

St. Michael's Preschool Newsletter

December 2021

Upcoming Events

Chapel

Every Tuesday
9:30am-Kinder, Pre-K Frog & Tiger and
Ladybug classes
10:00- Butterfly, Turtle and Owl classes

Dec. 2-3
See's Candy Pick Up

Dec. 24 – Jan. 2
Closed for Christmas Break

Looking forward to next month

Jan. 17

Closed for MLK



Lic # 070203871

Colleen's Corner

Hello Families!

It's the most wonderful time of the year....! Hard to believe we are wrapping another year up, still talking about Covid. Guess it'll be with us for a while. Looking back over the last two years, I never would have guessed it would last this long. We are grateful that we have had so few cases and that we have made it through Covid, stronger than ever. We have all you great families to thank for that.

We thought long and hard about having a Christmas program. Unfortunately, the kids would have to sing with their masks on and it just isn't the same. And with such limited seating in the church, it was a logistical challenge. I know someday we will have a holiday program, just don't know when that will be. We will have TONS of fun throughout the month to make up for it....tree trimming, Christmas lights cocoa drinking, PJ day, cookie decorating and so much more. We sing every day here anyway, but I sure do miss having fun events, especially this one.

We did great on our See's Candy fundraiser! We will have the official profit total by the end of the week. We expect the candy by Wednesday, and it takes a day or so for us to put all the orders together. Expect it to ready for pick up by Thursday or Friday. We will post on Remind when it is ready. Already working on our plans for our new garden area! Be the first person to let us know you've read this, and claim your free sweatshirt or t-shirt!

As a reminder, we close for Christmas starting on Dec 24th and we re-open on Monday, January 3rd. If you need another copy of our holiday closure schedule, please let me know.

The staff will have stockings hung up on the kitchen if you would like to give a special treat. All of us at St. Michael's would like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for entrusting your children to us. We have an amazing group of kids here and it truly is a blessing to spend our days with them. I hope all your holiday wishes come true!

Merry Christmas, and see you next year!
Ms. Colleen



Pre-K Frog News

Hello Frog Families,

Wow, has time gone by quick! Here we are in December already. I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving with your loved ones. We all sure do have a lot to be thankful for.

It's is the most wonderful time of the year. It's so exciting for me to share my excitement and the anticipation of the Christmas Season with your child. We will be doing many Christmas crafts for you to cherish for years to come. We will be learning about the meaning of Christmas and the birth of baby Jesus.

I am very thankful to have such a great group of kids as well as you awesome parents.

Wishing all of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Love,
Ms. Diana



Pre-K Tiger News

Hello Tiger families,

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones. We have so much to be thankful for. This past month we continued to work in our workbooks, letter recognition, letter sounds, we also talked about what we are thankful for.

December is the best time of year. Christmas is one of my favorite holidays with all the beautiful lights, decorations, usually visiting Santa and spending time with Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins, this year is going to be different for all of us.

This month we will be learning about the meaning of Christmas and the birth baby Jesus. We will also be making many beautiful decorations for your home as well as a special gift for you to cherish for many years. I heard from Sparkle (our elf on the shelf) and she told me that she can't wait to come visit our class this month

Wishing you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We are going to start adding some monthly goals for you to work on with your child at home. This will help with your daily routine. Here are December's monthly goals for you to work on with your child/children.

- Having your child walk into the school next to you carrying their own belongs, such as water bottle, bedding bag, jacket, etc. And also leaving at the end of the day
- Dress themselves, put on own shoes, and zip/button jacket.
- Using the bathroom independently, being able to wipe their own bottom.
- Practice writing uppercase letters.
- Cutting with scissors being able to following straight and curved lines.
- Love,
Ms. Misti



Kinder Class News

Happy Holidays Kinder Families,

November was a month filled with gratitude as we looked at holidays around the world. We explored Dia De Los Muertos and created a beautiful classroom ofrenda with pictures of family members and even some pets. The kiddos loved telling each other about their family members. We discovered the bright festival of lights called Diwali where we created diyas and tried some Naan and Chicken Tiki Marsala. We took a week to honor those brave men and women who courageously served in our military as we celebrated Veterans Day. Thank you cards were dropped off a local senior living community in Walnut Creek. We ended November looking at our blessings and knowing that there is always something to be thankful for. I know I am truly thankful that I get to spend each day with your kiddos. I have seen growth in academics (numbers, alphabet, etc) but more importantly in their social emotional skills which fills my heart with joy.

In December we will transform our classroom into a winter wonderland but also will be focusing more on self-help skills. We will be looking at these four main goals: 1) Did my kinder kiddo walk by their adult's side to and from the car and inside the school? We are not running off or ahead as it is a safety and licensing issue when a child is not being accompanied by an adult. 2) Did my kinder kiddo carry his/her own jacket, water bottle, or backpack to and from the car? The kiddos carry their own items while at school and so I would like to see them continue being responsible with their items outside of school 3) Can my kinder kiddo wipe his/her own nose independently and wash their hands afterwards? It may take 10 tissues to blow their nose but if they can complete the task on their own, we're golden! 4) Can my kinder kiddo tie a shoe? I know a lot of shoes are slip ons at this age but this is a skill that should be mastered as soon as possible. I truly hope we can partner up with these goals to help them work on them at school and at home because they are big kiddos who are completely capable.

Last but not least, December is my favorite time of the year and I am THAT teacher who wears ugly Christmas sweaters, dresses, sweats, etc. So if the kids say their teacher is being crazy, they are correct...Christmas Crazy!

Yours in Inclusive Teaching,
Ms. Jen

Owl Class News



Hello Owl Families,

Hard to believe that are coming to the end of 2021 and soon will be entering a new year. We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family, we all have so many things to be thankful for especially getting through another year of covid. This past month we learned our letters G, H, and I, worked on our shapes octagon, hexagon, and heart, and the colors brown, purple, and green. We also discussed what we do in our families during thanksgiving and the things and people we are thankful for.

December is such a magical and fun month that we get to celebrate inside and outside the classroom. We will decorate around the classroom and our classroom tree. We will work on our Christmas crafts for our wonderful families, talk about how we celebrate in our homes, and celebrate the birth of baby Jesus.

We are going to start adding monthly goals for you to work on with your child at home. This will help with your daily routine and open the partnership between home and school life.

December's goals are:

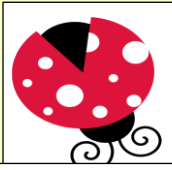
- *Having your child walk into school next to you helping carry in their own belongings such as water bottles, jackets, bedding bags etc. As well as when they leave at the end of the day.
- *Dressing themselves- put on shoes, shirts, pants, underwear/pull up, socks, jacket, masks
- *Learning to start spelling and recognizing their name.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Love,

Mr. Louis and Ms. Miriam

Please check your child's file on Dec 1st for a tuition increase letter. Tuition will increase 2% beginning on Jan 1, 2022.
Thank you.



Ladybug Class

Hello Ladybug Families,

Brrr it's getting cold outside and I love it! I hope you all had a great Thanksgiving. You know us Ladybugs had a blast all November long. We had a wonderful month reflecting all that we are thankful for while also exploring some special holidays that happen in different cultures around the world. We also had fun making a lot of different turkey art which has been great fine motor practice. Also, make sure to take a look in our classroom window, you will see one of our pumpkin seeds is very determined. It now has a few leaves and it's still growing! How cool is that?

As we welcome December we will be working on a top secret project as well as some fun holiday festivities in the classroom. I even bought a Christmas tree science experiment that I can't wait to show our kiddos. Even though this Christmas will be a little different since we cannot have our famous Holiday show, we will make sure to keep the Christmas spirit alive at St. Michaels!

Lastly, a huge part of preschool is to harbor independence and to work on self-help skills. Please work with me to encourage your child to master putting their shoes, jackets and masks on by themselves. They are getting so good at it but it is still hard for some. I always remind them that we can do hard things!

Love,

Ms. Keri

Chapel Topics

Chapel on Tuesdays at 9:30 for Kinders, Frogs, Tigers and Ladybugs and at 10:00 for Owls, Turtles and Butterflies

Dec 7 Advent/John the Baptist

Dec 14 Mary

Dec 21 The Birth of Jesus

Butterfly Bulletin



Turtle Class News

Hello Turtle Families!

The last month of 2021! I hope you and your family enjoyed your Thanksgiving break. Last month, we focused on being thankful and I often asked the Turtles what they were thankful for. Many said their families, friends, toys, and yes, even candy. We created a couple Thanksgiving keepsakes that I hope you'll cherish for years to come. In addition to Thanksgiving, we also learned about other special days in November such as Diwali, Veteran's Day, and Hanukkah. We been working on recognizing our names and the letters in it. Circle time has been filled with lots of song, dance and seasonal stories.

The holiday season is always so magical, and we'll be busy elves making many Christmas surprises. We will continue to work on being kind and caring friends with our Kindness Advent Calendar where we will choose a random act of kindness each day. Jesus is the reason for the season, and the Turtles will celebrate his birth with a party!

We'll end the month with our Christmas break and resume shortly after the New Year. During this time, please continue to work with your child in building their self-help skills such as putting on masks, shoes, and jackets by themselves. We work on this daily in the classroom, and it's great to see their confidence grow when they achieve something on their own.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Love,
Ms. Rachelle

Hello Butterfly Families,

Wow! November came and went, but you know what they say, time flies when you're having fun and we sure did have plenty of fun! We enjoyed exploring with leaves through our sensory bin and making Fall tree art. We made beautiful poppies to honor our veterans. We discussed the things that we are thankful for. We had fun making stamped corn art and making those big paper bag turkey legs. Lastly, we really enjoyed just taking it easy the week of thanksgiving with reading books and having tasty turkey treats!

December will be just as busy if not even more so than November. We're gonna have our own little Christmas tree in our classroom for us to decorate! We've got plenty of festive art projects planned such as a number of ornaments and painting activities. We'll also be exploring with our new Nativity Scene toys and felt tree on the wall. We also have a hot chocolate and PJs day planned. Looking forward to celebrating throughout December with you!

Lots of Love~
Ms. Jennifer

Winter Fundraising is Here!



Candy will be here Dec. 2nd

December Lunch Menu



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Meatball Sliders Peas Pineapple Milk	2 Beanie Weenies French Bread Peaches Milk	3 Turkey and Cheese Sandwich Carrots Watermelon Milk	
	6 Chicken Teriyaki and Rice Corn Peaches Milk	7 Penne Pasta with Meat Sauce Garden Salad Peaches Milk	8 Pulled Chicken Sliders Peas Pineapple Milk	9 Chili French Bread Applesauce Milk	10 Meatloaf Mashed Potatoes Pears Milk	
	13 Chillimac Garden Salad Peaches Milk	14 Bow Tie Pasta with Meat Sauce Mixed Veggies Watermelon Milk	15 Beef Tacos with the works Pineapple Milk	16 Mac and Cheese Corn Pears Milk	17 English Muffin Pizzas Green Beans Peaches Milk	
	20 Sloppy Joes Corn Oranges Milk	21 Chicken Nuggets Green Beans Pears Milk	22 Pizza Party Garden Salad Pineapple Milk	23 Bean and Cheese Burrito Peas Mixed Fruit Milk	24 Closed for Christmas Eve	
	27	28	29	30	31	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Closed all week for Christmas Break </div>						



December Snack Menu

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Blueberry Bagels and Apples Veggie Sticks and Wheat Crackers	2 Yogurt +and Apples Graham Crackers and Bananas	3 Granola Bars and Apples Tortilla Rollusps	
	6 Biscuits with Jelly and Apples Cinnamon Pita Chips and Fresh Fruit	7 Waffles and Bananas Salami and Cheese with Ritz Crackers	8 Belvitas and Pears Bagels with Cream Cheese and Bananas	9 Cheesy English Muffins Trail Mix and Cuties	10 Cheesy English Muffins Chex Mix and Bananas	
	13 Biscuits with Jelly and Apples Pirate Booty and Mandarins	14 Tortilla Roll-Ups Blueberry Muffins and Milk	15 French Toast Sticks and Oranges Refried Beans and Corn Chips	16 Bagels, Cr. Cheese and Pears Cheese Its and Apples	17 Cinnamon Raisin Bread and Apples Oatmeal Bars and Oranges	
	20 Oatmeal and Milk Pretzels and Cheese Sticks	21 French Toast Sticks and Apples Cheese Itz and	22 Cheesy English Muffins Belvitas and Oranges	23 Toasted English Muffins with Apples French Bread and Cheddar Cheese	24 Closed for Christmas Eve	
	27	28	29	30	31	
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