



😊 Small Talk 😊

The Monthly Newsletter of Bethlehem Preschool
December 2017

Bethlehem Preschool, Inc.,
PO Box 4 Glenmont, NY 12077
(518) 463-8091 www.bethlehempreschool.com

Happy Holidays!!

The staff of Bethlehem Preschool would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday season.

At Bethlehem Preschool, we love celebrations and strive to include our families' traditions into our program. At this time of year, we encourage our families to share their holiday traditions with their child's class. This can be done through the sharing of items (books, food, games, etc.) or classroom visits to share family traditions and cultural heritage. Please see your child's teacher if there is something that you would like to share with the class.

Holiday Caring and Sharing Programs

Bethlehem Preschool is once again participating in the Bethlehem Community **Holiday Caring and Sharing Program**. The program is asking for the donation of **grocery gift cards**. If you would like to participate, please take a tag from a board around the building, and leave the purchased gift card at the front desk, or hand the card to a staff member by **December 8**.

We are also collecting new, unwrapped toys for **"Toys for Tots."** Please leave the toys in the box by the front door.

The Pre-k classes are coordinating the collection of non-perishable food for a local food pantry. Please deposit your non-perishable donations in the collection boxes found between the Pre-k classrooms. Thank you!

The Next Step: Becoming a Kindergartener

Please join us for our workshop, **The Next Step: Becoming a Kindergartener** in **January 2018**. This workshop is geared for parents of the Pre-K 3/4s and Pre-K 4s children who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2018. Topics of discussion will include kindergarten screening, kindergarten standards, transitioning to a new school, and preparation at BPS for Kindergarten. Specific date and time will be announced in January.

BPS Closed

BPS will be closed on **Monday, December 25**. We will also be closed on **Monday, January 1, 2018**.

Winter Weather Closings

BPS rarely closes for winter weather. If we are closed for any emergency, the closing would be announced **on TV, radio and internet along with other school-closing announcements**. We would be listed under **Bethlehem Preschool**. (Please note we are **NOT a part of a Bethlehem Central School District** closing.)

Fund Raisers

KidStuff Coupon Book \$25: We were very successful with our sale of the KidStuff Coupon Books this year! Thanks to everyone who sold them!! We still have a few books available for sale into December. They make a perfect gift for everyone, or make a great gift for a holiday grab bag.

Scholastic Books

We will place our December order for Scholastic Books **on December 11** before the holidays. This will allow the books to arrive by December 22. Please look on-line (www.scholasticbooks.com) for all of the available catalogs, and use our school code (**GDT CJ**) to place your order.

Classroom Notes

Infant Room: Brrrr.... The cold weather is here. Remember to dress warmly as we will still be going out on short walks.

This month we will enjoy reading winter stories and singing new winter songs. We love when Andy the Music Man visits! We love to play our musical instruments, sing, dance and clap.

Be on the lookout for some winter art projects and a special holiday gift at the end of the month.

Happy holidays to all of our families.

~ **Michele & Kristen**

Toddler Room: We can't believe December is here. The year has flown by! This month, we will be talking about "**Colors.**" We will be exploring the many colors around our classroom and do various colorful art projects. We are looking forward to our **Color Week**, where we will wear a different color each day. Look for a letter in your child's mailbox for further information. We will also have a Pajama Day in December. Send your child to school in their favorite PJs for a cozy and fun day! Check your mailbox for the exact date. Also, keep an eye out for a special holiday gift.

Be sure to check your child's extra clothing box for warm and size appropriate clothes. We try to go outside at least once per day, so please remember to bring in boots, snow pants, hats and mittens. **Label Everything!**

Happy birthday to **G**. We would like to wish everybody a happy holiday!

~ **Alicia, Tara & Cassidy**

Twos Room: Hooray for the holiday season. We would like to invite you to come into the

classroom to share a holiday tradition (play a game, cook, read a book, etc.)

For December, we will be focusing on celebrations. Each week will have its own theme:

Dec. 4 – 8: **Games**

Dec. 11 – 15: **Colors**

[Mon/Red Tues/Orange Weds/Yellow
Thurs/Blue Fri/ Green]

Dec. 18 – 22: **Party**

[Mon / Tea Party Tues / Costume
Weds / Un-birthday Thurs / Pajama day
Fri / Piñata Party]

Dec. 26 – 29 **Favorite Story** - Children may bring in their favorite book, or please come in to read your child's favorite story.

As the temperature turns colder and the snow flies, please remember hats and mittens (**with thumbs**), and snow pants and boots when appropriate. Snow gear can be left on our hooks in the hallway. We try to get outside every day, as weather permits. Please help us to keep everyone's things organized by **LABELING** everything. We know some important items can easily get "lost;" please help prevent this by **LABELING** everything.

~ **Bonita, Tera & Lanita**

Threes Room: The Three Year Old Room enjoyed a happy November. We studied the community helpers who make our neighborhoods a healthy and safe place to live. Everyone enjoyed the visit from G and S mom; we extend great thanks for the activities and projects she performed with us.

This December our class will study **Hibernation and Migration**. As the cold weather moves in, the Three's will discuss how animals (and people) prepare for the winter months ahead. If any parent would like to be a part of our fun, or share a talent, please speak to a teacher to schedule a date.

Please continue to send LABELED hats, gloves and warm clothes to school for outdoor play. We brave the coldest of days!

Happy birthday to **M, D, H and I**.

We're looking forward to another exciting month of investigation, exploration and imagination!

~ **Jared, Maura & Ashley**

Pre-K 3/4s: November has come and gone

and was full of exciting activities about autumn. We learned about colorful leaves and the parts of a tree, and really enjoyed baking pumpkin bread. We also talked about all the things we are grateful for.

We had an amazing and educational day at the Saratoga Children's Museum! Fun was had by all and we are so grateful to our parent volunteers.

We are very excited to talk about "**Family Traditions**" in December. We would love to learn about a tradition from your family! We will also learn about shapes in December.

We are happy to welcome a new friend, G O! We can't wait to get to know her.

Please replenish your child's clothing box with winter clothes.

We look forward to another month of fun and learning.

Happy birthday to **B, T, K, J and R.**

~ ***Brittany, Stephanie & Becca***

Pre-K 4s: December already?! Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. Thank you for all the wonderful Family Turkeys! The children enjoyed sharing them with the class.

This month we will be working on the **star shape, letter Q and numbers 6 & 7.** The month is also full of family traditions! If you would like to share a special family tradition with the class, please arrange a time to come in. We would love to hear a favorite story, make a favorite food with you, or share a game your family enjoys playing. Thanks for sharing with us!!

Happy birthday to **P and T.**

Happy Holidays to all!

~ ***Tara, Sherry & Angie***

Important Dates

Dec. 8 - Deadline for gift card donations

Dec. 11 – Deadline for Scholastic Book order

Dec. 15 - Deadline for food drive and "Toys for Tots" donations

Dec. 25 - **BPS closed** for Christmas

Jan. 1 - **BPS closed** for New Year's Day

Jan. 15 – **BPS closed** for MLK Holiday