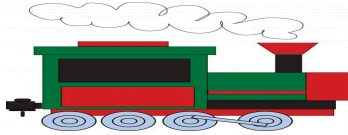


Happy New Year Preschool Families!



We hope that you had a magical holiday season!

December Recap



The preschoolers had great fun throughout the month of **December!** We enjoyed learning about the multiple **modes of transportation;** and we had so much fun creating our very own “**freight trains**” in our Art Center based on the story in motion **Freight Train by Donald Crews.** Additionally we enjoyed working with and building our **magnetic train station** as we explored **magnetic connection** within our classroom.

We continued to learn about multiple **holidays** that families and people, across the world, celebrate in the month of **December.** The preschoolers spoke about some of their **favorite family traditions** and we enjoyed sharing, comparing, and creating festive crafts with Mrs. Kennedy and many of our **Student Teachers.** We had a lot of fun “**baking**” **gingerbread** cookies in our dramatic play area as well using playdough to create gingerbread people. We enjoyed using storyboards and sequencing different versions of the classic tale **The Gingerbread Man.**

Upcoming in January



We were excited to “**Welcome Winter**” on December 21st! We have continued to observe our environment in order to discover multiple **signs of winter** and we have been hard at work learning the skills of **bundling ourselves up** in our cozy winter gear. We enjoyed the introduction of **Jan Brett’s The Mitten** with Mrs. Kennedy and our **Student Teachers** who created a **huge mitten** for us to gather on, and act out, the sequence of the animals squeezing into the mitten within the story, in an awesome **interactive read aloud.** We look forward to illustrating ourselves with our **snow gear** in January.

We will consider what we look forward to this **winter season**, and we will reflect upon past experiences that we remember enjoying in the winter. Our classroom library will enhance our winter journey as it will be filled with excellent literature depicting such **wintertime activities**.



We will continue to examine the changes in **temperature** through January...and yes, we are hoping for lots of **snow** in preschool!!! With snow will come great opportunity to explore the scientific concepts of **liquids and solids**, and to observe what happens to **snow** and **ice** in modifying temperature. We look forward to having real snow for a few days in our **sensory science table!**

January will also serve as a time to learn about **arctic animals** and their **habitat** . We will use many classroom materials to create a model habitat for arctic animals. We will consider why their habitat is **important to their survival**. We are very excited for January in preschool!

**** Registration for the preschool 2025-2026 school year is currently open! Please email courtneyhiggins@oldrochester.org as current registered students who will not be attending Kindergarten in the fall of 2025 (or siblings of current registered students) have first choice of available spaces for next school year.**



General Announcements

- **Progress reports for the preschoolers will be sent home in backpacks mid January.**

- **Midyear Conference sign ups will be available, during the school day or after the full school day at 3:30. I will contact you via email to schedule conferences within the weeks of 1/13 and 1/20.**
- Please remember mittens, gloves, and hats as the temperature gets colder
- If you send your preschooler to school in boots, **please include a pair of shoes to change into**, we will assist preschoolers in the changing of shoes (heavy boots can become very uncomfortable and hot indoors)
- Thank you for your **incredible donations** of markers, and note cards, we had so much fun using them in December in our Post Office Writing Center!! ❤️
- We will continue to send resting blankets home every other week to be washed and returned for the following week. (this applies only to our full day preschoolers)
- The preschool will be **closed Monday, January 20th** for Martin Luther King Jr. Day and **closed for a ½ day January 31st** for a district wide professional development day. (Half day dismissal is 11:00 at the back circle for ALL preschoolers. Morning snack is served on a half day however lunch is not served, preschoolers will need lunch following pick up at 11:00.)

Have a great January !!

Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Trombley

