



January 2018 Newsletter

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Dear Creative Corner School Families,
We hope everyone enjoyed the holiday and had a great time celebrating with family and friends. As we move into a new year we will have lots of exciting events to look forward to like our Friendship week, Evening of Excellence, and Opening Day celebration.

We would like to welcome all the new families that are starting this month at Creative Corner School. Several of the families are new to the area so as you see new faces in the building, please reach out and introduce yourself to them.

As the winter weather is just getting started we ask that you ensure your child is dressed warmly for the days we will be heading outside. If your child wears winter boots to school, please have them change into sneakers before they enter the classroom. This will help eliminate the tracking in of all the sand and dirt that will be in abundance on the roads and parking lot.

We wish you and your family a healthy and happy New Year!!!

Warm regards,
Jeanne and Sam

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 1 - The center will be closed in observance of New Year's Day.

Monday, January 15 - The center will be closed for observance of Martin Luther King Jr/ Staff Professional Development.

Classroom Highlights

Infants: During the month of December the infants had a blast making some holiday crafts! They decorated gingerbread men, painted with bows and finger painted

with some winter colors. During the month of January, we will be welcoming Winter by painting some snowflakes! We look forward to all the fun that will be happening this winter in Yellow 1 and Green 1.

Toddlers: December was a fun filled festive month. Staff and families shared their holiday traditions through singing traditional holiday songs and creative art. During art times our little ones made adorable gingerbread families, sparkling paper snowflakes and other winter themed art. During circle times we sang wintery songs and festive holiday favorites such as "jingle bells" and "the dreidel song". During our art and artist week we visited the adventures of some of our favorite books like "If you Give a Moose a Muffin" and "Where the Wild Things Are" Friends also created some amazing art following the lead of famous artists such as Van Gogh and Mondrian. We were able to spend time outdoors as well as indoors during our gross motor times. Friends enjoy sliding down the slides and pedaling the trikes around. During science and math, we made scented playdough, counted colorful block towers and did some fun puzzles. We look forward to the New Year!

Preschool: Preschool had snow much fun this month! As winter started we were able to learn about ice and snow. The teachers froze jingle bells into ice cubes and the children used magnetic wands to move the ice cubes around. The children used water color paints to paint snow in the sensory table. During our gingerbread week the preschoolers had fun building gingerbread houses out of graham crackers, frosting and sprinkles. They also enjoyed decorating gingerbread cookies and using felt boards to recreate the Gingerbread Man story. We are finishing out the month by learning about holidays around the world. Each child brought in a worksheet that explained the holidays and traditions that they celebrate. The kids had fun standing up in front of the class and sharing their favorite special traditions. We made fingerprint

menorahs and kinaras. We look forward to learning about arctic animals, opposites, Martin Luther King Jr. winter sports and STEM during the month of January.

Pre-k and Kindergarten. The classrooms had a busy month learning about opposites and creating artwork to coincide with the unit. Next, we welcomed winter with our theme about hibernation and learning about which animals truly sleep in the winter or go into a “torpor” which is a light sleep. We focused on the brown bears and the children brought in their bears from home to measure and weigh. And we had a teddy bear picnic. We also, sent off the class bear to hibernate in the painted bear cave. We ended the month with learning about the many celebration of lights celebrated around the world. We wish everyone a Happy Holiday and joyous New Year. Themes we will be focusing on in January will be the properties of liquid and solid, Jan Brett winter author study, and animals in winter.

Home Learning Connection

This is a fun activity to do at home that covers, on many learning domains such as, fine motor, cognitive development and mathematics

Graham Cracker Bird Feeders

January, February and March are cold months in the North and our feathered friends will enjoy these Graham Cracker Bird Feeders. No matter how they look they will be a treasure to the birds.

Supplies

Sturdy cardboard base

Graham crackers for the houses

Pretzels

Bird seed

Cheerios

Creamy Peanut Butter or *Sunflower seed butter or

Almond butter can also be used

Frosting (to assemble the houses)

Instructions

1. Use frosting as the glue to put the graham cracker houses together.
2. Glue them with frosting to the cardboard base so they will be sturdy for when you put it in the tree.

3. Cover graham crackers and cardboard with peanut butter or sun butter then decorate away!

Reminders

School Closing/Inclement Weather

Unless Massachusetts issues a "state of emergency" requiring all vehicles to stay off the roads, we will remain open in most cases. It is important to us that we are able to meet the needs of our children and families, so Creative Corner School, plans to be open normal operating hours during inclement weather.

*We **DO NOT** follow the Winchester Public School inclement weather cancellations, delays or releases. However, this year we have made the decision that if we wake up to snow / ice, and Winchester Public School is cancelled due to inclement weather, Creative Corner School, will have a two-hour delay and open at 9am. In the event that Winchester Public School is closed multiple days for inclement weather, Creative Corner School, will only be delayed the first day that school is closed.*

***** If Winchester Public School is cancelled pre-emptively prior to snow or ice falling, we will determine Creative Corner's approach separately and communicate out to you, accordingly. (We will not automatically be delayed)*

In situations of extreme weather, where Creative Corner needs to close early, delay opening or in rare occasions where we need to close the school, we leverage the following communication channels:

- An informational message will be placed on our phone by **6:00 am** with the center's status
- Email notice will go out to all families
- Status Information will be given to the following channels: CBS channel 4(WBZ): my 38(WSBK); NBC channel 7 and 56(CW)

In the event severe weather requires early closure, information will be conveyed as follows:

- Parents will be notified via telephone
- Email notice will go out to all families

All children, will still be required to be dropped off no later than 9:30 am even if a delay is called. We ask that if you are not going to bring your child to school, to please contact us to let us know as soon as possible, so we can adjust our teaching team's schedules accordingly.

******Please note there is no tuition reduction for weather related closings.*



Peter Penguin

(Children's Chant. Author unknown)

**PETER, PETER PENGUIN MARCHING BY
TOES TURNED OUT AND HEAD HELD HIGH!
LONG, BLACK COAT AND SHORT WHITE VEST
PETER, PETER PENGUIN, YOU'RE THE BEST!**

HONK, HONK, HONK, HONK, HONK, HONK, HONK!



Thank You

- To all the families that gave generous gifts to our Creative Corner School Staff. It was much appreciated!
- Thank you to all the families who participated and gave toys for Toys for Tots.



For administrative questions contact Joanne Senders at 781.721.5566 or joanne@creativecornerschool.com

For financial questions contact Debbie Moulton at 781.721.5560 or debbie@creativecornerschool.com

Boots and Extra Shoes

Please remember to bring your child in their boots with extra sneakers to put on before they enter their classrooms. There are designated areas to put your wet boots before you enter your classroom to prevent slipping.

Illness Policy

As we approach cold and flu season some gentle reminders. Students should not come to school if they are ill. They should be Fever-FREE for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, such as Tylenol, Motrin, Advil or Ibuprofen.

Reasons for keeping your child home:

Temperature over 100.0 degrees, WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medications; nausea, vomiting, diarrhea; undiagnosed rashes; impetigo; conjunctivitis (pink eye); head lice; scabies; ringworm; strep throat (until your child has completed at least one FULL day of antibiotics).

Music Enrichment

In December, your happy children sang, and moved, and listened, and jingled like the "Bell Horses", and marched like Nutcracker soldiers, and wiggled fingers like Nutcracker mice and twinkling stars, and . . . well, that's only the beginning! After all that excitement plus a month full of playing instruments and singing holiday songs from around the world, your children may be ready to take a long winter's nap. (Their teacher is!) January Music Class plans include singing lots of winter songs about snow and arctic animals. One little chant that you may enjoy sharing with your little one(s) is "Peter Penguin".

Here are the words for you: