



Classroom III Winter News



I cannot believe that the school year is almost halfway over! The children have grown and there is the constant buzz of work in the air. We have enjoyed the first part of the year and look forward to what the spring will bring!

What's New

Our music appreciation lessons are still going strong.

We began December with Vivaldi's *Winter*, then moved into Bach's *Fragments from Anna Magdalena's Notebook*. Next week, we will be introducing Schubert and listening to his *Piano Quintet*. The children are becoming adept at picking out the instruments that they hear and love to pretend to play them as they listen – it is a truly wonderful sight!

Our large group lessons have been focusing on developing our calendar work. Ms. Shedd kicked us off with units on seasons and the weather, while Mrs.

Campbell taught the children the names of the months and days of the week. I will be wrapping up the first half of the school year with a week of lessons on holiday traditions around the world.

The Science shelves are growing to include work on fish, amphibians, and reptiles and Geography will soon focus on the Asian culture. In Practical Life, the children have been introduced to bench scrubbing, spreading (jelly and cream cheese on crackers), potato scrubbing, and the beginning sewing series.

The language shelves include work on spelling, syllables, the "magic e", and the vowel tree, while multiplication has been added to the math shelves. We encourage you to stop by anytime after school to take a look around the room!

Reminders & Thoughts

*****Friday, December 19th is a half-day for all children!!** Primary dismissal will be from 11:00 – 11:15 in the car line. If you also have a child in Elementary, please come during the later part of this pick up window. Please be patient with the car line – we will try to move through the line as quickly as possible!

Weather Policy: We will take the children outside if it is 32 degrees or above. Please be sure to send your child in appropriate clothes – 32 can be pretty chilly!

Our Scholastic Book Program has been going really well. Thank you to everyone who has ordered and to Julie Brock for organizing the program - we have earned tons of bonus points to use toward classroom materials! We have already ordered a set of great science books and some language materials.

Words of Wisdom

We hear so many funny, touching, and true things from the children everyday. We have started writing them down and I would like to share one or two with you each month in our newsletter. It is a little food for thought – I wish that I viewed the world in such a simple way!

I was recently helping a child lay out the coats before playtime (we lay the coats out on the floor so the children can find their own) and we had a conversation that really made me smile.

“Miss Klaus, do you know why I can lay the coats out so much faster than you?”

"No," I quipped "why?"

"Well," she said "I'm a kid, so I'm young. You're adult, so you're not young."

"Oh," I said "I see."

"I'm young, so I'm faster and you're an adult, so you have old arms – old arms are not as fast as young ones you know."

Good to know.

A child also shared this with Mrs. Campbell:

"Mrs. Campbell, I had to get a new fish again! My old ones just keep jumping into the toilet!"

Please call, email, or stop by anytime!!

Gretchen, Heather, Janet, & Viviana