

December 2024 Newsletter

The Giving Nest Preschool in Pluckemin

Director: Barbara Maxwell



December Happenings at the Nest... The "Giving Tree"

December is always an exciting time at the Giving Nest. It is a delightful time to be with little children during the holidays and, sharing the spirit of the season. The children will have fun making gifts for their families and creating beautiful artwork for our hallways-wait until you see them!

In December, you and the children will see an Evergreen Tree in our hallway. We will refer to it as our Giving Tree. Every year at the Giving Nest schools we ask the children to do a chore at home. When they complete their chore, we ask their parents to pay their child \$2.00. The children will tell their teacher what they did at home. (Mom or Dad can help by writing the chore on the envelope with the \$2.00). The teacher will write it on the ornament that the children will create for the Giving Tree. The children should bring their \$2.00 in by December 2nd & 3rd. This year we will be supporting World Vision by purchasing goats, chickens and clean water to a small village in Africa.

Holiday Celebrations...



Children love celebrating the holidays, so during December the children will hear about Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa through stories, crafts, and songs. If your family celebrates any other holiday, please let us know. The children will be introduced to some of our old and new favorite holiday songs. The Giving Nest will schedule our family Holiday Sing-along. Please see the schedule below. If your child attends school only in the morning, they are welcome to stay through lunch and attend the Sing-along at the scheduled times or you may pick up your child and return for the 1:30 event. Your child can either sing on the stage or sit with you on your lap. Please don't miss this special event!

Tuesday, December 17th @ 1:30 Classes H/H-3 & K/K-2

Wednesday, December 18th @ 1:30 Classes C, D+, D/E, F/F+, & J/J+

Thursday, December 19th @ 1:30 Classes A/A+, B, D/E, E+, D/E & I/I+

The children in Class D/E or D+/E+ may attend one or both events.



The Kids Holiday Shoppe is quickly approaching, this year's event will be held during from **December 11th though December 13th**. Each child's class will have their own special day and time to shop at our Holiday Boutique. The room in Fellowship Hall will be festively set up as the "shopping boutique " and our shopper (Miss Sherry) has begun shopping for gift items.

Each child participating in the Kids Holiday Shoppe will have the opportunity to browse each area and personally hand pick a special holiday gift to purchase for the family and friends designated on the returned forms received back at school. Each gift will then be wrapped in a gift bag with the gift tag securely placed on each gift for secure keeping. All gifts purchased will be sent home the day of shopping. **Remember each gift is \$3.00.** The children will be learning fun skills while they shop and then surprise their families with their carefully chosen gifts.



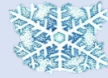
A special Thank you to the most amazing families!

- Thank you for your Halloween candy donations that were sent to Operation Shoe Box that supports our troops overseas.
- Thank you for your donations for the Raritan Food Pantry. The volunteers were so grateful when they saw the amount of food that was being brought into the building. A big Thank You from them as well! We will continue to drop off food weekly throughout the coming weeks.
- Thank you for supporting Hearts of Watchung and the special family that we adopted for the holidays. Your gifts are amazing, thoughtful, and generous.
- Thank you to Captain Welles (Landon & Kensley's Dad). He came to Sing Time and talked to us about his life as a pilot for United Airlines.
- Thank you to Lieutenant Colonel Doherty (Mrs. Doherty's spouse, Colin & Ethan's Dad). He came to Sing Time and talked to us about his life in the U.S. Army.



Please remember that the state requires that ALL children between the ages of 2 and 5 have the flu vaccination by December 31st to attend school. Please give your proof of immunization to the office by January 2nd, 2025.

Snow Days...



In the event of severe weather conditions, a decision will be made to either cancel school or have a delayed opening (allowing time for the snowplows to do their jobs). In the event of a delayed opening or school closing:

- We will send out an E-mail blast to all our families with the pertinent information.
- We will modify our outgoing message on the school phone. Our # is 908-658-9665.
- We will post our school's status online on www.news12.com. Click on "New Jersey" then click on "Closings/Delays".

Please note we will be following the Bridgewater district's closing schedule. However, it is also possible we will have to make our own decisions based on the safety of our parking lot and local roads

DELAYED OPENING TIME SCHEDULE

All classes will operate on a 1- hour delay. If your class usually starts at 8:45 your arrival time will be 9:45 etc. Dismissal times will be the usually scheduled dismissal time.

We will not host Early Care on the Mornings of Delayed Arrivals.

2024 - 2025 In House Registration

The dates for Pre-Registration and In - House Registration are as follows:

January 21st: In House Pre-Registration information will be emailed to you.

January 23rd: In House Pre-Registration is over.

January 29th & 30th: In-House Registration confirmation letters and payment envelopes go home.

January 31st: Calling new families today for the 2025-2026 school year.

February 13th: In-House Registration is over. Payments and paperwork are due today!



Mark your calendar...

Dec. 2nd & 3rd - Chore Money is due.

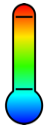
Dec 4th - Holiday Party Sign-up will be emailed to you.

Dec. 11th - 13th- Kids' Holiday Shoppe

Dec. 17th, 18th & 19th – Holiday Parties and Family Sing-a-longs.

Dec. 20th – School closes at 12:15 today for all classes.

Dec. 23rd – Jan. 1st - School closed for the Winter Break.



With the colder weather upon us, please don't forget to switch the change of clothes in your child's backpack! Please label all coats, hats etc.

From Mrs. Max, Miss Sherry, and the Giving Nest Staff... We wish you all a wonderful & blessed holiday and a relaxing, safe but fun winter vacation!

We'll see you on January 2nd, 2025!