December 2020 Newsletter

The Giving Nest Preschool in Pluckemin Director: Barbara Maxwell





December Happenings at the Nest... The "Giving Tree"

December is always an exciting time at the Giving Nest. It is a delightful time to be with little children during the holidays and sharing the spirit of the season. The children will have fun making gifts for their families and creating beautiful artwork for our hallways-wait until you see them!

In December, the children will see an Evergreen Tree in our hallway. We will refer to it as our Giving tree. Every year at the Giving Nest schools we ask the children to do a chore at home. When they complete their chore, we ask their parents to pay their child \$2.00. The children will tell their teacher what they did at home. (Mom or Dad can help by writing the chore on the envelope with the \$2.00). The teacher will write it on the ornament that the children will create for the Giving Tree. The children should bring their \$2.00 in by December 1st & 2nd. This year we will be supporting Good Counsel. Please see goodcounselhomes.org for more details.

Holiday Celebrations...



Children love celebrating the holidays, so during December the children will hear about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa through stories, crafts and songs. If your family celebrates any other holiday, please let us know. The teachers will introduce the children to some of our old and new favorite holiday songs. At the end of the school year in December we will send you a video of your children celebrating at their holiday parties and caroling their favorite songs!





The Kids Holiday Shoppe is quickly approaching, this year's event will be held during the week of December 14th. Each child's class will have their own special day to shop at our Holiday Boutique. The stage in Fellowship Hall will be festively set up as the "shopping boutique" and our shopper has begun shopping for gift items.

Each child participating in the Kids Holiday Shoppe will have the opportunity to browse each area and personally hand pick a special holiday gift to purchase for the family and friends designated on the returned green forms received back at school. Each gift will then be wrapped in a gift bag with the gift tag securely placed on each gift for secure keeping. All gifts purchased will be sent home the day of shopping. Remember each gift is no more than \$2.00. The children will be learning fun skills while they shop and then surprise their families with their carefully chosen gifts.



A special Thank you to the most amazing families!

- We've been overwhelmed with your generosity! Thank you for your donations of cleaning supplies, soap, air purifiers, filters, batteries, donation checks and participation in our fundraising campaigns. Within a week, each, and every classroom will have an air purification unit.
- The Somerset County Food Bank received its first delivery from The Giving Nest Preschool in Pluckemin. The volunteers were so grateful when they saw the amount of food that was being brought into the building. A big Thank You from them as well! We will continue to drop off food weekly throughout the coming weeks.



Snow Days...

In the event of severe weather conditions, a decision will be made to either cancel school or have a delayed opening (allowing time for the snowplows to do their jobs). In the event of a delayed opening or school closing:

- We will send out an E-mail blast to all our families with the pertinent information.
- We will modify our outgoing message on the school phone. Our # is 908-658-9665.
- We will post our school's status online on <u>www.news12.com</u>. Click on "New Jersey" then click on "Closings/Delays".
- A weather banner will be posted on our website.

Please note we will be following the Bridgewater district's closing schedule. However, it is also possible we will have to make our own decisions based on the safety of our parking lot.

Our delayed opening time schedule is listed below

DELAYED OPENING TIME SCHEDULE

Classes A, C & I 10:00-12:15 half day or 10:00 - 2:15 full day Class H, H-3 10:15 - 2:30 Class K 10:15 - 3:00 Classes D, E, F & G 10:30 - 12:45 half day or 10:30 - 2:45 full day

We will not have Early Care on the Mornings of Delays.

2021 - 2022 In House Registration

The dates for Pre-Registration and In - House Registration are as follows:

January 11th: In House Pre-Registration information will be emailed to you.

January 15th: In House Pre-Registration is over

January 19th & 20th: In-House Registration forms go home

January 27th: In-House Registration is over

January 29th: Calling families outside the school



Mark your calendar...

Dec. 1st & 2^{nd} - Chore Money is due.

Dec. 7th - Holiday Party Sign-up will be emailed to you.

Dec. 14th - 18th - Kids's Holiday Shop

Dec. 21st & 22nd – Holiday Parties and Virtual Caroling

Please remember that the state requires that ALL children between the ages of 2 and 5 have the flu vaccination by December 31^{st} to attend school. Please give your proof of immunization to the office by January 4th, 2021.

with the colder weather upon us, don't forget to switch the change of clothes in your child's backpack!

From Mrs. Max, Miss Sherry and the Giving Nest Staff...We wish you all a wonderful & blessed holiday and a relaxing, safe but fun winter vacation!

We'll see you on January 4th, 2021!