



Small Wonders Learning Center December 2018 Newsletter



From the Office:

Happy Holidays! It's hard to believe December is here and we only have had a few flakes 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 24th, Tuesday, December 25th, and Wednesday December 26th**. We will also be **closed** on **Monday, December 31st and Tuesday 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 24th, 25th, 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 doing a Pajama Drive through the Pajama Program and Scholastic Book Clubs. Our trees are decorated with "Pajamas", please take an ornament of your liking from the tree and then return your gift to SWLC by Wednesday, December 5th. 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**.**

Main site School Age Families: The **sign-up sheet** for the December 10th no school day is full. If you are in need of care during **Winter Break**, December 27th - 28th, please fill out a yellow sheet. 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!

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.**

****Please note:** Children that attend the Milton 4K program will need **two pairs** of mittens/gloves daily since both programs spend time outside enjoying the winter fun. This will ensure that your child has a dry pair each time they go outside. Please label your items. ☺

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 6 month period. Medication forms are available near the elevator in our Center Info area. Reminder, you may not put "as needed" on the forms. It must say something along the lines of "apply thin layer for dry lips/skin" as appropriate.

Jingle Mingle Reminder: Our Milkyways & Shooting Stars are having a special gathering on Monday, December 10th from 9:00-10:00am for craft making and refreshments. Due to limited space, we ask that each child have only two guests attend. Watch for more details to be sent home soon.

Blackhawk Tech Student Teachers: We'd like to introduce our two Early Childhood Practicum students from Blackhawk Technical College: Miss Leah and Miss McHanna. Miss Leah has been learning and sharing with our infant friends, while Miss McHanna (aka Miss Hanna) has been learning and sharing with our Moonbeam friends. Miss Hanna has also been employed by us since August 2018. Both ladies are working towards their Associates Degree in Early Childhood Education.

Pajama Day: Friday, December 21st is Pajama Day at SWLC. All of our friends are invited to wear their pjs for the day. We're planning a fun cozy day with popcorn, hot cocoa, crafts/games, and a holiday movie.

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 Gifts/Presents, Gingerbread, Santa Claus, Christmas.

Our learning will include lots of sensory exploration with cotton balls, stockings and trees. We love doing different painting activities with our little ones. They really enjoy having their hands and feet painted...it tickles and their giggles are priceless!! ❤️

Our focus has been on increasing our muscle strength for those friends learning to stand and for others whom are starting to walk.

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. Happy Birthday to Claire and Sam!

Have a Very Merry Christmas
Miss Heather and Miss Lynn



From the Rainbow Room:



Happy Holidays! We are so excited for the snow to arrive! Our learning units this month are Friendship, Senses, Christmas, and Winter. We will use our 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!

We will enjoy playing with the snow both inside (our sensory table) and outside on the playground. Be sure to send in warm outdoor gear for your toddler, including boots, snow pants, mittens, a hat, and coat. Be sure to label everything. We want our friends to be warm and cozy while we enjoy wintertime play.

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.

Warm wishes to all for a safe and Happy Holiday season!

Happy Holidays to All and Happy New Year 2018!

Miss Barb and Miss Taylor



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 as we explore and learn. Our learning units this month are Snowmen, Winter, Christmas, and New Year's! Ours little hands will 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!

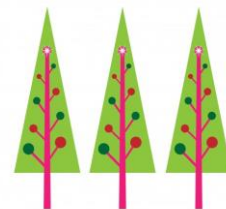
We will be working on our large motor skills with activities like riding a tricycle, playing in the snow, and dancing!

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.

We will be enjoying outside weather permitting (above 0 degrees). 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 Holidays

Miss Kelly and Miss Brittani



From the Milkyways:

Happy Holidays! Our themes this month will be sure to get us in the holiday spirit. Our learning should be tons of fun as we explore "Same" and "Different", Presents, and Christmas! We will be working hard and using our creativity to make our families Christmas gifts. We'll even talk about that special guy....SANTA. HO, HO, HO!

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 **Mingle Jingle Make 'n Take** event on your calendars. We'd like our families to join us on Monday, December 10th at 9:00-10:00am 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 5th. Please note, we are doing this event in place of our Holiday Sing this year.

Happy December Birthday wishes go out to our friend, August (Gus)! 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 Barb S.



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 learning units this month are Red & Green Mania, Trim a Tree, Christmas, & New Year's. As we learn all about the colors red and green, we will use our creativity and imaginations to make marble prints and holiday collages. We will continue to tap into our creative side by making beautiful sequence trees and hand print trees. 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 try our hand at making cookie cutter art and Santa hats. The month will come to an end as we celebrate the start of a New Year in style with our own party hats.

Don't forget to put our **Mingle Jingle Make 'n Take** on your calendars!! We'd like our families to join us on Monday, December 10th at 9:00-10:00am for some Shooting Stars fun with your preschoolers. Please RSVP by Wednesday Dec. 5th.

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 and Miss Mandy



From the Comets:

Happy Holidays! The month of December is here and the countdown 'til Christmas has started. Our fun themes will be Winter, Snowflakes, and Christmas. We will have a variety of fun activities throughout the month as well some fun games to try.



Reminder of December School Days Off:

Monday, December 10th: No School.

Winter Break, December 24th-January 1st:

SWLC is closed Dec. 24th 25th & 26th 31st and Jan.1st.

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 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.

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

