



JANUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

Important Dates in January and February

January 3 rd	School Re-Opens
January 10 th	Second Semester Payments Due in Office
January 11 th	Parent Morning 8:30-9:30am
January 16 th	School Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February 1 st	Re-Enrollment Contracts Mailed to Returning Students
February 8 th	Parent Night 7-8pm – Mathematics
February 14 th	Valentine's Day Celebration
February 17 th	Contracts Due From Current Students
February 20 th	President's Day – School Closed

CLASSROOM NEWS

Welcome Back!

Happy New Year! We hope everyone was able to get some rest, visit with family, and enjoy the time with each other. With so many warm days, it is hard to believe it's winter. We were ready to resume our studies with the children returning to school today. This month we will be studying the continent of Asia, as well as various bird life. This is the time of year that we like to talk again to the children about germs and washing hands – ask your child about the "hand washing" lesson they received at school.

Shoebox Donation

Thanks to your generosity, this year we were able to donate 21 shoeboxes full of essential items to men, women, and children in need in Washington, DC. Each child decorated their box with holiday sponge stamps, the the kindergarteners loaded up the boxes into the back of Ben Kramer's car (Lyla's dad) and the donation was brought to S.O.M.E.



They were extremely appreciative and wanted to pass along their thanks to all of you who donated. This has become a school tradition that we really enjoy.

Parent Morning

Our doors will open on **Wednesday, January 11th** to welcome parents to Parent Day! This time is a special one for your child, as it allows your child to show you how far he/she has come in the classroom. For some, this will be the first time you have seen your child in action. For the older children, they will want to show you how they have progressed in their academic work. Materials may be unfamiliar to you, but we will be there to guide you and your child. Please do not be concerned if your child wants to show you something you find trivial, like snack. There are many steps involved in the lessons they have been given, so having snack will involve the steps that your child knows and wants to show you. If it seems your child is wandering around, it could be the excitement is too much, and we will help him/her find a suitable activity. Madam Tressel will plan to be here for French lessons as well.

At 9:30am we ask that you say goodbye to your child and exit through the front door. There may be some tears as the morning will not be their typical routine. Please do not worry, as things will go back to normal as soon as the classroom becomes quiet again.

French Studies by Madam Tressel

What an exciting month we had! With so many holidays, there was a lot to talk about. We spoke about Christmas, and Hanukkah, and our family. We also made a Christmas card. We sang a new song: "il etait un petit navire." Singing is so helpful in learning a language, and we sang often in December. With the 4 years old, we counted by 10 to 100. All the children learned the days of the week. If you are interested in practicing outside of the classroom, feel free to visit the school website for printouts.

New Student

Welcome Karina Bhatia! Alex's sister will be joining us in early January. An updated directory will be sent soon.

FROM THE OFFICE

Contracts Arriving Soon

On February 1st, if you indicated on the "Intent to Re-Enroll" form that you plan to return next year, a contract will be mailed to your home address. Contracts are due on **February 17th** along with a \$500 deposit. Semester tuition due dates for the 2012-2013 school year are June 1st and December 1st, 2012. As they were last year, credit cards will be accepted.

Grandparents' Day

Plan ahead... A quick reminder that grandparents and special friends are invited to join us for Grandparents' Day on **Monday, March 19th** from 8:30-9:30am.

Cool Weather Clothing

A change is in the air, with cooler temperatures hitting our region within the last few days. We believe the children should go out for recess if it is above freezing and the wind is not strong. Please remember to send your child with a warm coat, gloves or mittens, a hat, a scarf (if they prefer) and warm boots during snowy weather. Please make sure to label these items as well.

A Big Thank You

- Classroom Snack – We appreciate the families of O'Brien and Doukouris for bringing a nutritious week-long snack for the children to enjoy in December.
- Birthday Cookie Bakers – Last year the families of Bhatia, Guimbert, Holmes, McGowan, Rosenkoetter, Schulman, Segni, and Swann all baked our yummy birthday cookies for celebrations in class. Thank you so much for volunteering your time.

PHOTOS



Kindergartener constructing an inuksuk



Metal inset work and a science puzzle



Painting at our easel



Counting on the thousand chain



Folding the morning laundry



Preparing the paperwhite bulbs



Coloring



Balance beam practice



Counting the thousand chain



Washing the chalkboard



Monthly calendar work



Coloring and polishing