

November 27, 2017

Dear Families,

It was a lovely Thanksgiving holiday and I am full of gratitude for my family and friends and our wonderful classroom and school community. It was nice to have the children back today and I look forward to spending the next few enchanted weeks with them as they prepare for the winter holiday.

Many of you came in to observe our class prior to the break and you are still welcome to do so in the next few weeks. I have met with almost all of you to converse about your children and hopefully I have answered any questions you may have asked. If not, it is always okay to contact me with any questions, stories or concerns you may have and I will do my best to give you information. I will say, the best way to understand the classroom is to visit. I often get the impression from parents that "seeing is believing". Where else do you see active, purposefully engaged children in a large group pursuing their interests and learning from their activities?

One of these days I will figure out how to email pictures from my phone to my school email. You will be the first to know when I do because that will enable me to send pictures of your beautiful children involved in their lessons. Hang in there with me!

I encourage you to keep up with the weekly Newsflash. It tells all about the many ways we can contribute to individuals and organizations that assist those in need. I overheard two five-year-old children discussing what a donation is today. What lucky children that they learn about giving at such an early age. Here are a few opportunities:

- Hurricane jug in the front office. There has been lots of spare change collected.
- Angel tree in the front office. This benefits local families during the Christmas holiday.
- Project care to assist homeless in Washington DC. Please see the Newsflash for what primary classes have been asked to contribute.
- Holidays Around the World, volunteers needed!

After the winter break I will begin coordinating efforts for the yearly giving campaign for our sister school in Kenya, the Inkoisuk School. If any of you would like to team up with me to brainstorm fundraising ideas, I would love to hear from you. In January it will also be time to put together our project for the Art Auction on February 9th. We have some BEAUTIFUL pressed flowers and leaves collected and my father-in-law donated three red cedar frames that he built. I am also looking for artists to assist the children and Ms. Irwin and I to put this project together.

Come and observe when you can. Your children are part of a remarkable group!