had a pizza party after the annual costume parade organized by the Senior Center.

We have added music and dance to our morning routine. We've found a great variety of music we like. I highly recommend starting your morning this way!

The traffic light continues to be effective in motivating better listening to the teachers. We added the positive reinforcement of a weekly reward for staying "on green". The first week, five children were applauded and received a prize; most recently, thirteen did!

Please be sure to have ample warm clothing with your child each day, as the weather gets colder. Enjoy Winter!

Ms. Pam

Infants— Dreamers & Lambs



I would like to thank all our families at Fun & Friends for participating in the Thanksgiving Food Drive sponsored by The Reston Interfaith Organization. We had a total of 25 boxes of food which provided a hearty Thanksgiving meal for 25 families. There were also 14 gift cards for purchases of a turkey or other entrée. We exceeded last year's quota of 8 boxes and 5 gift cards.

Reminders for Parents:

- Sign in & out
- If your child is out due to illness, please give us a call and let us know. If it is an illness which is contagious we have to post an exposure notice of the illness.
- Make sure your child has appropriate extra clothing in his/her cubby.
- Label ALL your child's be-

longings, so that we are able to determine who owns what and return the items safely to you.

Winter is just around the corner and we are so excited as we look forward to some snow this year.

Happy Winter!

Ms. Liza



Toddlers- BBB's



The BBB's room is getting very excited as the winter months are blowing in. Here are some of the themes we plan to cover:

December: Christmas & Celebrations Around the World; January: Snow, Winter Fun; February: Valentine's Day, Feelings & Emotions. For each theme, all areas of development will be covered which include physical, social, emotional, creative and cognitive. During the month of

ber the BBB's will participate in lots of Christmas and other celebration activities. The BBB's are full of energy and are very curious about the world around them.

Through our songs and felt stories we will introduce multicultural celebrations. During our circle and transitional times, we will be singing Jingle Bells, Snowflake song, and Dreidel, Dreidel.

If you are new to BBB's, welcome! If you have been here a while you have hopefully no-

ticed some new and exciting changes to the BBB's room including a change in Teachers. We have been learning together and getting to know one another and are looking forward to the rest of the winter season. Just a reminder please make sure your child's cubby is stocked with extra clothes for the just in case moments, diapers or pull-ups (and underwear if potty trained), and warm clothing for these changing temperatures.

Have a great winter!

Ms. Soila



Frosty the Snowman



Preschool- Cubs



In the Cubs classroom, we are saying goodbye to fall and gearing up for the winter season and the endless possibilities it brings for exciting early learning activities.

The Fall activities were enjoyed by all of us. The Halloween parade through the Senior Center was a great success. The children enjoyed seeing their parents at our Thanksgiving Lunch, thanks for attending and we hope you enjoyed the feast. Thank you to everyone who participated in our Thanksgiving Food Drive. Cubs class col-

lected several boxes full of food.

We will continue learning about the days and months during our morning circle time and having Spanish lessons in the afternoon. We will also focus on self-help skills such as putting on coats, getting dressed, and potty training for those who are ready.

Our themes throughout the next few months will include Christmas as well as multicultural celebrations, Snow, Colors, and Dental Health.

Congratulations to Caroline, Zain and Raya who recently transitioned into underwear!

The Cubs staff recently participated in several trainings and workshops which has given us some great new ideas that we plan to implement in the classroom.

Just a reminder, please make sure that your child has proper winter wear everyday. We do go outside when weather is cold. We are excited about all of the great days coming up in Cubs!

Ms. Kim

Program Director—Inell Ellis

Wow! What an amazing fall we had! All of our children settled in nicely and enjoyed an exciting successful and colorful season with all of the changes and wonders the fall season brings.

The Holiday Season is here once again. We are very excited to be able to share it with your child. In the coming weeks the classes will be focusing on Multicultural Celebrations such as Christmas, Hanukah, and Kwanza. The teachers will be teaching the children songs and finger plays from around the world and will be working very hard on special holiday gifts. We hope you will be able to join in on some of the festivities.

Ms. Liza's Thanksgiving project with the food drive was a huge success, many, many thanks to parents for your support and donations which made families in the area have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

We look forward to the coming activities this season. As we enter into another season be safe. Remember to dress your child warmly and have extra at the center. We do take our children outside during the winter months weather permitting; however we take more precautions with the Infants especially the younger ones as they are not mobile enough to keep their bodies warm. Teachers will take the older children outside if temperatures are above 40 degrees taking into account wind chills and other conditions that may prevent them from going. The following highlights are from the Triad Child Study entitled Infant Cold Weather Precautions:

- Infants cannot regulate their body temperature so it is especially important to dress them warmly in cold weather.
- Layering clothes is one way to keep your infant comfortable and protected from the cold.
- The layered clothes should be breathable and easy to remove so your baby does not get overheated.
- A baby who is overdressed and who starts to sweat may get chills, restlessness and a fever.
- It is also very important to put a hat on your infant because the baby's head loses heat if exposed.

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I hope all of our families have a safe and happy holiday season. Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.



HOLIDAY SONGS

The Dreidel Song

I have a little dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and ready
My dreidel I will play
Dreidel, dreidel, dreidel
I made it out of clay
Dreidel, dreidel, dreidel
My dreidel I will play

Santa's Helper

Tap, tap, tap, tap
Go our little hammers
Ring, ring, ring, ring
Go our little bells
We are Santa's helpers
Tap a tap a tap a
We are Santa's helpers
Making Christmas toys

SANTA (tune of Bingo)

There was a man on Christmas Day
And Santa was his name-O
S-A-N-T-A; S-A-N-T-A; S-A-N-T-A
And Santa was his name O

A Chubby Little Snowman

A chubby little snowman,
Had a carrot nose.
Along came a bunny,
And what do you suppose?
That chubby little bunny,
Looking for some lunch,
Ate that chubby snowman's nose
Nibble, nibble, CRUNCH!!

FUN CRAFTS

Handprint Ornaments

*Cinnamon *Craft glue *Toothpick
*Applesauce *Cookie Cutter/Cup *Ribbon

1. Make the dough by combining equal parts of applesauce and cinnamon with a tablespoon of craft glue.
2. Roll out the dough and use a cookie cutter or a glass to cut circles large enough to fit your child's hand print inside the circle.
3. Press their hand into the circle and use a toothpick to create a small hole to string a ribbon through it.
4. When dry, fill the hand print with paint, or paint your child's name and year below the hand print, and string the ribbon.

