

December 6, 2020

Volume 9 Issue 4

DOLPHIN TALES



December Birthdays:

Anika G.	12/1
Lilah P.	12/4
Wren F.	12/5
Nolan C.	12/7
Callie D.	12/9
Liam A.	12/13
Andrew F.	12/13
Vihaan P.	12/16
Ann C.	12/17
Thaddeus G.	12/21
Rex H.	12/23
Natalie D.	12/27
Naveed S.	12/31



Important Dates:

December 18:
Holiday Celebration in
classroom, Half Day

Dec. 21-Jan. 1:
Winter Break!



Toddler News from Ms. Ginny & Ms. Kayla



We made it to December. November was so much fun. Our Thanksgiving lunch went wonderfully, and all the kids loved it. We hope everyone had a good holiday and break!

This month we will be learning all about nursery rhymes and all things holiday related. We have an elf that will be visiting from the North Pole every day to report back to Santa.

Brrrr.....it's cold out! With cold weather here, please send your child in appropriate clothing for the temperature outside. Please make sure their cubbies are stocked with the warm clothing. (We will remind you if it is not)

Just a few reminders! Our drop off time is 8:15-8:30 and pick up is 2:15-2:30 if you are late please let us know. Library day is on Tuesdays. December 18th is a half-day. We will celebrate in our classrooms with a pajama party. There will be no school December 21- January 1st.

We hope everyone has a Happy Holidays!

Toddler News from Ms. Shannon & Ms. Rachel



December is here! We will be learning nursery rhymes and talking about the holidays. We started out with nursery rhymes yesterday and it was a huge hit. It has been proven that nursery rhymes influence later development of literacy-related abilities. This little article is a quick read on some of the benefits.

<https://pambarnhill.com/nursery-rhyme-benefits/>

It's getting really chilly outside. Make sure you label all coats and mittens. Scarves and boots are not allowed at school. Please dress them appropriately for the weather. This month our recess time is 8:30 and if it is above freezing, we will go outside.

We will have a couple of special days this month. December 15th was supposed to be our holiday program. Since we are unable to have it this year, I would love for the students to wear a holiday shirt that day. We will sing a special song for you and post it for your enjoyment. December 18th is the last day of school. It is a half day. Dismissal is at 11 that day. It will be pajama day! We will also have our in class holiday celebration on the last day of school. We would love to have some treats for the day. Let me know if you would like to send something in. We will watch a holiday movie and make some crafts.

A few housekeeping notes:

- *please label water bottles
- *don't forget to send in silverware daily
- *please send in warm clothes and extra shoes for cubbies



Primary News from Ms. Valerie & Ms. Christina

Hello,

We are excited to be back in the classroom and dive back into learning. Thank you to all the families who have donated boxes! We can't wait to transform the boxes into props for our play. The kids are getting very excited about the play. We have started to write our script and have learned some new dance moves. Thank you, Kim Headrick, for taking the time to paint us a North Pole background for our play. We will send out an email later this week with more details about the play.

This holiday we will be talking about generosity with the children. We have decided to participate in a community outreach program with the classroom. LaDonna Collins gave us some great ideas and we have chosen to help a local homeless shelter called Hope's House. Here is a list of items that we would greatly appreciate being donated: Drinking Cups, Coffee Cups, Bottled Water, Paper Plates, To Go Boxes, Bags of Ice, Powdered Drinks (Lemonade, Kool-Aid, Tea), Napkins, Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Italian Dressing, Chips.

We would greatly appreciate donations from everyone. Please send in donations by Friday, December 18th.

Warm Regards,

Ms. Valerie and Ms. Christina



Primary News from Ms. Angie & Ms. Carolina, & Ms. Nikki

It is hard to believe this year is coming to an end! We look forward to celebrating the holidays with your little ones in the classroom. In lieu of our annual Holiday program, we will perform a small skit in the classroom which we will record for you all to enjoy. The children will perform it Thursday, December 17. The skit will be based on the Christmas classic, How the Grinch Stole Christmas. Please have them wear silly mismatch clothes and silly hair.

We will be studying about the various holidays around the world along with the Arctic Region. December 18 will be a half day of school. Pick up will be at —? It will be a fun pajama day!

With winter around the corner it is more important than ever to make sure all of your children's things are labeled. This includes gloves, hats, scarves, jackets, etc. Thank you in advance! Working together we can make lost and found a thing of the past.

Thank you for all you have done to make 2020 a success despite the many obstacles! We sincerely appreciate your vigilance in keeping our community healthy!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Angie, Mrs. Carolina, and Mrs. Nikki



Elementary News from Ms. Maggie and Ms. Stefanie

It's hard to believe we're almost halfway through the year already! We're so thankful to be able to continue learning together here at MSR despite the changes the pandemic has brought to our schools. Seeing our students actively engaged in learning with the classroom materials makes us realize how blessed we are when so many students around the world are currently unable to physically attend school. Thank you for all you continue to do to help everyone stay healthy and well!

As we enter into the holiday season, our thoughts turn to giving to others. Dr. Montessori was a strong proponent of giving children opportunities to give back to their communities. She believed that education played a significant role in building a more compassionate world. This year, through Restoration Rome, we have the privilege of shopping for Christmas gifts for 3 children in our community who are in foster care. Thank you for sending in your generous donations so that we can do our best to make the holidays a little brighter for children undergoing difficult circumstances.

-The child who has felt a strong love for his surroundings and for all living creatures, who has discovered joy and enthusiasm in work, gives us reason to hope that humanity can develop in a new direction. -Maria Montessori

We've been experiencing some very chilly temperatures lately. However, as long as it is above freezing, we will be outside for recess from 12:00-12:30. We also try to enjoy a mid-morning exercise break outdoors whenever possible. Please encourage your child to dress appropriately with outdoor winter weather attire, including a coat, hat, and gloves so they can enjoy their time outside.

Happy December birthday to Anika, Andrew, and Rex! We hope you all have a fantastic time celebrating your special day!

You're welcome to send in holiday treats on the last Friday (Dec. 18) of school before winter break if you'd like. Please make sure they are individually wrapped, store-bought treats. Also, please keep in mind, due to allergies, all food brought into the classroom to share needs to be peanut-free. Thank you!

Please remember, school will be out for the holidays beginning December 21st through January 1st. School will resume Monday, January 4th. The Friday before break, December 18th, will be a half day of school. We will not have lunch at school. Students need to be picked up by 11:30.

We wish you all peace and good health as you treasure your time with family throughout this holiday season.

Happy Holidays!

Ms. Maggie & Ms. Stefanie

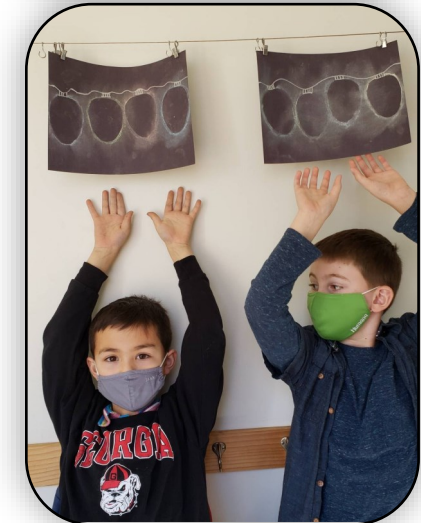
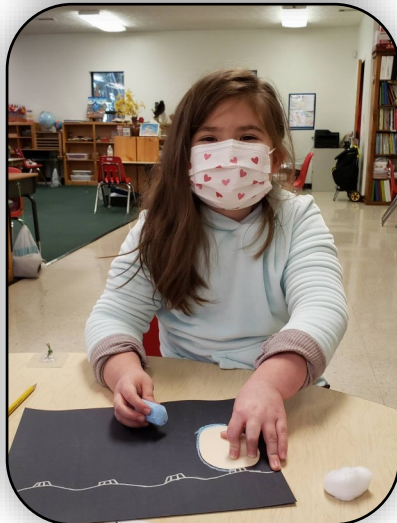
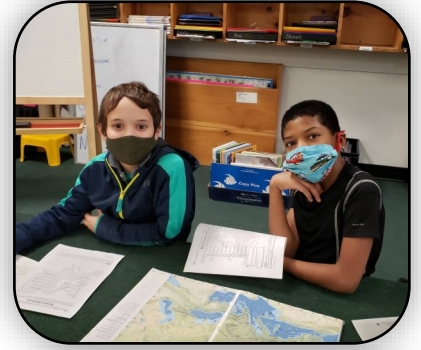


Elementary News from Ms. Dolores & Ms. Robin

December is finally here! We cannot wait to say goodbye to 2020. It has been a difficult year, full of challenges and circumstances that we never imagined we would see in our lifetime. It is nothing like the world we imagined for ourselves, and especially not for our children. Throughout the year, our students have risen to the challenge and continued to show up, ready to learn and grow. We want to say a huge thank you to all of our parents for all of your hard work and support through this unusual year. We hope that you have a wonderful December, filled with light, love and holiday cheer.

Please remember to submit Scholastic Book orders online by December 7th. If you use our class code we will receive free books for the classroom.

Ms. Dolores and Ms. Robin



Elementary News from Ms. Rebecca & Ms. Kaitlin, & Ms. Rachel

Save some. Share some. Spend some.

Whether their money is acquired through gifts, chores, allowances, or entrepreneurial activities (like a lemonade stand), there will never be a better time than now to teach children how to manage it responsibly. The "Save, Share, Spend" philosophy is where children learn to budget their funds into these three categories. In the process, they incorporate strong financial practices and values in their everyday lives. The multiple award-winning Moonjar® Three-Part Moneybox is a great way to get started. Children divide their "income" among the three boxes, learning how to save for a goal, establish a budget, and keep simple records with the passbook.

"A penny saved is a penny earned." —Benjamin Franklin

Save! Good habits start early in life. Saving can take on many forms for the young child. Children can save for a bike or a special game, or saving can be for something more long-term like a car or college. Discuss with your children the things that you save for. Explain that there are different ways to save. For example, money can be saved in a bank or other financial institution for longer-term goals. Most financial institutions offer savings accounts for children with no fees or minimums.

"Charity begins at home." —Sir Thomas Browne

Share! Choosing "share" recipients can be daunting. Brainstorm with your children about where they would like to share their money. Do they love animals? Perhaps they would like to sponsor a local animal shelter or pet rescue. Are they passionate about books? Perhaps they might donate to a bookmobile, library, or non-profit reading program. Are they into athletics? Perhaps their money could go to help fund an athletic camp scholarship.

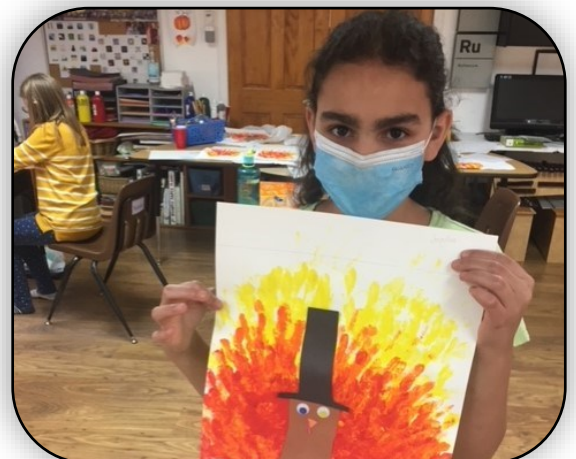
"Whoever said money can't buy happiness simply didn't know where to go shopping." —Bo Derek

Spend! No discussion of money is complete without talking about spending. Saving for a major purchase and sharing with others are important values. Equally important is setting aside some money for life's simple pleasures, like an ice cream cone or going to a movie with a friend.

Paul Richard, from the National Center for Finance Education (NCFE) has this advice: "Allow young people to make spending decisions. Whether good or poor, they will learn from their spending choices. You can then initiate an open discussion of spending pros and cons before more spending takes place. The simple Save - Share - Spend system brings managing their own money well within the reach of children. The more connected your children are to the process, the more inspired they will be to make saving and sharing an everyday part of their lives.

How to Start a Tradition of Giving

Family discussions about saving, spending, and sharing create a good opportunity to talk to your children about people who are less fortunate. Explain that some people lack the necessities of life: food, shelter, clothing, and clean water. When children understand that others are in need, they are often inspired to help. You and your children can find plenty of ideas for sharing locally or even globally. Check your local phone book for a community-based volunteer center that can connect you with service agencies or non-profit organizations in your area. You can also use the internet to find a local, national, or global charity.



Announcements



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We invite you to connect with us on social media! We post regularly on Facebook and Instagram, and Twitter. Please follow us to stay updated on school events and to view a ton of great photos of our students at work. We look forward to connecting and communicating with you. We hope you like and comment on our posts and feel free to ask any questions or share our content with family and friends.

SCHOOL MESSENGER: To opt in to receive text messages from school messenger please text the letter **y** or **yes** to **67587**. We use school messenger to update parents on weather, delayed openings or school closures, etc.

Warm Wishes,

Melanie Haigwood

Director of Schools