

The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

DECEMBER 2021



What is Happening in the Classrooms....

VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy winter! We would like to thank all the parents who sent in food items and paper supplies for our friendship soup luncheon. The children enjoyed preparing all the food for this special occasion.

We would like to welcome Ms. Danielle (Special Education teacher) and Ms. Heather (Speech Therapist) to the Violet Room. Ms. Katina and I are so excited to have you as part of our team.

During the month of December, we will focus on shapes of the holidays (stars, triangles, circles, rectangles, and squares). The week before winter break we will do a gingerbread theme. The children will decorate their own individual gingerbread houses. A supply list for this special event will be posted near our classroom door and in a Google Doc. Don't worry we will take lots of pictures of your little ones experiencing this fun activity and post them on the Homeroom App.

Now that winter is here please send in appropriate articles of clothing (hats, mittens, snow pants) for colder temperatures. Don't forget to LABEL your child's belongings to minimize lost items.

The staff in the Violet Room would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season and a wonderful New Year!

Ms. Danielle, Ms. Chris, Ms. Katina, and Ms. Heather



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 talking about manners and how we can use them both at home and at school. We also explored different emotions and colors, with a focus on the book "The Color Monster". Thank you for sending your child in wearing the color of each day. We ended the month with a Thanksgiving 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 would be eating on Thanksgiving and whom they are thankful for. We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving.

We are working as a class toward filling our mason jar with marbles. Once the jar is filled we will be having a pajama party and movie. Students can earn a marble in a variety of ways such as: by helping a friend, being a good listener, using manner words etc. We are always on the lookout for positive behavior and teamwork which can earn a child or group of children a marble. The class is really enjoying cheering each other on when a marble is earned.

The December themes will be forest animals, A "Pete the Cat" author study and winter holidays/celebrations. 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. The class loves playing on the playground and it is a great opportunity for some fresh air!

Ms. Erica, Ms. Jenna, Ms. Kathryn, Ms. Lauren & Ms. Karen



Bizzy Beez News

We had an amazing November and cannot wait for December! We are wishing everyone Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

We have an exciting month planned. We will start off learning about Space (4-year-old friends) and Nursery Rhymes (3-year-old friends). Our other themes for the month are Holidays around the World, Gingerbread and then we will wrap up the last week with some very fun activities. We are planning gingerbread house decorating, polar express day and holiday sensory bin day! More details to follow.

We want to wish Aiden a very happy birthday this month.

Ms. Carrie, Ms. Christina, Ms. Mary, Ms. Ang, Ms. Marlis and Ms. Megan

Upcoming Dates to Note for Holiday Closures

- Winter Break: December 24 - December 31, 2021
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: January 17, 2022

Orange Room News

Wow, time flies when you are having fun learning! We love that we get to show you that using our Homeroom app!

December holidays around the world and an author study of Jan Brett will be the overarching themes for next month. We will share about our holiday traditions, as well as investigate those around the world, to find similarities and differences.

Within these themes we will work on discriminating between beginning, medial, and ending sounds in CVC (consonant vowel consonant) words and counting syllables in words; working with Word Families will provide support. New "Popcorn" sight words will be: in, on, to, & and. As always we will go deeper and beyond our read aloud books to make predictions, retell a story, make connections, and more!

The children have really enjoyed learning about comparing sets of objects to determine less than/less, greater than/more, and equal to/same number. Our favorite math songs on Youtube are "Number Gators" by Brainzy and "The Greater Than Less Than Song by Silly School Songs. We will continue to practice counting and comparing sets. Number order and counting on will be introduced.

In science, the continents and learning about the land on planet Earth will be explored next. We will also touch upon LEGO engineering with our Science Spin magazine.

Before we close, we would like to wish our families a very happy and healthy holiday season!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Sbardella, Ms. Casey & Mr.
Jason



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 all about 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, comparing groups of objects and using math words. This month we are continuing with curved letters. We have already learned O, C, and S. We look forward to holiday fun with a special pajama day this month!

We are looking forward to recording a special caroling video for our classroom families this month to showcase our holiday songs learned and expanding our ability to memorize songs. Caroling is a Green Room tradition, and although we won't be able to take it on the road this year, we will enjoy the opportunity to share this special holiday tradition with all of you! We will send out more details as we get closer to the date. Please be on the lookout on our Homeroom App towards the end of the month!

In addition, we will be making gingerbread houses with the children. A sign up for peanut/tree nut free candy decoration will go out via email in early December.

As always, thank you for your continued support. This month we'll be celebrating three birthday's Eliza (9) Harrison (13) and Theeran (19)!

Ms. Kim, Ms. Elle, Ms. Christiana & Ms. Liz