



December Newsletter

12/01/2011

The Learningden Preschool

Blue Dolphins



November was a very exciting month in the Blue Dolphin classroom! We had a great time cooking for our Harvest Potluck and spending time with all of our families. Our classroom went through some pretty big changes and we're loving our new look, areas, and materials. The classroom environment is so important because in the Reggio Emilia philosophy we believe that the Child's environment serves as an extension of the educational experience.

December brings great opportunities to explore different family and holiday traditions and we're inviting you to share any of your family's traditions with the class. We

will be recognizing Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Christmas this year and will discuss themes of tradition and celebration in an age appropriate and respectful way. If you would like to participate, the celebrations are as follows: Christmas- Friday 16th; Hanukkah- Monday 19th; Kwanzaa- Monday 26th.

The Blue Dolphins will continue to explore weather and seasons this month through science experiments, art projects, dramatic play, and sensory experiences. We are looking for donations of pinecones and pine needles for



Lots of Winter fun at The Learningden Preschool

various art and science projects. Please let us know if you can provide some.

Parent Teacher conferences will take place next month for children who will be attending Kindergarten in the Fall. Look for a sign-up sheet soon to schedule a conference time that works for your family.

*Ms. Jessica and
Ms. Michelle*

Please Bring a Jacket for your children and clearly mark the inside with their name!!

Thanks

The Learningden Staff!!

Purple Sharks

Winter is here and we have so many winter activities planned. The classroom will be decorated with seasonal activities done by the children and we will be doing science experiments. Some of the experiments will be making icicles, combining ice and salt, and making ice cream. In November we started working on our colors in Spanish. To continue with learning Spanish in class we will be singing songs in Spanish and learning body parts in Spanish. The children have also been interested in the sensory table and sensory activities. In December we will have more sensory activities in the

classroom for the children to enjoy. Fall projects will be able to be taken home this month. The 3D sculptures on the shelf are available to take home at your convenience. The children have really enjoyed the dramatic play area and this month we will be transforming it

into a winter wonderland. Children can experience winter in the dramatic play area. We have so many activities planned for this month and I can't wait to have the classroom display all of their artwork.

*Ms. Jeanette and
Ms. Stephanie*

Rainbow Fish

This month we will be baking, decorating our tree for the holidays, and making special presents for our families for winter!

We understand that not all families celebrate the holidays so please let us know if you do not wish for your child to participate in holiday celebrations.



We will be warming up for the holidays and having some great winter fun !!

This month we will also be cooking and continuing to learn and explore our new beading station in the room. We would love donations of a number chart and a new alphabet chart for the classroom. We are also in need of glitter and winter project items if there is something special you would like to donate.

Next week we will begin doing a collaborative gingerbread house that will add to the classroom decorations for this wonderful holiday season. If there is a special project or activity you would like to do or share with us please contact me and we will set up a time to do it in the classroom.

Happy holidays,

Ms. June

Ms. Brittney and

Ms. Lauren

Green Turtles

Happy Holidays to all the Green Turtle families!! We are so excited for this wonderful time of the year! We will be very busy this month making winter and holiday crafts! It should be snowing in our class by next week and will soon be ready to decorate and sing five little snowmen white. We will also be working on special presents that will be sent home as well as ornaments. We may also be brave and try out a few baking projects as well as enjoy some hot (warm) coco! We un-

derstand that we all have different ways of celebrating the holiday season so we want to welcome anyone who would like to share any special traditions or crafts that the children would enjoy! The Green Turtles are growing

Mrs. Jennifer will be on vacation from Dec 19th to Jan 2nd but not to worry, the fantastic Ms. Brandi will make sure that everything goes well!

so tremendously, we have really been working on building not only a community of learners but a family where we all respect and care for each other, listening to our friends words and feelings and expressing ourselves! We look forward to Happy holidays filled with dancing, Putnee and singing with music Molly! Happy Holidays Love,

Ms. Jennifer & Ms. Brandi

A Few New Things and some Familiar Reminders

There have been some wonderful additions and new items at the Learningden Preschool in the last few months which will further enhance the exceptional learning experience we strive to offer your child. With the renovation of the Pre-K classroom, we ask that you not use pre-K as a walk through to get to other classrooms. The Pre-K classroom is designed for use by older children or younger children with supervision from Learning-

den staff. To help pre-K not be distracted, and their work and materials to stay protected, we ask that you use the hallway when dropping off and that you refrain from conversation with other parents or teachers when the pre-K children are in there. This will be so beneficial to all of the children and we appreciate your support and understanding. A quick reminder as we are entering the busy holiday season.

Late pick up is any time after your scheduled time to pick up which could be 12:30, 4:30 or 5:30. We schedule staff based on the children that are there so please be courteous to the staff and other children and do not pick up late. We will be issuing late pick up fees for all children picked up after their scheduled time. The Learningden closes at 5:30 and that will be strictly enforced. It is only fair for the evening staff to get to go home after a long day so they are refreshed and well rested. Thank you!!

Calendar and Wish List

December 6th - Cookie Decorating at Santa Barbara Convalescent

December 23rd to 26th - The Learningden Closed for Christmas Break. We will reopen on December 27th

December 30th - Learningden Closed for New Years

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!!

Wish List

Glitter

Winter crafts

Pine Cones



Winter is Here !!

Hanukkah Celebration

During the week of December 12th at the Learningden we will be learning about Hanukkah. The children will have a chance to play with dreidels, and color in Hanukkah Menorahs. We will also be reading books about the story of Hanukkah and learning some songs. We will share some potato latkes with apple sauce. We are also planning an making home made apple sauce with the children which will

then be shared at the celebration. This will be a fun time with songs and stories meant to convey a very basic understanding of Hanukkah. At The Learningden we introduce all of the holidays to the children so that they have a basic idea of different cultures, and traditions. We hope to instill a view of the world that the children will learn to embrace and celebrate the different traditions and cultures

that other families might have that are different than their own. We are excited about this and looking forward to a fun month of learning and being together.

Ms Lauren and Ms. Amalie



What is growing in our Outdoor Classroom??

In November, all of the classes enjoyed exploring the themes of farming and harvest through activities, art materials, literature, and hands-on in the garden.

The outdoor classroom December curriculum themes include the water cycle, winter environments, arctic life, and forest animals. We'll be making new discoveries experiment-

ing with water, steam, and ice. The children will be creating glittery winter artwork, and we have begun working on our holiday pomanders!

It has been a great time working with your children and I look forward to exploring, creating and discovering the wonder of the outdoor environment and green education in the new Year! I hope that everyone

had a wonderful holiday season!

Ms. Ildi



The Learningden
Preschool



*Happy
Holidays and best wishes for a happy New
Year!!*

Love

All The Staff at The Learningden Preschool,

