

Miss Bonnie's Newsletter

" ... The blessings of the Lord be upon you. "

Psalms 129:8

Welcome back and Happy New Year!! I hope your Holidays were special in every way. The month of January is here already and there isn't much snow in the forecast, that is until you enter the classroom! At the start of winter, we look forward to frosty windows, pretty icicles and snow. Bringing the beauty and magic of winter inside will be my goal. I'm starting the seasonal activity plans for winter with a collection of things to do in the classroom.

I love incorporating a Gingerbread Man Theme into our winter! I'll start off by reading many different versions of the Gingerbread Man story. This will give them an introduction to the story and allow us to compare different versions. Graphing their favorite may be a bit challenging as they are all so good. One of our cooking projects will include making gingerbread men. The cookies will mysteriously disappear from the oven, leaving the children with written clues all around the school to try and catch him. When they finally catch him, we will graph where they will take their first yummy bite on the cookie. They will act out the story in the home center. There will be mixing bowls, utensils and cookie cutters all to help the story come to life. The sensory table will have gingerbread cookie mix to sift through. The children will love the smell and will enjoy the tactile nature of the mix.

Many wintery games and cool science experiments will take place during group time. From making realistic indoor snow to crystal snowflakes or setting up fascinating winter science labs and more; these wintery experiments involving solids, liquids and gases will captivate the kiddos curious minds.

Busy bags are filled with many new fine motor activities to help strengthen their writing abilities. The writing boxes will contain snowflake rubbings, stencils and magnetic letters to help us in writing winter words, such as snow, ice, frost ...etc.

The children will find Arctic animal such as polar bears, penguins, walrus, and more to explore and read about in the library.

The week of January 14th I will introduce quotes from Martin Luther King Jr. as well as other sources. We will also talk about Love and Peace all week in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., explaining just because Dr. King died his dream didn't die with him and that there are people still working to make sure his dreams come true.

Process Art will consist of charcoal drawings, ice and water colors, salt painting, crystalizing watercolor paintings and salt dough mittens.

Delicious learning will involve making ice cream, snow cones, and snowmen.

Gross motor will consist of crossing the midline exercise games and on Fridays continuing yoga. Crossing the midline is an important part of development in a child. They need it for reading, writing and many other important school activities as well as play activities. Poor midline crossing will affect how your child reads (tracking with the eye from left to right) and writes (using the dominant hand across the writing page). Since winter can bring such cold bitter days, outside play isn't always an option.

We will end January with a cozy PJ party incorporating show and tell all in one on Wednesday January 30th. For our snack, the children will measure and mix their own hot chocolate and butter their toast. For Show and Tell please have your child bring in their favorite toy (must be willing to share) and no bigger than their book bag . Thank you!

Thank you for all the helping hands at Jesus' birthday celebration and for the wonderful cards and gifts!! I thank God for your children, for the blessings they are and the joy that they bring!

Please make sure your angels are bundled up, because baby it's COLD outside!!!

God Bless,
Miss Bonnie and Miss Vicky

Important Dates: 30 - PJ Party and Show and Tell Happy Birthday
Birthdays: January 4 - Aubrey
22 - Harper
31 - Bowen