



# December News 2018



## Violet Room News

Winter has rolled in quickly! With all of the snow outside we have been playing in Bizzy Bees more. We are hoping to get outside to play in the snow soon. Please send in a hat, mittens, snow pants and boots every day labeled with your child's name!

We had a wonderful Halloween Party and Friendship Soup Lunch. Thank you for sending in all of the beautifully decorated goodies and necessary supplies to make the parties a success. In November we learned about Pumpkins, Scarecrows, Food and Thanksgiving. Our dramatic play has been transformed from a Halloween Trick or Treat scene into a grocery store! We worked developing our understanding of quantity concepts as well as sorting food by category and color. The children have had such fun pretending to work the register at the grocery store and push the shopping carts like Mom and Dad!

In December our themes include Stars, Triangles (evergreen trees), Squares/Rectangles and Gingerbread Houses. This gives us plenty of opportunities to work on shapes and colors! We will wrap up December with a Gingerbread House Decorating Party for families! It is scheduled for December 21st at 12:45. More information regarding the party will be sent home soon. We are also starting our "Letter of the Week" program on December 10th. Please be on the lookout for more information. We are looking forward to an exciting month in the Violet Room.

Happy Birthday to Emilia on December 31st!

*~Ms. Chris, Ms. Renee, Ms. Shelby, Mr. Tyler and Ms. Kathy*



## Blue Room News

It's hard to believe it is already December! The Blue Room had a very busy and fun-filled November.

We began the month by exploring the different emotions and focusing on the book "The Color Monster." Our culminating activity was watching the movie "Inside Out" which the children loved. We then explored the food groups and nutrition. We had a grocery store in dramatic play. The class is enjoying taking turns exploring the different roles such as cashier, shopper and bagger that we see in the grocery store. We ended the month with a Thanksgiving and turkey theme. We spent a lot of time discussing what we are thankful for and what makes us happy. We are also working hard to fill our marble jar! The children are responding well and are working together to earn marbles whenever the opportunity arises!

The December themes will be winter, snowmen and winter holidays/celebrations. We will be inviting parents into the classroom prior to the December break. Winter is in full swing! Please send in warm clothes (snow pants, boots, hats, gloves). We will go outside when the temperature is above 32 degrees. Happy Birthday this month to Liliana, Lucia and Miss Katina!

*~Ms. Jenna, Ms. Erica, Ms. Katina & Ms. Karen*



## MUSIC NOTES

In music class this month, we will be galloping "over the river and through the woods" with jingle bells on our ankles! We will be singing about what to wear in the winter weather and some holiday favorites! Have you asked your little musician about tempo? They should be able to tell you (or show you) that it means the speed of the music.

*~ Miss. Carolyn*

## IMPORTANT ZEBRA DATES

Nov. 26-Dec. 15 ~ Toys for Tots Drive

December 15 ~ Winterfest 9am-11am

Join us for some holiday fun, hot chocolate, donuts, and even a special appearance by Santa! Admission is free, but please help spread some holiday cheer by bringing a new unwrapped toy to donate to our Toys for Tots campaign!

Dec. 24-Jan. 1 ~ School Closed for Winter Recess







## Green Room News

Where has the time gone? We hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday.

We are looking forward to December and teaching the children about the spirit of giving, holiday traditions, and the New Year. We will learn about all of the December holidays - Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa, as part of our diversity and social studies curricula. We will focus on embedding the following academic concepts into our holiday activities: syllabication (the number of parts in a word), quantity and telling how many, and comparing groups of objects using math words. This month our letters will be O and S.

We are also excited to go on a field trip to a local retirement home to bring the residents handmade cards and sing holiday songs to them. They will have cookies for the children. This is a Green Room tradition and it is such a beautiful way of bringing all that we teach about the spirit of giving and spreading joy, right to the children's fingertips. We will be doing this special trip/event with the Orange Room. In addition, we have a "pannycake" breakfast with our families on the same morning, which makes it even more of a special day. We are looking to schedule this for December 19th, 20th or 21st at a local senior living home. We will send more information as it becomes available. We hope you can join us!

In addition, we plan to make gingerbread houses with the children on December 12th at 11:00am and would love for you to join us but understand if you are unable to make both dates. A sign up for candy decoration will go out via email early December.

Happy birthday to Mikey (1st), Amalia (10th) and Samantha (28th)! Have a wonderful holiday season!

*~Ms. Carrie, Ms. Carol, Ms. Elle and Ms. Kathy*



## Orange Room News

This month we talked a lot about the Thanksgiving holiday and what it means to feel thankful. We learned about the first Thanksgiving and created a paper chain together as well as a story telling bracelet to help us sequence events. We did a lot of writing and drawing about things that we are grateful for. In our math program we worked on matching sets as well as representing numbers using tally marks and ten frames. During our morning meeting, we have enjoyed finding Popcorn Words and filling in missing initial sounds. We also focused on using upper and lowercase letters appropriately. Finally, we enjoyed a special Thanksgiving "break-feast" together with families. Thank you to all who were able to attend and/or help out. We are very thankful for each and every one of you!

December will be a shorter month but we have a lot to get to! We will begin to learn about winter animals and what they do to prepare for winter (hibernate, migrate or gather food). In our math program we will continue to work with quantity and comparing sets and we will begin to use the greater than/less than symbol. We will be introducing our new author of the month, Tomie DePaola as well. Tomie DePaola's books tie in nicely with the concept of traditions, which we will be covering as we compare our own family traditions. We will spend some time learning about each of the December holidays and hopefully get a chance to do some caroling at a local nursing home.

*~Ms. Terry, Ms. Sbardella, Ms. Lucia and Ms. Jess*



## Speckled Zebra News

We have had such a fun November celebrating Thanksgiving and family. We also welcomed a new friend, Joey, to our group. All of our friends have been really enjoying spending time and learning together!

With December approaching, we will begin talking about winter, snow and the holidays. We will also work on counting and number recognition by counting snowflakes, snowmen and other fun winter objects. As we learn about the holidays, please feel free to share any family traditions that you have so that we can include them in our conversations!

We have been spending lots of time in Bizzy Beez! Please be sure to send your child in wearing sneakers so that they can run comfortably and safely. Thank you!

*~Ms. Kathryn, Nana Karen & Mr. Jason*

## WINTER ADVISORY

**With the winter months upon us, please remember to bring snow gear in a canvas storage bag. Also some extra clothing in case they get wet! The children will play outside as long as the temperature is above 32 degrees.**

**Just a reminder: We follow the South Colonie School District decisions for delays, early dismissals, and closings due to inclement weather. Please check your local listings.**