

# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center



December 2022



## What is Happening in the Classrooms....



### VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy winter! The children enjoyed making soup together and reading the book "Vegetable Soup" by the author of the month "Lois Ehlert." Thank you for all the vegetables sent in for this wonderful cooking experience.

During the month of December, we will focus on shapes of the holidays (stars, triangles, circles, rectangles, and squares). Social-emotional skills such as giving, sharing, and caring will be incorporated into the month as well. 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. We will also start introducing a letter of the week through Handwriting Without Tears. A detailed letter will be sent home explaining how we introduce individual letters and what letter is assigned to each student.

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.

We would like to wish Brodie and Prue a very special "Happy Birthday!"

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

**Ms. Nicole, Ms. Chris, Ms. Christiana, Ms. Laura, and Ms. Heather**

**Just a reminder we are closed  
December 26<sup>th</sup> – January 2<sup>nd</sup>**



## 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 learning about Veteran's Day, The American Flag, and Different Branches of the Military. We moved quickly to Food Groups, Healthy vs. Non-Healthy Foods, Turkey's, and Thanksgiving. We ended the month learning about Family Traditions.

We are working as a class to fill our Warm and Fuzzy jar, to earn a pajama party and movie. Students can earn a warm and fuzzy 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 warm and fuzzy. The class is really enjoying cheering each other on when a warm and fuzzy is earned.

The December themes will be Holidays Around the World, St. Nicholas Day, St. Lucia, Las Posadas, Kwanza, Hanukkah, and Christmas. We will wrap up our holidays around the world with Little Christmas and La Befana when we return from Holiday Break.

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!

December 26 - January 2 - CENTER CLOSED for Holiday Break

Happy Birthday to... Skylar Carkner 12/5, Lucas Kulzer 12/13, and Ms. Katina 12/20

Happy Holidays,

**Ms. Katina, Ms. Danielle, Ms. Sara, Miss Casey and Ms. Liz**



## Bizzy Beez News

We had a thankful 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, everything gingerbread and will wrap up the last week with some very fun holiday activities. Our friends will decorate festive treats, watch a holiday movie and explore holiday sensory bins! More details to follow.

We want to wish Raelyn (4) and Theo (5) a very happy birthday this month!!

Ms. Carrie, Ms. Kari, Ms. Hope, Ms. Rachel, Ms. Marlis and Ms. Megan



## 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 holidays and traditions that are celebrated around the world as part of our diversity and social studies curricula. This month in our handwriting curriculum we will be learning about the letters in the alphabet that have curved lines. To finish off the month we will talk about all things gingerbread and space!

We have many fun activities planned for this month so please be on the lookout for pictures on our Homeroom App We will be making gingerbread trees using sugar cones with the children. A sign up for peanut/tree nut free candy decoration will go out via email when we get closer to the week. As always, thank you for your continued support.

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. Please make sure everything is labeled with your child's name. The class loves playing on the playground, and it is a great opportunity for some fresh air! This month we'll be celebrating two birthday's Dylan (19) and Ethan (24)!

Have a wonderful holiday season!

**Mrs. Christina, Ms. Elle, Ms. Sammy, Ms. Ang**



## Orange Room News

The Time flies! How can it be December already!?! We hope that everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving, and had special times with their loved ones!

December themes will be holidays around the world (specifically Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa), as well as learning about giving and needs versus wants. Thank you for sharing about your traditions. We will continue to use them throughout December to highlight similarities and differences, and make connections, between our families and the books we read.

Letter learning and meaning making lessons using the letters Ee, Hh, and Tt will be the focus for our Learning Without Tears curriculum, while the letters Ll, Hh, and Kk will be the focus for the Foundations curriculum. We have now introduced 24 "popcorn words" – can, see, look, in a, I, who, the, of, with, you, at, me, will, am, we, are, your, and, do, is, on, then, they. The children love finding them everywhere!

Using our iReady Math Curriculum and other supportive tools, the children will work on comparing number quantities within 10, then using attributes to sort and compare objects within 10. This will lead us into ways to make 10 (quantity combinations that add to 10). Graphing, patterning, and counting will continue to be practiced daily.

For science, we will learn about animals and how they protect themselves using a rainbow of colors as camouflage and their five senses. We will explore the tracks that animals leave in the snow and learn how to identify which animal made them.

We wish everyone a happy holiday season!

**Orange Room Teachers**