



# December News 2019



## Violet Room News

Welcome December! In November we learned about Thanksgiving, turkeys, and fruit and vegetables. Our Friendship Soup party was a big hit and enjoyed by all. Thank you for sending in all of the vegetables, the soup was actually delicious! We added the calendar and weather chart to our morning circle time in November. The children are learning the days of the week, months of the year, and counting skills. The calendar also provides an opportunity to develop concepts of print including "reading" from left to right, top to bottom, and the "return sweep," to move from one line to the next.

Winter is coming and with it brings some exciting new themes and holidays. For December we will be talking about the "Shapes of the Season." We will touch on all of the holidays in December and learn to identify shapes. We will be focusing on concepts related to size and number using shapes in all activities. Our annual Gingerbread House decorating party will be held on Friday, December 20th at 12:45. Parents are invited to attend to help the children decorate their house. In January we will begin doing a "Letter of the Week" along with our theme. Each week will focus activities on recognizing letters and learning their sounds. This is intended as only simple introduction to the alphabet and letter/sound relationships. An alphabet bag will be sent home with a different child each week. Your child will be assigned a specific letter. Parents are asked to find several items that start with the corresponding letter and put them in the bag. The bag is sent home on a Friday and should be returned on the following Monday. The alphabet theme culminates in a classroom alphabet book sent home in June.

A friendly reminder to label all hats and mittens with your child's name and remember to replenish extra clothes as needed! Happy Birthday to Miss Jamie and Miss Katina in December!

*~Ms. Chris, Ms. Renee, Ms. Jamie & 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." 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. The children loved sharing what types of foods they will be eating on Thanksgiving and for whom they are thankful. We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

The December themes will be forest animals, hibernation and winter holidays/celebrations. We will be inviting parents into the classroom prior to the December break for a special activity. 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 Emilia and Miss Laura!

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



## Bizzy Beez Sensory Adventure

Join us as the Bizzy Beez staff takes your child on a SENSORrational journey at the brand new Bizzy Beez Sensory Adventure! Open play, Afterschool Enrichment, Private Therapies, Birthday Parties, Workshops and Field Trips are just some of the programs we have to offer. Located at Shoppers Park at 145 Wolf Road.

## IMPORTANT ZEBRA DATES

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

December 15 ~ Winterfest 9am-11:30am

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



Don't forget to "like us" on Facebook!



## 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. 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 have scheduled this for December 20th 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 11th at 11:00am and would love for you to join us but understand if you are unable to make both dates. Please consider that the Caroling Field Trip has a higher need for parental attendance if you need to choose between the two events. A sign up for candy decoration will go out via email early December. As always, thank you for your continued support! Have a wonderful holiday season!

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



## 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 introduce the greater than/less than symbol. We will meet 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 around the December holidays. We will hopefully get a chance to do some caroling at a local nursing home as well. Finally, we would like to send happy birthday wishes to four Orange Room friends, Mikey, Thea, Liliana and Samantha!

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



## Speckled Zebra News

We have had such a fun November celebrating Thanksgiving and family. 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. 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!

*~Nana Karen, Ms. Kristi & 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.**