

JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2020

Mrs. Wolek & Miss Teagan M/W/F and T/TH Classes

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a great winter break with their families. We look forward to an awesome month filled with lots of winter activities! January is sure to bring more cold weather and snow. Make sure the children bring appropriate winter gear to school each day. We will be going outside for exercise and fresh air whenever possible. All the preschoolers should practice zipping coats, putting on boots and getting their fingers inside gloves and mittens.

December included several seasonal activities and learning experiences that reinforced the letters Dd, Ee and Jj. For letter Dd, the preschoolers created dot patterns, colored dog pictures, and had fun decorating gift bags and cards for their parents. They also listened to several books about dogs and especially enjoyed, If You Give a Dog a Donut and Harry the Dirty Dog.

Toy elephants and paint were used to make elephant tracks, and this helped us to remember that elephant starts with Ee! We also learned about evergreen trees and participated in several projects that included evergreens. Real evergreen branches made unique "paintbrushes" at the easel and were included in the sensory table. We even added cinnamon scented pine cones to enhance the sensory experience. This made our little room smell so wonderful! In addition, the children sponge painted evergreen wreaths and threaded straws and beads on pipe cleaners to make decorative wreaths and candy canes. This required a lot of concentration and fine motor control, but the students did a fantastic job!

Learning the letter Jj was also fun. Everyone loved the movement activities and songs that involved jumping and jingle bells! All our senses were engaged when we combined art and science to create a jingle bell rolling art project. As we rolled our jingle bells in paint, we talked about movement, speed, color and sound. It was interesting to watch the preschoolers experiment and create beautiful artwork.

The letters Hh, Cc, Yy and Ff will be introduced this month. Continue to check backpacks for the "letter of the week," and practice letter recognition by singing the song and using the motion for each letter. Throughout January and the rest of the school year, we will be focusing on writing and identifying the letters in our names. The students will be working on using uppercase and lowercase letters to write their names correctly. We are thrilled to work with your children and can't wait to see what new abilities our preschoolers develop in the New Year!

