

Academy News

December 15, 2011

Vol. 1, No. 14

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No Uniforms

Starting tomorrow, Friday, December 16 the students may wear Christmas colors/shirts and jeans until we are on break.

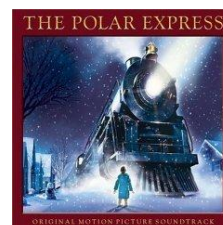
Due Dates and Order Forms

Please be sure to return order forms on the day they are due. We need to count and order lunches or other things often in advance, so please be mindful of the due dates. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Pajama Day – Tuesday, December 20

It has become a tradition at The Academy that the day before our Christmas break, the students wear their pajamas and we watch The Polar Express. This year we will be serving hot chocolate as we watch the movie. All half day students are invited to stay for the whole day so they don't miss out on the fun. This will be our last day of school before Christmas break.

THERE WILL BE EXTENDED CARE!



**A Very Merry
Christmas to all
of you and your
families during
this blessed
season!**

Upcoming Events:

Dec. 16	Hot Dog Lunch
Dec. 18	Christmas Craft Fair 9am-3pm
Dec. 20	Pajama Day
Dec. 21- Jan. 3	Christmas Vacation

Craft Fair Volunteers



We are still looking for Parent Volunteers for our December 18 Craft Fair. We have split the shifts into 4 hour increments, 8am-12pm, and 12pm-4pm. Please let either Mrs. Hodge or Mrs. Boyer (Academy Parent) the hours that you will be able to volunteer for the day. Thank you!

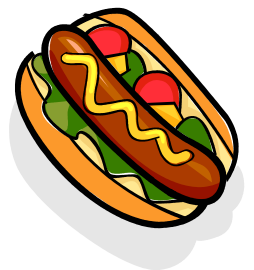
Village Christmas Tree

Friday, December 16 the students will be walking with ornaments they have decorated to the Norridge Village Hall to decorate our Christmas Tree. We will all be walking during our P.E. times beginning around 9am. Parents, you are more than welcome to walk with us if you would like.



Hot Dog Lunch

Friday, December 16 is our Hot Dog Lunch. Remember all half day students ordering lunch are invited to stay through lunch and recess. The half day students may be picked up at 12:30pm.



Newsletters

This will be our last newsletter before Christmas break. Please continue to check your email over break in the event your child's teacher or Mrs. Hodge sends out an email to you.

Check out what's happening in our classrooms...

Ms. Margaret's Pre-School

Ms. Margaret's Class began learning about the letter I this week. Also this week, the children will freeze water and observe the changes it goes through when it becomes ice. They will graph their prediction about water, when frozen, does it take up more space, less space or stay the same amount of space. The children will compare the bells in each estimation jar and say which one has the most bells and the least bells. They will also look at the bells lined up and say which is the longest, middle and shortest in length.

Some of the stories the children listened to this week are How Santa Got His Job by Stephen Krensky, How Santa Lost His Job By Stephen Krensky, and Room for a Little One by Martin Waddell.

Ms. Nancy's Pre-Kindergarten

This week we read the book The Littlest Angel. It was a very sweet story and the children loved it. We also made angels after we read the book and completed a writing assignment called, If I were an angel, I would.....

Today, we worked in our science journals. We did an experiment about water, ice, and snow. the students loved observing bottles of water that we froze. They were amazed to learn that the same water we just froze turned back into water. In reading, the students are enjoying learning about the letter I. We made ice cream cones out of construction paper and even had ice cream for a special treat on Wednesday.

The little elves in our classroom have been having fun in Santa's workshop. I have paper, bows, tape and boxes that the children can wrap and unwrap. It is a very popular center. Thank you to the Boyer family for donating items for our workshop!

Looking Ahead.....

- Winter Wonderland
- Reindeer Party on December 19th @ 10:00
- Santa's workshop

Ms. Kim's Kindergarten

This weekend the second graders made their First Reconciliation. They did a great job! The second graders are now learning more about Advent and Christmas. The kindergarteners are working on their Superkid book, Lily, and the letter L. They are also working on recognizing the names of the Superkids and how to spell these names as well as decoding other CVC (consonant, vowel, consonant) words. In math the students are working on comparing numbers through 10.

Mrs. Sibick's Multi-age Classroom

First graders have been applying spelling patterns and tricks when they encode (spell). This week they are learning how to spell words with ed and ing endings. They use a trick to remember when to double the consonant, or when to only add the ending. If the word has one consonant after the vowel, students double the consonant and add the ending. If the word has two consonants after the vowel, they only add the ending. The stories this week were The Monster Under the Bus and Yuck! Yuck! Second grade finished reading the second Super Magazine. The theme was tricky. The magazine discussed paintings that fooled your eyes because of the 3 dimensions and animals that tricked predators for survival. The next chapter book is Henry and Mudge. Students are applying math concepts in Chapter 4. They are learning how to subtract by thinking of the related addition fact. It is another way to find the solution and the math series encourages multiple approaches to arrive at the correct answer. Second graders are working on using base ten blocks to identify how many tens and ones a number has. In Science the students are discussing ways to stay healthy. Students came up with eating healthy and exercising. They even got to watch Sid the Science Kid clip on eating cake. It has songs and clips of kids learning about healthy eating. In Social Studies, students are learning about Statue of Liberty. Have a great week!