



PANDA POST 🐾🐾🐾 DECEMBER, 2018



PANDA HAPPENINGS

With Thanksgiving just behind us the Pandas recently spent some time learning about families and friends. The Pandas particularly enjoyed choosing figures to glue onto their houses and labeling their family members. We all enjoyed hearing what they were thankful for and loved seeing their Thankful Turkey Place Mats. The children also played with Mr. and Mrs. Potato Heads and used their growing finger muscles to put the body parts into the potatoes to make them look as silly as they wanted!

We then explored the theme of transportation, as we realize many children travel in many different modes during the months of November and December. Each child created their own vehicle using various shapes. These cars, trucks, planes, and trains now adorn one of the bulletin boards in our classroom. You are always welcome to have your child show you their creations in our room! The students loved playing with the train table, driving cars on the car mats, and going through a “human car wash”! The dramatic play area was turned into a bus station where the children took turns being the bus driver or a passenger. They made steering wheels to help them drive. They also made tickets and maps for the bus routes. Cooperative play was very evident in this activity as friends took turns in the bus and bought tickets for rides.

We will now turn the Panda room into a “Construction Zone” as we enter our new theme of Construction!

HOLIDAY STARS

Holiday stars were recently sent home for the children to decorate and bring back to school. It is always a special treat during our Panda Circle Time for each child to share their family traditions with the class. The stars are already being returned to school and are now adorning our bulletin board – be sure to check out the stars “lighting up” the back of our classroom!

We encourage you to send the star back with your child if you haven’t already. We will continue to share the stars at our Circle Time.

OUR FAVORITE. . .

Books: Thank You, Thanksgiving
Down By The Station
Freight Train

Yoga Poses: “Squirrel”
“Boat and Submarine”
“Airplane”

Songs: “A Turkey Is A Funny Bird”
“The Wheels On The Bus”
“Laurie Berkner’s Airplane Song”

TAKE HOME CALENDAR

Young children often have difficulty with the concept of time; it is very abstract and challenging for many preschoolers to perceive a day, a week, etc.

To help explain to the children that they will have many “stay home days” while on school vacation, it is often easier when there is a visual model from which to refer.

The Panda teachers will be sending home a “Countdown Calendar” with the days we are off from school. We are also including stickers so that the children can put a sticker on each day they are home and concretely observe those stay home days as well as when they will return to school.

We ask that you explain the calendar to your child and give them assistance should they need it – it also makes for a positive sharing experience for you and your child!!

THANK YOU . . .

. . . Landyn and her Mom, Alexis, for making playdough this month

WARMER CLOTHES (for inside and out!!)

Now that the cold weather is here (in addition to growing bodies), it may be a good time to check and make sure your child has the appropriate extra clothes for our room; when we begin to go out in snowy weather the children often come in from the playground with wet socks, so having several extra pairs of socks and underwear is recommended. Layers are also suggested since the classroom at times changes temperature.

In addition, since we do go out every day unless it is exceptionally wet or cold we ask that for now you send in snow pants, snow boots, hats and mittens each day (we do prefer mittens since we encourage self-help skills and they are easy for the children to put on by themselves). Snow pants and snow boots help keep the children warm, so they are worn even if there is no snow. Also a change of sneakers or shoes for the classroom is much appreciated since this avoids our classroom floor from becoming wet and slippery.

Although sometimes the temperature is predicted to be as high as 45-50, it is often much cooler when we go outside and our playground often does get a little windy; we appreciate your understanding in sending in these warm clothes.