

## *The Giving Nest*



This December at the Giving Nest you will see our “Giving Tree” located in the entrance hall. When the tree first appears, it is simply decorated with lights. It is then that the magic of learning the *true* meaning of the holidays begins:

Mrs. Tracy will be explaining the purpose of our Giving tree during *Sing Time*. First, she will explain to the children that not every boy and girl will receive lots and lots of toys during the holidays. She asks the students “How do you think we can help these children?” The students will be guided to suggest that we should buy them some gifts. Then Mrs. Tracy will ask them “How can we get money to buy toys?” If a child doesn’t suggest it first, a teacher will suggest: Let’s do work to earn the money! We then discuss that they are too young to go out and get a job, so we explore some of the jobs they could do at home. Mrs. Tracy will suggest that she could ask their parents to pay each of them for doing a simple chore at home and they can donate this money to buy gifts for less fortunate children. We know they will agree that this is a great idea!

Thanksgiving break is a great time to take a moment to sit with your child and agree on a chore they can do for you to earn money. Some of the simple chores done in the past are helping to set the table, putting away their toys, helping fold laundry, etc. In sing they will see a little skit explaining this process, but we hope at home you will remind them that by doing their chore they are *giving* a toy to another child. When that is realized, it is then that the *true* meaning of the holidays occurs.



**Look for the money envelope in your child’s backpack folder this month!**

**Together with your child please place the monetary donation in the envelope we sent home in their backpack folder and write the chore he/she completed on the outside label. Most of our tiny toddlers are unable to tell their teacher what they did, so please remember to write the chore on the envelope!** When the children bring their envelopes to school, they will create a special ornament for the Giving Tree describing the chore completed. Each class will then decorate the Giving Tree with the beautiful ornaments!

Each year, we combine all the chore money collected with other locations of the Giving Nest and Mary Sue Frank co-owner in our North Plainfield location buys and wraps the presents for the needy children.

**Please have your child do his/her chore and send in the money by December 4th. It is important that you write the chore on the envelope, so the teacher can write it on the ornament. If you choose not to participate please write “no thank you” on the envelope and return. Thank You & Happy Holidays!**