

# December 2019 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 you 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 (we will put on a little play for the children explaining this activity and how the money will be put together to help needy children). 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 out 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 2nd & 3rd. This year's chore money will go to several needy families in the Somerset County area. We have a detailed list of items they desperately need. Mary Sue Frank will purchase many of these items and then deliver them to their homes. We will share several pictures of the many purchases to the children and to our families during this month.

### Holiday Celebrations and the Sing Room...



Children love celebrating the holidays, so during Sing the children will hear about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa through stories, crafts and songs. If your family celebrates any other holiday, please tell your child's teacher. Also, if you would like to come to the "Sing Room" and talk to the children about your holiday traditions, please see Mrs. Max. The children would love it! Copies of the songs we sing in the Sing Room are available in the office or on our web site. The songs will be on our easel at out at our Holiday Sing! We will also focus on "GIVING OF OURSELVES IS THE BEST GIFT OF ALL"! The children will see a play, entitled: "The Giving Nest Children Lend a Helping Hand."



### HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG

We are so lucky to have the beautiful Fellowship Hall in this building. This beautiful space will help us showcase your child for events such as our Holiday Sings, School Shows and their Bluebird, Cardinal and Kindergarten graduations.

There are no restrictions as far as guests. There is plenty of seating. Unfortunately, it is not always available. Our Holiday Sing-a-longs will be held a week earlier than in the past. Please see the schedule below you're your child attends the morning session only we invite him/her to attend school for the full day and we will bring your child to meet you for the Sing-a-long at 1:30. If you prefer, you can pick up your child at 12:15 and return at 1:30. Your child can either sing up on the stage or sit with you on your lap. Please don't miss this very special event!

Thursday, December 12 @ 1:30 - Classes A/A+, E/E+, H/H+ & J/J-3

Friday, December 13 @ 1:30 - Classes B/B+, C, D/D+, (F/F+), G/G+, (I/I+) & K  
(Parents of the children who attend 2 classes such as F/F+ & I/I+ may attend one or both events).

# Adopt-a-Family

The Giving Nest Preschool is partnering with the Hearts of Watchung-Caring & Sharing. This program provides a wish list of clothing, household items and toys for children of families who are unemployed, homeless or who are victims of domestic abuse. Please see our "wish list of ornaments" in our hallway. Gifts are due back in our school by Friday, December 6th.



The Kids Holiday Shoppe is quickly approaching, this year's event will be Wednesday, December 4th and Thursday, December 5th. Fellowship Hall will be festively set up as the "shopping center" and our shopper has begun shopping for items to fill each store.

Each child participating in the Kids Holiday Shoppe will have the opportunity to browse each store 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 by the volunteers with the gift tag securely placed on each gift for secure keeping. All gifts purchased will be sent home the day of shopping.

We are in need of volunteers to be part of the event as "Shop Keepers" to tend the shops while the children are shopping and "Personal Shoppers" to assist the children while they are shopping for gifts!!! This is a very exciting time to join in the holiday fun here at the Giving Nest. Please see our email and "Sign Up Genius" if you would like to volunteer your time for this fun event.

## 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 [www.news12.com](http://www.news12.com). Click on "New Jersey" then click on "Closings/Delays".
- Check Facebook and Instagram
- 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

*Morning Classes 10:30-12:45*

*Full Day Classes 10:30-2:15*

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

## 2020 -2021 In House Registration

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

January 6th & 7th: In House Pre-Registration information will be emailed to you.

January 15th: In House Pre-Registration is over

January 21st & 22nd: In-House Registration forms go home

January 27th: In-House Registration is over

January 28th: Calling families outside the school



## Mark your calendar...

Dec. 2nd & 3rd- Chore Money is due.  
Dec. 2nd- Holiday Party Sign-up will be emailed to you.  
Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>- Kids Holiday Shoppe  
Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>- Adopt a family gift is due.  
Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>- Holiday Sing-a-longs @ 1:30  
Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> to Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> - School closed for the Winter Break.



## Immunizations:

\*\*\*Please remember that the state requires that ALL children between the ages of 2 and 5 have the flu vaccination by December 31<sup>st</sup> to attend school. Please give your proof of immunization to the office by January 2nd, 2020.\*\*\*

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

## A Special Thank You to...

- Thank you to all the children who donated some of their wrapped Halloween candy.
- Thank you for donating so many canned and dried goods for Somerset County Food Bank.
- Thank you for supporting Little Lambs Cookie Dough. Over \$2,200.00 was raised! We recently purchased a large laminator for the teachers.
- To the parents of the Cardinal children for helping to supply the trimmings for the class Thanksgiving Feast. What yummy food and festive decorations!! All of the little Pilgrims and Native Americans had a wonderful feast!
- Thank you for supporting the Adopt-a-Family program.

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

We'll see you on January 2nd, 2020!