



# PANDA POST 🐾🐾🐾 DECEMBER, 2019



## PANDA HAPPENINGS

After talking about their families during Thanksgiving time, it seemed natural to move the focus onto themselves. As preschoolers, they are discovering that they have an important place in your family, that they are unique, and that each person's thoughts and ideas are important. Our "All About Me" theme coincides nicely with each child sharing their Holiday Star and what traditions are celebrated in your homes (see more on the Holiday Star below). Some classroom activities that they have been working hard on include drawing their face, making a 'water color paint resist' painting of their name, creating a collage of the first letter of their name, and tracing their hands and decorating them with their fingerprints (this was a big favorite among the Pandas). They had many chances to look into a mirror, another favorite, and describe what they saw.

With the holidays and holiday travel upon us, we thought it would be fitting to start a transportation unit next. Look for the big bus when you enter the classroom this week.

## 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.

## 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!!

## WELCOME TO . . .

Please give a warm Panda class welcome to our new student, Christopher Jolon. He and his parents, Gustavo and Eleni, are a wonderful addition to our kind and caring Panda class.

## OUR FAVORITE . . .

Songs: "A Turkey Is a Funny Bird"

"This Is Me"

"I'm A Little Snowman"

Yoga Poses: Happy Baby

Hug

Do Nothing Doll

Books: Thanksgiving Is Here

Llama Llama Missses Mama

Sometimes I'm Bombaloo

## THANK YOU TO . . .

Jocelyn Shaberly, Dylan's Mom, for reading  
Katie Paster, Brian's Mom, for reading  
Karyn Jones, Lucia's Mom, for reading  
Larina Mehta Chen, Isabel's Mom, for making purple play dough

## 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 is recommended. Layers are also suggested since the classroom temperature fluctuates.

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. Also, please LABEL EVERYTHING!