



Small Wonders Learning Center December 2017 Newsletter



From the Office:

Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe December is here and we don't have a speck of snow on the ground. No worries, we're sure it will be arriving soon so we all can have fun building snowmen, making snow angels, and creating wonderful winter memories!

As the December snowy cold weather arrives, we would like to remind all of our families to send in appropriate clothing for outside play. All of our friends will go outside for walks or to play in the snow as the temperatures allow. Everyone is allowed to go outside if the temperatures are above zero with the exception of our infant and toddlers. In their case, they will only go out if the temperatures are 20 or above.

As the holidays approach, we would like to wish all of you a safe and joyful holiday season filled with peace, love and joy.

Holiday Hours: The Center will be **closed** in observation of the Christmas holiday on **Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th**. We will also be **closed** on **Monday, January 1st** in observation of the New Year. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday season with your families and friends. As stated in our handbook, December 25th, 26th, and January 1st are paid holidays and you will be charged according to your normal schedule.

Giving Trees: For those that are interested and willing to spread a little extra Christmas joy this holiday season, please take a look at our Giving Trees. This year we are collecting items for the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and the Milton Area Youth Center. Our trees are decorated with "Stars" and "Ornaments" that list "wish items" for these children. Please take a Star or Ornament of your liking from the tree and then return your gift to SWLC by Thursday, December 14th. Thank you in advance for your compassion and generosity.

Weather Related Closings: If we need to close due to weather, we will announce it on **WCLO/WJVL** radio stations as well as post it on our Facebook page. You may also call our office at **608-868-5288**. ****Please note: We do not close according to the Milton School District so be sure to listen or look for Small Wonders Learning Center in the listings**.**

Holiday Sing: Miss Melody's Shooting Stars will have their Holiday Sing on Monday, December 11th at 10:00 am with refreshments to follow in their classroom.

Holiday Make 'n Take: Miss Jamie's Milkyways will have a special Make 'n Take on Monday, December 11th at 9:00am. Parents are invited to join us and create a fun holiday craft with their child. Please rsvp by Wednesday, December 6th so arrangements can be made. 🎄🎄🎄

Main site School Age Families: The **sign-up sheet** for the December 4th no school day is full. If you are in need of care during **Winter Break**, December 27th - 29th, you may sign up until December 6th. The clipboards are in the office. In addition, if you do not need care, please indicate so on the sheets. If you have any questions, please see a school age teacher or stop by the office. Thanks!

Scholastic Book Fair: Thank you to everyone who participated in our Scholastic Book Fair. With your help we were able to purchase some new books for our classrooms. Many thanks for your support!

Outdoor Playtime: Your child will go out daily (weather permitting). Please make sure they have their "Winter Clothing" at Small Wonders. Each child should have a coat, mittens, and a hat every day. When the snow arrives, your child should also have a pair of boots and snow pants. We do not allow long scarves to be worn outside as they could get tangled in the play equipment and cause serious injuries. Shorter scarves that can be tucked in your child's coat are fine. **Please make sure to label all of your child's belongings.

Mailboxes: Please make sure to check your child's mailbox on a daily basis. This is a busy time of the year and many notes will be sent home during the month.

Lip Balm and Lotions: Parents must fill out a medication form prior to their child using lip balm and lotions at Small Wonders. You may fill out a form for up to a 3 month period. Medication forms are available near the elevator in our Center Info area.

December is a busy month for all of us as we prepare for the holidays. Please remember to slow down and enjoy the little things in life. Take time to see the holiday magic through your child's eye. They really bring so much joy to all of our lives!

Wishing you a safe and blessed holiday season!

Miss Beth, Miss Terri and Miss Julia



From the Sunshine Room:

Season's Greetings from the Infant Room! What a great time of the year as many of us spend lots of time with family and friends. Our themes for this month are Holiday Gift Making, Candy Canes/Peppermint, Ice/Snow, and Christmas/New Years.

Our learning will include lots of sensory exploration through sight - Christmas lights, sounds - jingle bells (in baggies), touch - snow and ice, and smell - cotton balls with peppermint, nutmeg, and cinnamon. We will also enjoy wrapping paper play as we crinkle, wrinkle, and tear it to pieces!

We'd like to welcome our new friend, Avery as she joins us in December. We are always so happy to have new friends come to learn, grow, and play with us. We'd also like to say goodbye to Robyn as she makes the move to the Toddler Room. We hope you have lots of fun in your new classroom. We also hope Robyn has a wonderful December birthday!

One final reminder: Please send in warm winter clothing including snowsuits for your infant. We will continue to go outside if the temperatures are 20 or above. The fresh air is good for our little ones and they enjoy seeing the sights of winter. Don't forget to label all items that you send in. If you do not want to write on the clothing items, you can also use masking tape.

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season filled with family, friends, and love.

Have a Very Merry Christmas
Miss Nikki, Miss Marta, and Miss Lynn





From the Rainbow Room:

Happy Holidays! We cannot wait for the snow to arrive! Our learning units this month are Friendship, Senses, Christmas, and Snow. We will begin our fun with making handprint wreaths and special surprises for our families. Our senses will be filled with new and exciting opportunities to learn. We will enjoy playing with the snow both inside (our sensory table) and outside on the playground. Let's hope it arrives soon!

We will also use our other senses to learn and explore this holiday season... our noses to smell peppermint candy canes and gingerbread cookies, our ears to listen to stories and music, our eyes to look at winter sites, books, and holiday lights. Wintertime is such a fun time!

As part of our small and large motor development we will include activities such as unwrapping presents, dancing to music, and playing outside. We will also focus on our self-help skills as we practice using a spoon and drinking from a cup.

We would like to welcome our new friend Robyn to our room in December. We are filled with joy to have you come play and grow with us! Don't forget to send in warm outdoor gear for your toddler, including boots, snow pants, mittens, a hat, and coat. Be sure to label everything. Warm wishes to all for a safe and Happy Holiday season!

Happy Holidays to All and Happy New Year 2018!

Miss Barb, Miss Taylor, and Miss Alexis



From the Moonbeams:

Ho Ho Ho, we're so excited for December to arrive! In the Moonbeams we plan to enjoy every minute of it. Our learning units are Presents, Gingerbread, Christmas, and New Year! We will be working on our large motor skills with activities like running on the track, riding a tricycle, playing in the snow, and dancing! We will also be busy making special gifts for our families as well as showing off our creative sides as we do ornament coloring, marble painting, and more!

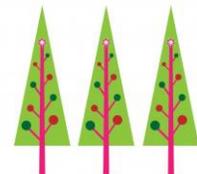
Join us on **Friday, December 20th at 9:30 am** for our Christmas Cookie Decorating with your child. Please RSVP by Friday, December 15th so we can prepare for this fun activity.

With the snow coming soon, we'd like to remind all of our families to send in proper outdoor gear for their child as we will be going outside daily as the temperatures allow. All of our friends should have a hat, mittens, coat, snow boots, and snow pants every day. Please be sure to label all of your child's items. If you prefer not to write on the items, you can use masking tape. In addition, please check your child's extra clothing items to make sure they are season appropriate and still fit! We tend to get a bit wet outside and may have to change into dryer items. ☺

Happy December Birthday wishes go out to our friend, Gemma. We hope you have a super day!



Happy Holidays
Miss Heather and Miss Allie



From the Milkyways:

Happy Holidays! Our themes this month will be sure to get us in the holiday spirit. We will begin the month learning all about **Penguins**—what they look like, where they live, what they eat and we'll even be making our own penguins. Then we'll move on to our **Holiday Cheer** unit, which is sure to get us in the holiday spirit as we learn songs and create beautiful holiday crafts. During our Christmas unit our senses will be filled with music, movement, and games. We'll even talk about that special guy....SANTA. HO, HO, HO! We will end the month plunging into our unit on **Polar Bears**, learning all about these amazing animals with books and crafts. We may even try to walk like polar bears!

As part of our fine motor development, we will continue to focus on our pencil and scissor grip as we create awesome art and craft projects. We will also work on our hand strength with squeezing our glue bottles with "dot, dot, not a lot". Our large motor play will include balancing, throwing and waddling like a penguin. Fun, fun, fun!

Don't forget to put our **Make 'n Take** event on your calendars. We'd like our families to join us on Monday, December 11th at 9:00am for this fun activity. You will be joining us to make a special craft with your child and then enjoy a special treat too! Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 6th. Please note, we are doing this event in place of our Holiday Sing this year.

Happy December Birthday wishes go out to our friend, Oliver! We hope you have a fun-filled day! As the holiday season surrounds us, remember to take time to enjoy each moment with your child.



Wishing you a Holly Jolly Christmas!
Miss Jamie



From the Shooting Stars:

Merry Christmas everyone! The holidays are upon us and we have some fun filled projects to get us in the Holiday Spirit. Our themes this month are Red & Green Mania, Snow, Christmas, & New Year's. As we learn all about the colors red and green, we will use our creativity and imaginations to create puzzle wreaths, make marble prints, and holiday collages. We will then move on to exploring snow as we create icy designs and snow prints using q-tips. Christmas is our third unit and it's sure to be a super fun one. We will focus on our fine motor skills as we create Christmas lights using our fingerprints, try our hand at making cookie cutter art, and paint with candy canes. The month will come to an end as we celebrate the start of a New Year in style with our own noise makers.

Don't forget to put our Christmas Sing on your calendars!! It's Monday, December 11th at 10:00am followed by refreshments in our classroom. We hope you all can join us. My friends are so excited to perform for you.

Happy December Birthday wishes go out to Cael and Seton. We hope you have tons of fun on your special day! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of you! Enjoy the wonderful month of December with your families and friends.



Ho! Ho! Ho!
Miss Melody



From the Comets:

Happy Holidays! The month of December is here and the countdown 'til Christmas has started.



Reminder of Early Release and School Days Off:

Monday, December 4th: No School. Field Trip: Whitewater Theatre - Coco and swimming at the Whitewater Aquatic Center. Depart: 9:20am Return: 4:00pm
Bring sack lunch, swimsuit, and a towel.

Winter Break, December 25th-January 1st: SWLC is closed Dec. 25th & 26th and Jan.1st.
Families must sign up for extra care during winter break by December 6th.

Main SA Programs:

Our fun themes will be Winter Wonderland, Christmas, and Snow. We have lots of creative activities planned as well fun games to try.

All of our school age friends will spend time outside every day. Please make sure that your child has their snow pants, boots, jacket, a hat and gloves at Small Wonders at all times. There are so many fun things to do outside at this time of year. Because we do not want our friends to be wet and cold when they are inside, any child who does not have all of their winter gear will need to stay on the sidewalk during our outside time.

Offsite SA Programs:

As we enjoy the month of December, we will also enjoy our fun themes of National Mitten Week, December Treats, and Santa's Helpers. Throughout the month we will have fun art and craft activities as well as games to complement our themes.

Our family involvement for December is our Giving Trees. The Giving Trees are up at our main site, however we have brought over a couple of "Wish Stars and Ornaments" for our offsite families to choose. You may bring back the gift to our offsite location and we will bring over to the main site. All gifts should be brought in by Thursday, December 14th. Thank you!

December Birthday wishes go out to Brady, Kaelee, Emersyn, Olivia, Isaac, Anna, Landon, Peighton, Cheyanne, Cody, and Landon. Happy Birthday everyone!

We wish all of our school age families a fun and safe holiday! Take time to make joyful memories! Enjoy your time together making family holiday traditions. The most important gift is spending time together!

Holiday Fun!
The School Age Teachers

