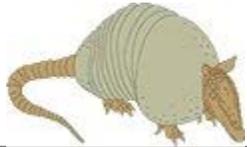


# Armadillo News Dec/Jan. 2018



## Dates to Remember

**Fri. Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>** – No school- Staff Professional Development Retreat

**Mon. Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>**- No school in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## Thank you to:

-Capitolina's family for the wonderful birthday treats.

-All the parents for the generous holiday gifts and the delicious hot chocolate bar.

The Paster family for building us an *incredible* new bookcase. It is a terrific new addition to our classroom!

Now that the snowy weather is here, and we will be putting on all our snow gear for the playground, we will revise our pick up schedule: 11:30 pick up will be on the playground and 1:00 pick up will be in the classroom.- And so the children will only have to do the hard work of dressing for outside play once a day.

## CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

The moons and stars depicting each child's family holiday celebrations were shared at circle time with joy and pride. We learned so much about each others traditions: the giving and receiving of gifts, special decorations, shared meals and festivities with family and friends. Displaying their work on our bulletin board allowed the children to take time to look at them over and over again, remembering their own as well as their friends' beloved traditions. They inspired many discussions about the similarities and differences between all the members of our classroom community.

## ACTIVITIES & SKILLS:

The Armadillos thoroughly enjoyed our recent space theme. At the art table they created a model of the solar system, using paper mache', paint and books depicting the relative size and distance from the sun of each planet. After displaying them on the bulletin board, they then cut and colored stars to represent the milky way and used dot markers to make the asteroid belt.

In the block area they collaborated -often within a group of at least 8 children- to build a rocket ship using a recycled box, tape, scissors and stickers. The dramatic play area was transformed into a spaceship, flying through the starry sky. There, "astronauts" communicated with walkie-talkies and head phones, and explored the universe with joy and curiosity.

## FAVORITE STORIES and Songs

- Draw me a Star by Eric Carle
- I Want To Be An Astronaut by Byron Barton
- Moonbeam Bear by Rolf Fanger and Ulrike Moltgen
- Moondance by Frank Asch

Adventures in Space, a music/movement CD performed by Steve and Greg

