

The Friday Flyer
The Children's Academy

www.childrensacademy.net

Jan. 2nd – Jan. 6th 2012

**THE ACADEMY WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL OUR
FAMILIES A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

REMINDER – Final tuition payments are now due.

MISSING BUNNY – One of our students is missing a favorite stuffed bunny. Please take the time to check your child's backpack to see if it was taken home in error.

SNACK – Thank you to the following children that brought snack in to share with their friends; Zev, Matea, Marco, Noah, Reilly and Maybeline.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY- Happy Birthday wishes to Matea and Maybeline.

LITTLE ROOM – Mrs. Lombardi and Mrs. Kovacs

We welcome the month of January with the number 5, the color blue and the shape rectangle. Our work presented in the earlier part of the school year has been transformed to celebrate the winter season with plenty of snowflakes and snow people. Our art project in the independent art area allowed the students to help decorate the winter bulletin board with beautiful snowflakes.

PRACTICAL LIFE- New material introduced includes mitten matching and dressing. The students enjoy dressing themselves in this very cold weather. New clipping work develops the muscles required for future writing skills and the colored clips work on visual discrimination and color identification.

SENSORIAL – New sound shakers were presented. This work develops the sense of sound as the children match the various shakers by their distinctive sounds.

CULTURAL – We have been discussing the winter season and our cultural area includes new photographs of the fun adventures people can have in the snow.

LANGUAGE - Each day we share a story with our friends. This is a special time allowing us to develop a love of literature and practice library manners. The title page gives an opportunity to learn about the important parts of a book including title, author and illustrator. Our library shelves are full of new books to support our discussions about winter.

TRANSITIONAL ROOM – Mrs. Tschopp and Mrs. Errante

LANGUAGE- Go together puzzles were introduced to reinforce logical thinking skills. “r” coloring, “r” gluing and “r” objects were shown to reinforce the “r” SOUND.

PRACTICAL LIFE- Our new activities were large clipping, small scooping, and rice pouring. All of these activities refine small motor skills and increase concentration. Rice pouring reinforces left to right progression for future reading.

SENSORIAL- Snowman building, winter pom-pom sorting and smelling jars were added to our sensorial shelf. Snowman building refines logical thinking skills. Pom-pom sorting refines sorting skills, and we made it more challenging by adding more colors.

ART- Winter insets were added to the art shelf. This activity helps to develop pencil control. Our art project was snowmen. The children used glue and stuffing fluff, to decorate their snowmen.

SOUND OF THE WEEK- for the week of January 9th is “n” as in napkin

BIG ROOM- Mrs. Sarno, Mrs. Smith, Ms. Dixon and Mrs. Gerst

PRACTICAL LIFE- Our pushpin snowman and eye dropper activities improve our pincer grip, concentration and eye hand coordination. The ice scraper and lacing cards improve our fine motor skills. Upon completion, the lacing cards may go home with the children. The winter table top centerpiece refines our fine motor skills and makes our environment attractive. We are spreading cheese on crackers for a tasty treat and continue to practice good manners as we serve crackers to our friends.

SENSORIAL- The five color discs were introduced to reinforce our matching skills. Foam fraction parts enabled us to see “arts” of the whole” and create a completed shape. The tangram also enabled us to use geometric shapes in creating characters. Snowflake identification helped us with our matching abilities. This week we enjoyed tasting two types of cornflakes. They looked different but didn’t taste so very different. We liked both!

MATH-New activities presented this week were math, symbol sorting, football counting, penguin counting, train counting, snow flake counting, and snow man stamping. We also read How Big is a Million.

LANGUAGE- In language our new materials this week were our second set of compound word puzzles to help recognize whole words, the large first letter sound cards and pictures to strengthen our knowledge of sounds and our Montessori bird freeze which enhances our visual discrimination. Our favorite activity this week was the star sorting activity.

SOCIAL STUDIES – Winter is here and so are those freezing temperatures! We talked about winter and all the things that change when winter arrives. How much harder it is for the animals to find food, and how difficult it can be to get around when there is snow and ice on the ground. We read stories about winter and looked at pictures of how different our environment looks when winter arrives.

CULTURAL – We continued our travels in North America. We visited several states within the United States. Our first stop was the Hoover Dam. We then continued our travels through Utah and Colorado as we enjoyed skiing. Our last stops included a Kentucky horse farm, Las Vegas lights, the Howe Caverns, New York City, the Mystic Seaport, a Texas farm with oil rigs and cattle, and last but not least, a fishing trip on the East Coast.

SCIENCE- What do we know about the moon? We viewed some great photos, discussed its orbit and learned about the relationship the moon has to earth. We reinforced our discussions with “phases of the moon” matching worksheets through the week. We also will be trying to grow a beautiful amaryllis flower. It starts out as a bulb and should have a lovely bloom in a few weeks. We’ll keep you updated!

ART-We stamped and painted evergreen trees with white paint in celebration of winter.

VOCABULARY- hibernate, migrate, winter solace, freezing, environment, moon, expert, crescent, astronaut, amaryllis, gravity and fairy.

SOUND OF THE WEEK- for the week of January 6th is “n” as in napkin

THANK YOU- A big thank you to Livia Ferguson for thinking of her friends The Academy! She brought us a real shark tooth from her trip to the aquarium.

CALENDAR REMINDERS

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| January 16 th | Monday | School Closed (Martin Luther King Day) |
| January 26 th | Thursday | Open House 7 – 9 P.M. |
| February 20 th -24 th | Monday – Friday | School Closed (Winter Recess) |

The Academy A Great Place To Be!!