

Brush Creek Nursery School Newsletter December 2018

Class Notes

Happy holidays to everyone. December. We are ending another year and it's a time of reflection, tradition, fun and family.

I am way older than all of you, but I remember my childhood holidays as a time where doing things together was paramount. My Grandparents lived down the street and whether we were making clove/orange pomanders, flocking trees (yes, we really did that ourselves and I had flocking *everywhere!*) or baking and taking cookies to all the neighbors, we did it together. It somehow was less about having the perfectly decorated home or the big pile of gifts...it was simple.

Whether you celebrate Hanukkah, Christmas

or both, I hope you find lots of time for your family to be together. It truly is a magical time of year.

We will be having lots of fun in the classroom the next couple of weeks. Each child is bringing home a gift they lovingly made. We will share traditions with each other, and show the diverse ways in which we all express our joy.

Thank you everyone for helping to make our school the wonderful place it is. We are all connected! Happy holidays to all of you. I'll be thinking of you as I'm playing with my own family.....

-Julie



We will be doing a little dramatic play gift wrapping center. Do you have any small boxes (like jewelry boxes) or scraps of wrapping paper you'd like to send our way? We also use lots of TAPE, so if you see some on sale and would like to donate it, we'd be very grateful.

One person's trash is another person's treasure....

HELP NEEDED!!

- *For the holidays we enjoy having a tree in the classroom. Is anyone willing to pick up two holiday trees from CVS, or ?? We will reimburse you for the cost of the trees.*
- *See one of the teachers if you can help! Thanks!*

School will be closed from Friday December 21- January 6th. We'll resume January 7, 2019!!



Miss Vicki

The profiled employee this month is Vicki Briggs! Vicki has been at Brush Creek since the 1980's. She was hired and just days later the school was destroyed by fire. Yes, we were burned to the ground in the early 80's. We're happy Vicki stuck with us and decided to stay for all these years. Read about Vicki in the

front bulletin board case. This year marks her 30th year at BC!

Vicki is a valuable asset to our school, and we salute her this month.

All profiled employees receive a small gift certificate to Montgomery Village in honor of their wonderful Brush Creek service.

Ten ways to make the holidays meaningful for your kids

The race is on and the holidays are coming. Here are a few ways to hopefully add a different spin things.

1. Remember the meaning of the holiday. Now is the time to tell the stories of Hanukkah or Christmas, their origins and practice.
2. Take time to give back to others. Teach this to your kids. Pick something your child might be able to relate to...coins in the Salvation army bucket, buying for Toys for Tots, gloves for the homeless.
3. Go with the four gifts per kid rule: something they want, something they need, something to wear, and something to read.
4. Decorate with intention. Now is the time to highlight the egg carton bells, the special menorah passed down in the family, etc. Tell the stories of how the things came to be yours.
5. Count it down in a fun way....every night of Hanukkah read a new story, cut a link off of a paper chain as you count down to Christmas.
6. Put one new ornament or decoration out each day or night for a specified period of time.

7. Plan a family date (or several). Get input from your kids. If you are brave, let each person plan one outingand do it! No editing!
8. Plan a family night in...movie? Popcorn? Sing along? Baking cookies? All good quality family time.
9. Consider your calendar carefully. Don't overbook and overcommit. You will end up with cranky kids and cranky adults. Keep it reasonable so you can keep it fun.
10. Just say no. It's okay to say we can't do that or you don't have time or energy to bake 4 dozen cookies or you can't buy gifts for your neighbors dog. For goodness sake, we aren't super heroes, we're people. You are going to feel strange at first putting limits on things, but try it...you'll like it. And you will find the stress is less and the enjoyment is more.

Happy holidays everyone!



December Billing

You will notice a regular tuition bill for December even though we will be closed for part of the month. Just a reminder that you pay an annual tuition, divided into equal monthly payments. Any early/after care hours are billed only for days we are open.

We also want to remind that we cannot substitute days for you for days your child may miss. We are at licensing capacity with the kids enrolled, so we don't have empty slots to make this work.

Miscellaneous Info

**A polite reminder that tuition is due BY the 10th of each month and is considered late on the morning of the 11th. Please treat your BC bill like any other that has a due date. If your payment comes in late you are subject to a late fee (s).

During these busy times it's easy to forget deadlines!

SPECIAL EVENTS IN AFTER CARE

In December we have planned some special events in the after care program. Contracted kids will get to do these projects on their scheduled days. Other kids will need to sign up! Sign up on bulletin board behind the front door. Events are from 2:30-3:30 pm (generally).

Dec 5 – Snowmen in a jar

Dec. 11 and 12– Gingerbread houses

Dec. 19 and 20– Holiday Movie Theatre complete with popcorn

Did you know...

PLAY.....

- Promotes cognitive growth
- Promotes emotional growth
- Promotes social growth
- Promotes sensory motor skills
- Promotes imaginative journeys