

## December News 2011

Happy Holidays Everyone!!! This newsletter contains important information about the children's Christmas Celebration next week. We have had another wonderful year with all the children and look forward to another year.

### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

- **Christmas Celebration** is on **Friday December 9, 2011**. We welcome you and your families to enjoy a concert, pot luck snack and then to join the fun centers together. Please plan to attend our Christmas celebration at Archbishop Joseph MacNeil School beginning at 5:00 pm. We will take the Transition - OSC children and their belongings via Yellow Bus leaving the center at 4:15 pm. Toddler parents please let us know if you will not be able to pick up your child at 4:15 pm and take them to the Celebration. After the performance there will be a few centers set up for you and your child to enjoy. We will begin promptly at 5:00 pm as our special guest has another engagement that evening.
- **\*\*\*\*If your child will not be attending the concert or you will be taking them to the concert, they must be picked up at 4:00 pm. The center will be locked at 4:15 pm when we leave on the bus.**
- **COSTUMES FOR THE CONCERT**  
**Toddlers and Transition** - Please wear Red shirts  
**Preschool** - Please wear Red or Green  
**Jr Kinder & Kinders** - Please wear Red clothes, bring sunglasses and white gloves if possible.  
**Out of School** - Your child can dress funky. We are Rockin Around the Christmas Tree!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Each family is asked to bring a finger food item to share at the Christmas Celebration. We are going to provide hot chocolate and juice, with appetizer sandwiches. Please bring enough for 10 people to share and ensure that food items do not contain nuts. Please refer to the evite that was sent out, it will have more information on what we are still needing. Thank you!
- **We are in need of volunteers to set up and tear down for the Christmas Celebration.**  
We will need some helping hands to set up and clean up for the Christmas Celebration. To encourage some volunteers we are





offering 2 front row seats for those helping hands. We will require 6 people to set up and 6 people to clean up. The set group will be responsible costume assistance, stage set up, setting up chairs and tables, centre set up, and bringing props and food over to the school with loading and unloading. The time commitment will be from 3:45 pm – 4:45 pm. The clean up group will be responsible for stacking chairs, wiping down tables, packing up Centre's, loading vehicles and unloading back at the Centre, and sweeping. The time commitment will be from 6:30 – 7:30 pm.

**Please see Amy or Sherri to sign up**

### **CHRISTMAS CLOSURES**

- A reminder that we are closed for Christmas Holidays December 26-January 2 inclusive. We will reopen for the New Year on January 3, 2012.



### **FOOD AND NUTRITION**

- Did you know that our menu was revised in November to include more healthy recipes in addition to some old favorites. Most of our meals are made from scratch using quality ingredients such as lean ground beef, skinless chicken breasts, muffins with bran, flax, and/or oatmeal and half the sugar, homemade granola bars, home made soups with half the sodium and whole wheat bread.
- We are continuing to offer Thursday lunches to the OSC children who have noon dismissal. We email out the monthly lunch menu to each family at the beginning of each month.

### **FUNDRAISING**

- Thank you for all your support with Purdy's Chocolates! This year we raised just over \$700! Way to go Parents! During our November parent meeting we had some new fundraising ideas that we will start in the new year!!!





## **FOOD BANK**

Your child's group will incorporate ways to help children in need from our city. There will be a food bank box set up for non perishable donations until Monday December 19th.

## **GYM TIME:**

For the month of December we have only have a few Gym Dates. The OSC will go on the 1st and 6th, and the Preschool, JR.K and Kinders will go on the 2nd and 8th.

Rental and use of the school gym requires all participants to have indoor non marking running shoes. Should you choose to pick up your child at the gym please remove your outdoor shoes at the door. Remember to notify your child's teacher when leaving with your child. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **ART AND MUSIC**

- Art class will be December 8 and resuming in January
- Music class will continue each Tuesday. December 14 will be the last class of the Month.

## **HELP US KEEP OUR CENTER CLEAN**

- Please make sure your child has a pair of inside shoes or slippers at the center at all times.
- To help in keeping your children's play space clean please take your outdoor footwear off at the black mat. We have blue booties available if you are concerned about getting your socks dirty or if your outdoor footwear is difficult to take off.
- Your child will be responsible for emptying and taking home all the contents of their cubbie by December 23rd. Please help your child take all their belongings on their last day before the holidays. Any belongings left will be put in our lost and found.



## **OUTDOOR WINTER FUN!**

- We plan to go outside everyday – please make sure your child is prepared for the many weather changes with a complete outdoor outfit – hat, mitts, snow pants, boots, etc. No children will be staying inside due to illness – if your child is well enough to attend daycare, they are well enough to participate in the whole program, this includes going outside!
- Please also make sure that your child has a complete change of clothes at the centre at all times – this includes mitts, pants, shirt, socks and underwear.



**Remember!!! Sometimes we go outside twice a day and wearing wet mitts and socks again is bothersome.**

- This is for all children including OSC. We often get very wet when sledding. Children who participate in sledding with no snow pants and return to the Centre wet, dirty and snow covered will be asked to sit at the tables until dry.



**SLEDDING**

We are hoping to get a bit more snow so we can go sledding on Monkey Mountain. The preschool, Jr. K's, Kinders and OSC will head to the sledding hill. Please ensure your child has full sledding attire at the centre everyday. Extra mitts, socks, and pants are needed to change into after sledding or playing the snow.

- We have 5 – 8 crazy carpets for the children to go sledding. Children are welcome to bring their own each day or you may choose to leave a saucer or crazy carpet at the Centre for the season. In the spirit of sharing all sleds will be shared with each group.
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**FIELDTRIP**

- We are considering a fieldtrip during the first week of Christmas Break. The options are a Movie, Gymnastics or Let's Play/Kid Quarterz. Please keep checking the whiteboard for more details and when the permission form will be available.

**FLU UPDATES**

- We continue to be very fortunate to have minimal cases of illness. Thank you for washing hands and cooperating with our illness policy. I know it is sometimes difficult but it benefits everyone at the Centre We will continue to provide hand sanitizer at the entrance and through out the Centre along with increased hand washing stations and frequency. Door knobs, light switches, toys and equipment will be sanitized frequently.



**Policies and Procedures**

- The time has come to revise our Policy and Procedure manual again. We would like to know if there is any information you feel is lacking? Are there any policies you think need to be clearer or

revised? Please email suggestions to Amy at [brookview@shaw.ca](mailto:brookview@shaw.ca). Thank you for your help!

### **SCHOLASTIC**

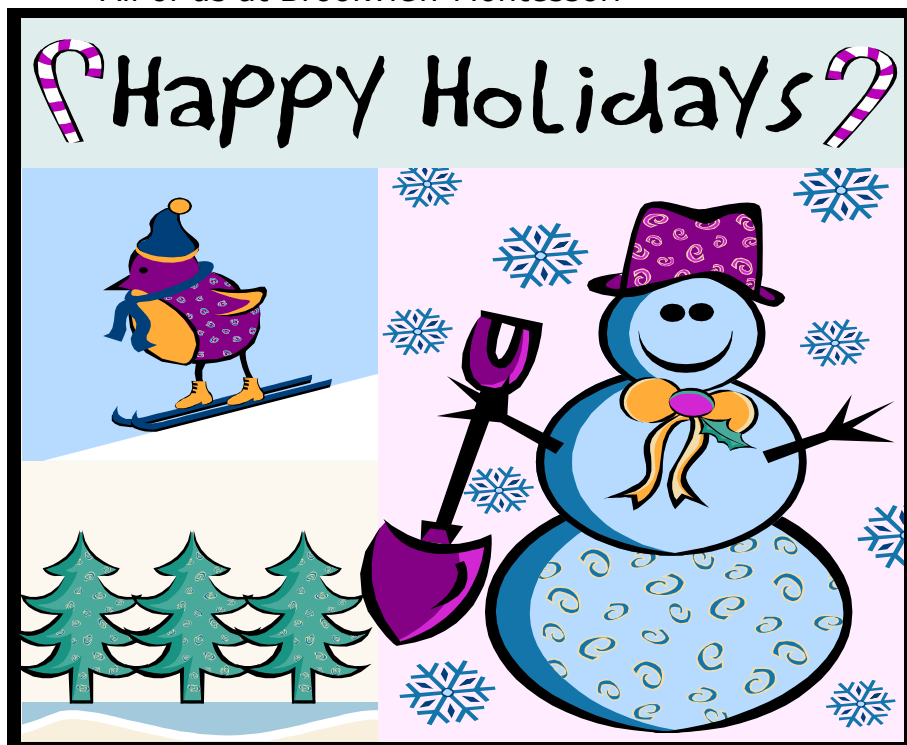
- Book orders are due by Monday December 5, 2011 – this is early but with the Christmas rush, the books should make it back in time for gift giving. Our approximate arrival date is Wednesday December 21, 2011.

### **FEES**

Periodically, it becomes necessary to increase our fees to remain competitive and maintain the level of service that you expect. This fee increase is effective January 1, 2012. The new fee schedule will be sent out this week. The adjustment is a result of increased costs of convenient leased space, rising costs, standard of care and quality of educators and teachers. We have made every attempt to limit the increase but we refuse to compromise on quality.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year! A big thank you to all of you for your continued support and for allowing us to be part of your families!

All of us at Brookview Montessori





## **TODDLER NEWS**

For the month of December our theme is Hanukkah and Christmas. We will make Angel hand print and a Santa with cotton balls. We will read *Christmas Mice* by Bethany Roberts and we will learn the song:

If its Christmas and you know it ring a bell  
If its Christmas and you know it ring a bell  
If its Christmas and you know it  
Then your face will surely show it  
If its Christmas and you know it ring a bell.

## **TRANSITION NEWS**

This month we will be working on themes about the holiday season. We will continue with letters E, F and G. We will continue practicing our cutting and tracing our names.

Our song of the month is:

Jingle, jingle little bell  
I can ring my little bell  
Ring it high, ring it low  
Ring it fast, ring it slow  
Jingle, jingle little bell  
I can ring my little bell  
Ring it left, ring it right  
I even ring it out of sight  
Jingle, jingle little bell  
I can ring my little bell.

## **JR KINDER & KINDER NEWS**

Happy Holidays!!! This months theme will be based on the children's interest about the seasons holidays. We will be working on letters N, O and P. We will also be learning opposites and numbers 1 - 10 too. The Kinders are still working on their full names and they are doing great!

We are all looking forward to the Christmas Celebration and are very excited to share our songs with you.

You may have noticed that we haven't been sending home many crafts since the September... because on December 21 we are going to

exhibit all of their amazing crafts. Please join us for "Simple Mind Work of Art" on December 21 from 4 - 5 pm. Hoping to see you all there.

### **Out of School Care**

We would like to welcome Carolyn to the room. She will be joining Alicia, Lauren and I in the OSC room in the afternoons.

We are really hoping to get a bit more snow so we can start sledding on Monkey Mountain. Please make sure your child has a complete change of clothing at the center because we will get wet. Also we hope to start skating again this month at the Brookview Community League rink. For ease of convenience we have tentatively scheduled the following dates so your child can bring their skating attire. All children on the ice must have CSA approved helmets to participate. Children can bring sticks and pucks as well. The tentative dates are December 15th, 20th, and 22nd. We may add a few more once the rink opens. Please remember to check the OSC Calendar, whiteboard, or Slide show up front.

