

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season!

REMINDERS

• Please fill out our parent survey if you have not had a chance yet. We really appreciate your feedback!

https://forms.gle/NbiP2XUWmPghcDyG9

- Please make sure to pack at least TWO pairs of gloves! We are running low on our extra pairs around school.
- Please make sure to label items so they can make their way back to you.

UPCOMING DATES

- The 6th installment of our tuition payment plan is due January 3rd.
- January 3rd: Welcome back from Vacation!
- January 9th and 10th: Yoga
- January 15th: Martin Luther King Day- No School
- January 19th: Discovery Museum Visit with 4s/5s and Kindergarten classes

Yoga

We are so lucky to have Miss Jen as our Yoga teacher this year! Every month, she does a great job of incorporating a different theme. This month, children were doing yoga poses based on animals that hibernate. They loved posing as the animals, as well as using their toes to collect "berries" for their bears' caves!





Woodland Wishes

This month we are looking for donations of silver & gold beads, as well as winter gloves, mittens, and boots!

Thank you for your donations!

Discovery Museum Dinosaurs

We had our second visit from the Discovery Museum and it was amazing! The kids got to dig and identify fossils, as well as learned how to hide their Dino eggs using camouflage. They were able to use their senses to identify different items. We cannot wait for the next time they come in January when we do Force & Motion!





Kindness Corner

Thank you so much for all of your donations to both the Children's hospital and local animal shelter! I know they were very appreciated by both groups!

January Focuses:

Color: White Shape: Oval Letters: M,N,O Numbers: 1-8



At Home Connections



Fine or Gross Motor? And why they are both important!



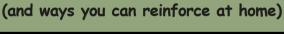
Fine Motor skills are movements made by smaller muscles, primarily in the hands and wrists, in an exact (or fine) way.

Your child's fine motor skills can be developed through everyday activities like getting dressed, opening containers, sorting, and the like. Gross motor skills require the whole body to move, using large muscles to get the job done.

Gross motor skills can be developed through numerous activities, including those as simple as playground time, dancing, riding toys, and playing catch.

How do we practice at school?

Using Stamps Digging in sand Finger painting Using tweezers to pinch items Using pipettes to pick up and drop liquids Building with blocks or legos Building with blocks or legos Building with toothpicks Hammering golf tees into a pumpkin Manipulating playdoh Making beaded bracelets Writing with a small pencil





Dance parties Songs with movement Yoga Climbing structures Balancing/walking along tree stumps Running Throwing a basketball Swinging on the tire swing Carrying buckets of water or sand Riding a bike Going up and down stairs

LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS

WAIT, WINTER BREAK IS HOW

Don't forget that your local library has discounted tickets to many local experiences!



Museum of Science, Boston, MA

The Museum's seasonal tradition continues with All Aboard! Trains at Science Park, our fun-for-all-ages temporary exhibit. Miniature trains, snow-covered peaks, engaging activities, and even a few surprises await! Experience a whimsical setting where powered model trains at different scales run through various colorful scenes, complete with intricately created décor, buildings, and even people. Music Together® runs classes for children and their families. They have created a coupon code just for our families: "TANYA"

This will give you \$15 off their upcoming WINTER semesters, starting in January!

Register at <u>AppleCountry.net</u>



Ecotarium

December 24, 2023 - 10-3 Celebrate the Holidays with free admission! December 31st at 12:00 and 2:00 (must pay for entry) Ball drop with lots of other activities!

Jump Nation

810 Boston Tpke, Rte 9 E Shrewsbury *Often holds public jump times which include either an ice cream or snack. They have blow up slides and obstacle courses. great for kids up to age 11. Typically about \$20 per child, but cheaper if you pay in cash. One of my children's favorite places! Ice sculptures: First Night Boston City Hall Plaza Dec. 31st 12 pm - 12:30 AM

Public Skating at Worcester Common Oval

Admission:\$6.00 Rentals:\$6.00 Children 5 and Under Skate Free Fridays-Sundays

Story Walk: Twinkle Twinkle Winter Night

Lake Street Park, 430 Lake Street, Shrewsbury, MA Want to walk through a story?! Head on over to Lake Street Park. This month's story is Twinkle Twinkle Winter Night by Megan Litwin.

Worcester Railers

Combat the cold with this New Year's Eve offer. Purchase a lower-level ticket for just \$18! Each ticket includes pre-game ice skating on the Worcester Common Oval (2-4pm), complimentary skate rentals, one hot cocoa per ticket, and entry into the Railers game.

*if you have not attended on in general, they have games every week that kids love to attend! Trax, their mascot, is always walking around and saying hi!

Night Lights: Starry Skies

New England Botanical Garden Running through January 1st 4:00-10:00 On your visit, enjoy s'mores, seasonal drinks, a model train, shopping for holiday gifts, and fun photo opportunities that will create memories for the whole family.

Launch Westborough

Toddler time: Sundays 9:00-11:00 am \$16 per child, which includes one adult jumper Usually very quiet!