

Metzger Community Preschool Newsletter

December 2011



Dear Parents,

December promises to be a busy month at school and I'm sure at home also. On December 9th, the Rocket class will be making their own individual gingerbread houses. Thank you in advance to the parents that donated items and those that have volunteered to come in and help us on this fun day.

To help the children learn the art of giving, we will again be participating in the Giving Tree. For the last fifteen years, the preschool has selected a name off of the giving tree at the mall. The giving tree is a place to select the name of someone who is in need of something for the holiday. We always select a child that is 3 or 4 years old. I then tell the children that they are expected to earn \$2.00 at home by helping out around the house. Please sit down with your child and discuss a way for them to earn their \$2.00. Some suggestions are to set the table, make their bed every day for a week, help sort the laundry, pick up all their toys one afternoon, help collect the mail, etc. . . . I really stress with the children that THEY are to EARN this money. I will have a box in the classroom for them to put their money in as they earn it. All money is due by December 13th.

On December 15th for the Star's class and December 16th for the Rocket's we will have a holiday celebration. On these dates the children need to bring in a new book (Inexpensive-approx. \$2-\$4) and

wrapped as a gift.

I will put a gift tag on it when your child brings it to school. This is a simple and friendly experience where the emphasis is on the giving. Please do not forget to bring a book on this day!!

The Rocket's class will be performing their version of a Holiday Program. It will be held in the Youth Room at 12:30 on December 16th. Hope you can all make it to enjoy some Christmas Spirit.

Our next trip for the Rocket's class will be to Westside Music School on Dec. 12th, for a very fun day of music lessons! You will be amazed at what they learn! We will not be having lunch this day. Our day will be finished once we are done at the music school. There is no cost for this field trip.

We have had to say good-bye to some of our friends at school this last month. In the Star's class we bid Good-Bye to Evie F.; her family moved to Kentucky. In the Rocket's class we said Good-Bye to Emma and Madison as they moved to Hillsboro. We will miss our friends, but they have promised to keep in touch. With these 2 families leaving we have some parent helper days that have opened up. A list is on the door of those available dates. PLEASE volunteer to take a day to help us out.



A letter from your Co-President

Dear Preschool Families,

Where did November go? I swear we skipped it this year, but then I remember the yummy turkey my family enjoyed and I hope that you were all able to get together with friends and family too. December is a busy but short month at preschool. The fast pace of the holiday can stress us (the parents) and the kids out. Remember what the reason for the holiday season is and take the time to enjoy the togetherness with your family. There are some great ideas for help keeping the holiday stress in check later in the newsletter.

I personally love that this season can be a time to remember others and those around us who aren't as fortunate as we are. LaJeana offers a very great opportunity for the children to help another child with the giving tree. My family is going to take some canned food to our local food bank, I encourage you to try and think of simple ways that your family can lift the spirits of those around you and begin showing your children how wonderful it is to give. Maybe it's taking cookies or treats to an elderly or disabled neighbor who doesn't get out much, or mailing a card to someone who might need some cheering up. Simple, kind gestures can touch hearts more than we know.

We also recently received some bittersweet news that our beloved teacher, LaJeana, will be retiring after this year. I hope that you can all join me in thanking her for her 20 years of dedication and service to our school. I'm very grateful that my children had the opportunity to be her students as I have enjoyed getting to know her and work with her. I personally though am excited for her for the new adventures that await her as she travels and plays with her grandchildren more.

With that news we have a rare opportunity to help hire a new teacher to try and fill LaJeana's shoes. We still have a spot available on our hiring committee which will meet after the holidays. Please let me know if you are interested in helping us in this task.

Whatever you do this holiday season, enjoy it with your loved ones.

Alison Brown

503-413-0878

Mom of Lindsay, Rocket

This time of year can be very stressful for both adults and children. Below are some tips to hopefully minimize the stress.

- Stick to a schedule that your child is use to – regular bedtimes, mealtimes and ‘together’ times.
- Limit the number of special outings or gatherings that involve children. Cranky, tired children often produce cranky tired adults.
- Santa may seem scary to your child this year. This fear will probably disappear before next year, so be patient and give your child the gift of time.
- If the hustle and bustle of the holiday season is getting you down, slip into your nearest library or bookstore and explore the beautifully written and illustrated book POLAR EXPRESS, by Chris VanAllsburg. This book captures the magical quality of Christmas through the eyes of a child.

Stocking Stuffers Ideas:

Flashlight	Simple tools
Hole Punchers	Band-aids
Magnifying glass	Colored tape
Measuring tape	Music CD
Play dough tools	Stapler
Colored paper	Mini notebooks

Fill your Christmas stockings with SCRIP!

Do you need a way to finish off that perfect holiday gift? Here are some ideas to help you finish up your shopping.

- *For your favorite babysitter: Regal Cinemas Movie Tickets*
- *For your kids best friends: Baskin Robbins Ice Cream GC*
- *For the friend or relative that loves to sew: JoAnn Fabrics GC*
- *For the book lover: Barnes and Noble GC + Starbucks GC*
- *For the neighbor or friend struggling this year: Fred Meyer or Albertsons GC*
- *For the new home owners: Home Depot GC*
- *For the kids: Build a Bear Workshop GC or Bullwinkles GC*
- *For you and your spouse: 12 pre-paid date nights! (my favorite)*

Be creative, have fun and save yourself a trip to the store with SCRIP!



Thanks for your support!

1st FUNDRAISER WORK PARTY!!!!

Our first MANDATORY Fundraiser work party is tomorrow morning (Saturday, December 3rd), those who are attending the work party please arrive at 9:45am SHARP.

PICKUP if you placed orders is at 11:30am!

Remember for those attending the work party DO NOT bring children.

IF YOU PLACED A LARGE ORDER PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ROOM IN YOUR VEHICLE AT PICKUP TIME

If you have questions, contact Bianca at 503-292-9096

EMERGENCY PARENT PROTOCOL

Recently we have had some confusion over emergency parent protocol and how it should be used. The "EMERGENCY" parent is to be called if an emergency arises in the middle of the night (or after 10pm). You or your child has a fever or is throwing up or has something that is contagious.

If you know ahead of time that your child is sick or that a conflict has come up it is YOUR responsibility to contact other families in the class to see if someone can trade days with you so that the "Emergency" parent can stay available for true emergencies. It is not LaJeana's responsibility to handle parent-helping conflicts. WE MUST HAVE 2 PARENT HELPERS IN THE CLASSROOM FOR SCHOOL TO BE HELD.

If you have any questions or concerns about this please contact Alison Brown at 503-413-0878 or bzymomma81@gmail.com

FUN FREE DECEMBER ACTIVITIES:

Lakeshore Learning Store

Every Saturday they have a free kid's craft from 11am – 3pm.

Located next to See's Candy in the Fuddrucker's parking lot in Lake Oswego

Tigard Library – see website for more details

12/3 1:30-2:30pm Mitten Tree Kick-off

12/9 7-8pm – Holiday Concert with Rock Violinist Aaron Meyer

12/19 2-4pm – Snow Dogs – movie and crafts

12/21 2-4pm – Happy Feet - movie and crafts

Home Depot

12/3 9am – 12pm – Kid's Workshops Snowman Napkin Holders

Lowe's – go to website to register

12/3 10am – part 1 of train build

12/10 10am - part 2 of train build

TUITION

Tuition is due by the 10th of each month
\$20 late fee

\$95 – Stars - Tuition

\$145 – Rockets – Tuition

If paid in full by 1st week of school:

A 5% Discount for tuition

Stars - \$812.25

Rockets - \$1239.75

Make all checks or money orders payable to:

Metzger Community Preschool

Questions? Contact Nicole Moes, Treasurer at

nmmoes@yahoo.com or 503-626-0628



December
Birthdays

16th – Evie (Stars)

Our Parent Helping Calendar is Now Online!

Go to our website: www.metzgerpreschool.com

Choose: More

Choose: Calendar

You will still receive a paper copy but in case you lose yours, you can now check online!

Did you know???

*Max's Fanno Creek Brew Pub is a great place to take your kids? Arielle says it is terrific with a Wii, Play station 3, Xbox, and for your smaller kiddos they have a play area. The food is great and easy on your wallet. Try them out, won't you?

*Your local library may have Cultural passes for free admission? The passes, sponsored by W.C.C.L.S. and the Friends of the Tigard Library, may be reserved up to 2 months in advance. All passes are good for at least a family of 3 and may be available for: A.C. Gilbert Discovery Village, Children's Museum, Chinese Garden, Japanese Garden, Pittock Mansion, Rice NW Museum of Rocks and Minerals, and Washington County Museum. Check out your local libraries' availability today! Thanks for the info Alison!!

Recipe

Link for directions:

<http://www.marthastewart.com/356067/igloo-cake?czone=entertaining/holiday-entertaining/holidaycenter-dessert>



Ingredients

- Unsalted butter, for baking sheets
- 1 1/4 cups unsweetened Dutch-process cocoa powder, plus more, sifted, for baking sheets
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 1/2 cups granulated sugar
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 1/4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 1/4 teaspoons salt
- 2 large eggs, plus 1 large egg yolk
- 1 1/4 cups low-fat buttermilk
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 1/4 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- Vegetable oil, cooking spray
- 1 quart good-quality chocolate ice cream
- 1 1/2 quarts good-quality vanilla ice cream
- [White-Chocolate Buttercream](#)
- 4 large marshmallows, halved
- White, pale-blue, and silver sanding sugar, for decorating
- [Marzipan Penguins](#)
- Desiccated unsweetened coconut, for decorating



December 9th: Rockets make Gingerbread houses...don't forget to bring your item if you volunteered 😊

December 12th: Rockets go to Westside Music School!

December 13th: Giving Tree \$ due.

Holiday Celebrations: December 15th (Stars) and December 16th (Rockets)

Also on December 16th: Holiday Program at 12:30

Community Advertisements:

Poise Studio offers classes for the whole family! Come check out our Yogaplay Kids Class: it's better **than kids care!** Kids Yogaplay class is an active class for your child(ren) while you take a Yoga, Pilates or Nia Dance class of your own in the room next door! Check out our website to see the benefits of Kids Yoga and view our class schedule!
Poise Studio – Sarah Balmer (Aja's mom)
Beaverton, OR
www.poisestudio.com
503-591-8700

lia sophia

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Fabulous jewelry at affordable prices!

Book a party and earn FREE jewelry from the brand-new collection!

Karen Schmitt,
Independent Consultant
503.703.2010
karen.liasophia@yahoo.com
www.liasophia.com/karenschmitt

Phagans' Tigard Beauty School

8820 SW Center Street
(behind the JoAnn Fabrics on HWY 99)
Tigard, 97223
503-639-6106 to make an appt.
All Haircuts, \$4.00!!

FARMERS INSURANCE

Trent Brown, Insurance Agent (Lindsay's Dad)
503-415-1688
12535 SW Main St.
Tigard, OR 97223
Auto, Home, Life, Business, Workers Comp
"Fast, Friendly Service!"

Beach House for Rent

Cozy and unique family friendly beach house in Neskowin. Four bedrooms, sleeps 14, 1 ½ baths. Well equipped for rain or shine fun. 1 ½ blocks from the beach.
A real bargain for \$125.00 a night (week minimum in summer).
Call Sandy Cecchini (Mateo and Elena's Grandma) 503 246-6143



Give me a call to book a Show, buy great products or for more information about starting your own fun business.

Margot Brown-Amii
Independent Pampered Chef Consultant
HOME 503-579-4297
CELL 503-869-4414
mamamargot@hotmail.com

check out products www.pamperedchef.com

Please email submissions (including photos!) to rectorgal22@yahoo.com by the 25th of the month to see it in the following month's newsletter.