

# CHILD CARE CHRONICLE

January 2012



We hope that you had a great holiday season. Can you believe that it is 2012 already?

Don't forget, new tuition rates are now in effect. If you are receiving tuition assistance, we also need you to bring in your pay stubs. We need to recalculate your 2012 rate.

Please remember to check your child's basket every day! We send important papers for you in these baskets.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Holiday Family Fun Night. It was a wonderful opportunity to spend a little time with you and your family.

ECCC will be hosting a Parent's Night Out on Friday, Feb 10<sup>th</sup>. Watch for information to come.

Please remember to send hats, mittens, and boots for your children. We do go outside almost daily. Boots are nice even if there is very little snow. The playground tends to get very muddy! Also, it is important that you label all items with names.

Don't forget to have your child wash his or her hands upon arrival. Hand washing is the best way to cut back on the spread of germs. We have really appreciated your cooperation in keeping your children home when they are sick. This has really helped to cut down on the spread of illnesses.



Aside from keeping clean or getting the flu vaccine, having a healthy immune system is your child's best bet in fighting off a cold or the seasonal flu. Kids can get an immunity boost from practicing basic healthy habits: eating well, staying active, and getting enough sleep.

- ◆ For a healthy diet, doctors recommend giving kids foods packed with phytonutrients ("phytos" for short). Look for the deepest-colored fruits and veggies you can find: blueberries, tomatoes, spinach, sweet potatoes... the more color in the food, the more phyto- and immune-boosting power- it has.
- ◆ Your child won't touch fruits or veggies? A multi-vitamin can supply the vital nutrients. The AAP also recommends a vitamin D supplement for kids up to age 18 to help get the recommended 400 IU per day. Vitamin D, which can promote immune-system activity, is found in foods like eggs, milk, and yogurt, or sunlight exposure.
- ◆ It's well known that regular exercise is beneficial, but it can also help prevent catching a cold or the flu. It's probably the single best way to keep your energy up and your stress level down, which is important during cold and flu season.
- ◆ Exercising outside will also expose kids to sunlight, which is important during the winter months for physical and mental health. Being outdoors in daylight for as little as twenty minutes a day can make a big difference in raising your energy level and preventing the winter blues. Sunlight exposure also ups vitamin D intake, which is part of eating well.
- ◆ Having a sleep-deprived kid on your hands isn't just frustrating -- it can also be unhealthy: Some studies show that being sleep-deprived limits the body's white blood cells, which help battle disease.

## Inchworm Newsletter January 2012

We are so eager to start the new year out with your children. Growing and sharing the first and second years of their young lives is a blessing for us and very rewarding. We understand and realize that every child grows and learns in his or her own way and at their own pace. Therefore, the lesson plans are adjusted to the needs and skills of each individual child, young and old. We will support and encourage their growth as they explore the big beautiful world around them.

We have an Inchworm turning one this month. Happy Birthday, Sonja!!

When we return from our break, the focus for January will be the cold weather. We will talk about people, animals, and snow.

Thank you for reading your daily sheets and supplying your child with his or her every day needs. You are such caring and enjoyable parents.

We hope the New Year bring you much happiness and success!



Working together,  
Kathy and Jes

## Firefly News January 2012

It's hard to believe that it's January already. I hope everyone had a great holiday break. I wanted to add a few reminders with this month's newsletter.

1. We go out in all weather (when the wind chill is above 25 degrees); please have mittens, boots, hats, and snow pants for the snowy weather.
2. Please check your child's box for extra clothing. We have changed your child during the last few months and need extra clothes here.
3. Please label everything. As the children gain more self-help skills, things get lost and mixed around daily; if they are labeled we have a better chance of matching them to the right child! On this note please check to see if you accidentally took some items home that other children are missing. They include several hats and mitten sets and a coat insert. Thanks for your cooperation with this.

Things we enjoyed last month...

Everyone really enjoyed making our cooking projects; we hope you enjoyed them as well.

Painting was a big favorite activity of EJ and Elysia.

Felix, Joseph, and Garrett loved playing with the farm set.

Gwen, Ethan W., and Rylan had a great time climbing on and riding the boat.

Maddie, Sophie, Bella, and Emerson had fun ringing bells and singing our December songs.

Barrett and Mia had a favorite story they loved named Snow Dream.

Ethan M. started in the room this month and had fun exploring everything in the room.

What we are learning about this month....

Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>            Snowmen and snow angels

Jan 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>           Music and Instruments

Jan 16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>        Dinosaurs

Jan 23<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>        Pirates

Song of the Month

"The Snow Is Falling Down" (sung to "Mary Had a Little Lamb")



Snowflakes falling from the sky, from the sky, from the sky.

Snowflakes falling from the sky to the earth below.

Watch them as they dance and twirl, dance and twirl, dance and twirl.

Watch them as they dance and twirl, soft white winter snow.

Chipmunk Chatter  
January 2012

Happy New Year! from the Chipmunk Staff

Units of Study for January

January 2 & 3: New Year's Celebrations Around the World

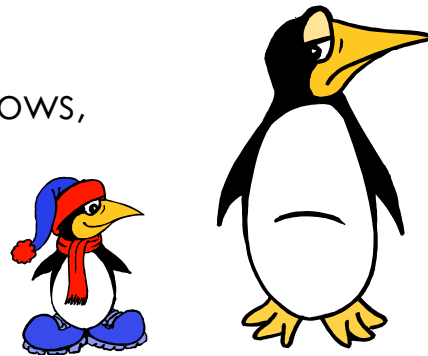
January 4, 5, & 6: Hot Chocolate

January 9 – 13: Winter Weather

January 16 – 20: Snow and Penguins

January 23 – 27: Bears

January 30 – Feb. 3: Hibernation, Shadows,  
and Groundhogs



Let it snow...

... and if it does please be sure your child has outerwear including a hat, mittens, snowpants, and boots daily.

December is very exciting when you are three. This is what they wished for...



Ben – trucks

Daniel – football and hockey stuff

Bailey – babydoll and dolls

Cooper – race cars

Carter – presents and toys

Mya – a baby and a choo choo train

Paige – a kitty watch

Alex – a light table

Linwood – a toy

Allison – Strawberry Shortcake

Emily – a jewelry box and a cell phone

Emma – castles and fairies

# Bluebirds Newsletter

January 2012



The cold snowy weather is upon us and we love to play in the snow. You are more than welcome to leave a hat and gloves in your basket if that makes it easier in the mornings when you are trying to remember everything. Please mark all clothes with your child's name so we know who to return clothes to at the end of the day.

## January Themes:

January 2 - 13 Winter Wonderland  
January 16 - 27 Bears and Penguins

## Dates to Remember:

January 18: Winnie the Pooh Day  
(Birthday of Pooh's author, A.A. Milne)  
January 22: North Museum – Bears  
January 27: PALS

## Happy 4<sup>th</sup> Birthday

January 22: Paige

## Question of the Day:

What is your favorite cookie?  
Makayla – Peanut Butter  
Haylie – Chocolate Chip  
Sam – Peanut Butter  
Paige – Chocolate Chip  
Kendyl – Peanut Butter  
Jacob – Chocolate Chip  
Sage – Sugar  
Annale – Chocolate Chip  
Alaina – Chocolate Chip  
Deven – Chocolate Chip  
Landon – Chocolate Chocolate  
Xavier – Chocolate Chip  
Miss Tabatha – Oatmeal Raisin  
Miss Elaine – Peanut Butter Blossoms  
Miss Sarah – Ginger Snaps  
Miss Treza – Chocolate Chip  
Miss Cindy – Monkey face



On the next wintry day, guess where you will find the Bluebird children?????



## January Newsletter The Cubs



### A Few Reminders...

- \* Please bring coats, hats and gloves. We try to go outside daily. To ensure we have all hats and gloves, please put them in your child's coat sleeve.
- \* Your child needs to have 1 or 2 sets of extra clothing here. Accidents happen, and we have very little spare clothing to lend.
- \* Please continue to get important papers in your child's file by the sign in/out book.

Last month... We explored December holidays around the world including Las Posada, St. Lucia, Christmas, Three Kings Day, and Chanukah. We examined the globe/earth and learned that there are different kinds of weather around the world at this time, even when we are celebrating the same holiday!

In January we will finish learning about the December holidays with Kwanzaa. Then we will explore and investigate the cold! If you would like to come in to share with us what you like to do in the cold or read a book to us, please contact Ms. Lynn.

Happy Birthday to... Emily on January 1<sup>st</sup> and Kendall on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

What would you like to give someone this Christmas?

Shane - make them a puppy robot or playdough

Ben - John Deere tractor

Angel - princess puppy

Calleigh - everything

Isaiah - army set

Finn - truck

Jacob - puppy dog

Juliana - love

Garrison - Ghost Pirates



Things to do at home: Draw a picture of something you did on the weekend and bring it in to share in January 2012.

## FOX JANUARY NEWS 2012

Happy 2012!! We hope you had a fun holiday week with your families. A big thank you for all the presents, food, decorations, and donations. It was wonderful that so many of you could stop by for breakfast, too. Your support and encouragement is really appreciated. It was great to be off, but I am excited to start our winter units. I LOVE WINTER AND SNOW so I am looking forward to spending this winter season with the Foxes. Just remember, if it snows, we usually go outside. Be sure to send in boots and snow pants on snowy days.

Some of our January units or themes will be:

**Celebrating the New Year** – Time, days of the week, and months of the year. We'll also review our class rules instead of making resolutions.

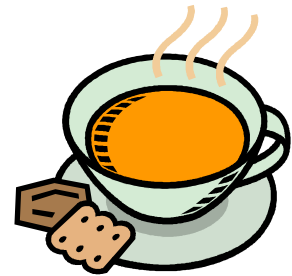
**Keeping warm** – Coats, blankets, hats, mittens, food... lots of ways to keep warm.

**SOUP!!** - This will include a hot cup of snowman soup on our first snowy day.

**Author Week** - We'll feature Jan Brett and her winter stories.

### SuperKids WordSearch Puzzle

H P X W O C N B H F M P O H A N  
E E C E A S S R A N M E S I Y O  
R M E G C A B E Y O F W D F N F  
Z R A O H L A N D A N T E A N X  
F A U C R S I D E M E R Y O L M  
M C B G I T L A N P A R K C R O  
S I Q R S E E N M I I E E X G R  
S I T E T H Y E X X B X J O Q X  
I Z D Y I N P I I T U A S J X K  
O S E S N G S A M R A D O F E M  
E A A O A G E H M E V R C K V N  
T N H N M E W N O R N F O S I I  
X B I N S S R I E S P H R L C O  
S O H W X B S C W O H G I M E N  
W J E L H R W H G J I L S Z Z S  
I U F O N K T W Q C Q T O M N E



Find the following hidden names: Ryan, Christina, Macie, Destiny, Bailey, Emery, Dante, Greyson, Brendan, Liam, Hayden

Many of you may see our program as a place where children play all day. There is actually a lot more going on than you see. Our curriculum is developed from the latest research and follows the PA Learning Standards. Unlike older children, preschool children are not able to learn through abstract methods. They need hands on experience. They need to explore and manipulate materials and toys. They find answers, build relationships, and learn skills and concepts for themselves. Their classroom experiences need to relate to what they know and meet their maturity level. This is called developmentally appropriate curriculum. "Play is the work of children". It is your child's very personal way of interacting with their world and learning to master the possibilities it presents. Our curriculum is more than meets the eye. It is a serious start for a lifetime of learning, with a lot of fun along the way. In our future newsletters, I'll be sharing some of the children's favorite activities and the Learning Standard goals they meet.

## January 2012 Explorers/Investigators

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday season.

In January the weather will most likely get colder so be sure to bring those mittens and hats. We do go out every day. If there is no school because of snow be sure to bring snow pants and boots. I love snow so I like to be out in it just as much as the kids. If we get enough snow the children will get to see Mrs. Anderson go down a snow pile too. The snow pants make you slide really well and keep you dry.

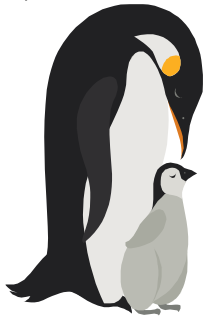
In January there will be parent/teacher conferences on January 11, 14, and 17. Sign up sheets will be posted.

We will begin the month of January with New Year's celebrations. The children enjoyed using the world map to discover the different locations of the Christmas celebrations, so we will get the map out again.

The second week of the month we will keep ourselves warm with soup. In November the class enjoyed our Thanksgiving Day soup as well as the turkey we made from fruit. So I believe we will make some chicken soup with rice to go along with the poems we read each month.

Then the third week we will keep warm with some quilt stories. When we are at the Heritage House we get to see several different quilts.

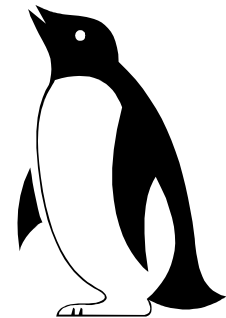
Then the last week of January we will get cold with the animals that live in the cold. (penguins and polar bears)



Here is one of the songs we will sing that week!

“Five Little Penguins”

Five little penguins I once knew  
Short ones, fat ones, skinny ones too.  
But the one little penguin with the red bow tie  
He led the others sliding up and down  
He led the others sliding up and down



In the month of January we will also have a classroom goal. The goal is for everyone to be able to tie their shoes by the end of the month. This is also my birthday! So the greatest gift I can receive for that special occasion is for the goal to be met. We will work together and individually on the goal. So, practice – practice - practice will be our motto.

Important dates

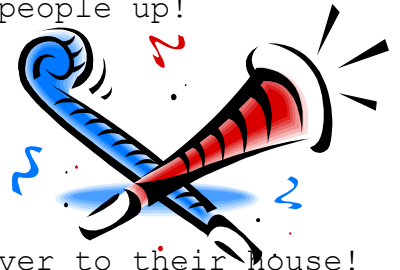
No school days for E-town: January 2, 16, and 27

Heritage House for Explorers: January 13 (We leave at 9:15)

## NOTES FROM THE LITTLE RASCALS JANUARY 2012

We say Good-Bye to 2011 and Hello to 2012! We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and that the New Year will be all that you wish for. Speaking of wishes, we asked the Little Rascals the following question: "What is your wish for the New Year?"

Aaron W.: I want to go on a Disney Cruise!  
Hailey E.: I want to visit nursing homes and cheer people up!  
Cole S.: I want to get even better at skiing!  
Jena W.: I want to get better at soccer!  
Hannah Z.: I would like to visit my Dad more often!  
Erika M.: I would like to make more friends!  
Marshall B.: I would like to get better at reading!  
Ben H.: I want to grow 900 ft. tall!  
Natalie Z.: I want to play with my friends and go over to their house!  
Ty M.: I just want a vacation!  
Austin R.: I want to play football!  
Sydney P.: That my birthday would be every day!  
Emily K.: For my Dad to have a good birthday!  
Isabella B.: I really don't know!  
Chloe E.: To get a hot tub!  
Olivia S.: To go to "Sunset Beach" for vacation!



### THANK YOU!

--- To the families for their generous Christmas gifts! We really enjoy being with your children and are looking forward to the New Year!!

### JUST A FEW REMINDERS:

--- January 2: No school...ECCC is open  
--- January 16: No school...ECCC is open  
--- January 27: No school...ECCC is open  
--- Conferences will be held in February. Please keep an eye out for the sign up sheets for conferences. As always, if the dates that are offered are not convenient, we will gladly make other arrangements to accommodate your needs. Conferences are held in 15 minutes increments. This is a perfect opportunity to receive information about your child based on their problem solving and social skills as well as their interests.  
--- Please let us know if your child won't be returning from school in the afternoon. We get worried when an expected child doesn't return.

Be happy and may all your wishes come true!  
Little Rascals' Teachers