The Hagedorn Little Village School Jack Joel Center for Special Children





Vietnam Vets Continue to Support HLVS!

The Vietnam Veterans #82, Nassau County Chapter, has once again generously donated to HLVS. President Steve Bonom and many members of their chapter visited HLVS in December. They enjoyed spending time with our children, visiting classrooms and partaking in some holiday festivities of singing and dancing. Some of the children at HLVS will be voting to select the educational toys that will be purchased with the money they donated. As always, we are extremely grateful for the kindness and generosity of The Vietnam Veterans #82, Nassau County Chapter. THANK YOU!!!







Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Visits Little Village!

A special holiday thank you to George Bruno, grandfather of Little Village student Elliott Dulude for playing Santa Clause. We'd also like to thank Bob Caputo, one of our Little Village custodians for also helping out as Santa. A lot of our Little Villagers wanted to visit with Santa this holiday season! *Happy Holidays to All!!!*



































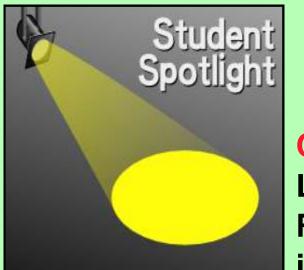
Thank You Giving Hope Network!

We are very grateful to the Giving Hope Network (GHN) for all of their ongoing support! GHN recently donate 28 brand new iPads and cases to our students. Their generosity supports our staff in our efforts to give all of our students an effective way to communicate and learn.



Thank you GHN!!!





Child Spotlight — Chase Vasquez

Chase Vasquez is an adorable little boy who attends Little Village's full day Early Intervention program in Room 220. Chase has made amazing strides since starting HLVS. He has grown from the scared little boy who

came to school in September to the little boy who walks happily and confidently down the hall with his teachers and assistants. His teacher, Lauren Sciubba, says that Chase loves music and talking walks. He is using sign language to communicate. She added that he loves playing

and joking with everyone.

His parents were so happy that Chase was chosen for this special spotlight that they provided a beautiful description of Chase's journey so far. They would like everyone to know that Chase is a little boy who defies all odds. At 6 weeks old they were told that he had a rare condition, Optic

Nerve Hypoplasia. Doctors told them that he may never see more than light, and that he would face numerous medical, mental and physical issues including the

inability to walk or eat table food.



As his mother explained, "this wasn't good enough for Chase and it sure wasn't for us. We fought and worked at every obstacle. It was hard watching Chase not being able to have the "typical" childhood. But we knew if he had a shot and a fair chance for the future, the time was now. Chase had 11 therapies at home since 6 months old. Even at 1 year of age' we would catch him practicing what he was working on".

She continued, "the time came where we knew Chase needed more than what he was getting at home. We decided to enroll him in HLVS at 21 months old. We were scared, nervous and didn't know how he would adjust. Within only 3 short weeks

we knew it was the best decision we had made. At 23 months old Chase proved that doctor wrong; he walked

and once he started he didn't stop. Chase is now 25 months and loves walking around. He eats regular table food and recently started to feed himself. He's a defiant little boy and with each new accomplishment you can see how proud he is of himself. To see how happy he is when he gets on the school bus, or when we sit in and observe makes us so grateful for everyone at HLVS. You can see how proud he is of his school and the love he has for his teacher and all the assistants and the enormous team behind him. Words couldn't explain the boy that we wake up to everyday from just 4 months ago. The change is DRASTIC. His use of sign language helps him to not be frustrated anymore so he can finally tell us what he wants!!! Every week we see something new. We're excited to see what the road ahead will bring for Chase!"

Chase has a new baby brother at home that he loves. His mother also reported that while he loves snuggling with his mommy, he especially loves spending time with his best friend, his daddy!

His parents wanted to express their thanks for picking their "little fighter" to be the featured student!



Classroom News

Our Healthy Students in Room 60

Room 60 is kicking off the new year by learning how to be healthy! Teacher Kathleen Langlois and the students discussed how they can exercise, which foods are good for them

to eat and how it helps their bodies. They discovered how some exercises help certain muscles. The children learned which foods are healthy for their bodies and how much of each type of food they should eat each.











Classroom News

Room 10 Learns About Winter Weather

Teacher Jenn McAteer and the children in Room 10 are learning about the cold winter weather. The students are learning what clothes they can wear to keep warm. They also had a great time playing with some snow.





























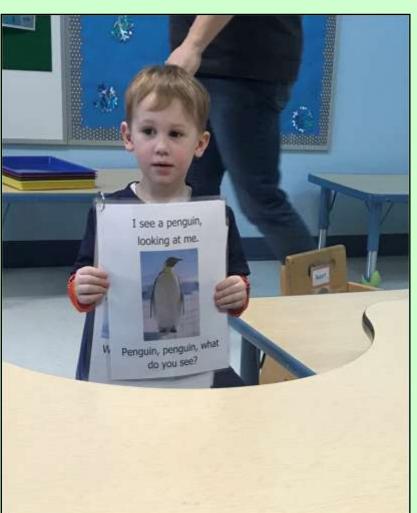
Classroom News

Our Littlest Little Villagers Learn About Winter

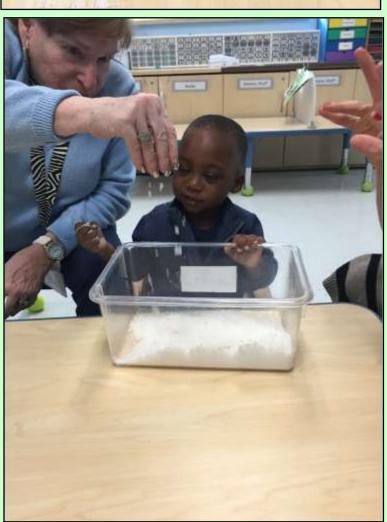
This month in Room 220, Teacher Lauren Sciubba and the Early Intervention students in Room 220 were learning all about winter. At the table they played with snow, and worked on sharing and taking turns. One of the children recited a familiar story about winter animals to his classmates during a group lesson. During sensory play, the all got a turn to paint snow with watercolors. They also went "hunting" for winter animals in the snow!





















Michael Raab CMS LLC Golden Rule Award Recipient

Save the Date! Thursday, January 25, 2018





Honorable Joseph S. Saladino Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Susan Weshler Memorial Award Recipient

Golden Rule Award Dinner Event Sponsor



Contact Jennifer Kirincic 516-520-6043 or Jennifer.kiriincic@littlevillage.

Fresh Meadow Country Club, Lake Success, N.Y.
Contact Jennifer Kirincic at (516) 520-6043 or
Jennifer.kirincic@littlevillage.org for more information

"Festive" Sweater Day

Once again, Little Village staff got in the holiday spirit by holding a "festive" - *not ugly* - sweater contest. More importantly, everyone was treated to some very special holiday goodies hosted by Patti Pizza and Trish McCarthy. Everyone enjoyed the delicious cookies, cakes and assorted treats.











Around Little Village Last Month!

