



OVER THE RAINBOW QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



WINTER 2024-2025

As the snow falls and hot cocoa brews, we're excited to share the fun and warmth of the winter season with you!

We are approaching the close of 2024, and want to take a moment to reflect on and express our gratitude for the milestones and achievements we've experienced over the past few months. This school year kicked us off on a remarkable journey, full of growth, collaboration, and impactful progress!



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

A big heartfelt thanks to all the families who volunteered and made our Trunk or Treat event so special for our children. Congratulations to the Tropiano Family for winning "Best Car" – your jungle design was the fan favorite of the night! We'd also like to recognize Ms. Bibi's Paw Patrol trunk on winning second-place in creative design. Our annual food drive raised over 100 items of canned goods and supplies for the Thanksgiving holiday. We're honored to have partnered with the non-profit organization ArminArm, which serves over 5,000 families in providing food packages, hot meals every day, and housing for single mothers and homeless families in the local community. Several of our dedicated OTR staff members volunteered at the ArminArm facility packaging over 200 Thanksgiving food kits to be distributed to those in need. We look forward to future opportunities to collaborate with this organization. As we head into the winter season, we are thrilled to announce our first-ever Winter Bash and Family Potluck. This special event will feature a live concert performed by your children, followed by a potluck dinner with Santa! Your participation is vital to making this event a success, and we look forward to celebrating the holidays with all of you. Thank you again for your continued support and understanding during the multiple accommodations we've had to make regarding updates to our building and property, we hope to conclude all construction projects by the New Year!



UPCOMING EVENTS



KICK OF THE NEW YEAR TOGETHER
AT OUR FAMILY BREAKFAST
7:00AM-8:30AM
JANUARY 10TH



MAKE VALENTINE CARDS FOR SOMEONE
SPECIAL DURING FAMILY CRAFT NIGHT
3:30PM-5:30PM
FEBRUARY 12TH



PARENTS NIGHT OUT
6:00PM-8:00PM
DECEMBER 13TH AND FEBRUARY 13TH
\$25 PER CHILD
SPACE IS LIMITED PLEASE RSVP



WINTER BREAK: SCHOOL CLOSED
12/24/24 @ 12PM
12/25/24-1/1/25

You are invited to our annual Winter Bash!

Who: Tiny Tots & Explorers, Busy Bees & Sprouts, Preschool, and Prek

What: This is a special event for our families where the students will be the stars of the show! The concert will be followed by a potluck dinner with the families in our center. Santa will also be making an appearance during dinner for children and families to take holiday pictures together and receive a special gift!

Parents must sign up to bring a dish to share with everyone if you plan on attending the dinner portion of the event. Rsvp cards will be sent home with information on how to sign up.

When: Thursday, December 19, 2024 @4:30pm

Where: Concert will be in the theater and dinner in the school

Why: To share community as a school with our families and each other. Allow the children to showcase their social and literacy development while encompassing our core values: integrity, fun, heart, growth, & diversity.



15 NEW
STUDENTS

happy anniversary



MS. SUSAN- 2014



MS. MONICA- 2022



MS. IZZY-2024

We would like to welcome Ms. Lee to the OTR family! Ms. Lee has been working with kids in the ECE field for 2 years now. She is going to school for radiology and loves to do makeup. We are so excited to have her as a floater/assistant teacher!



MS. MARY-2020



MS. JESSICA GIBBS-2023



MS. JILL- 2017/2024



Happy Birthday!



HEZEKIAH 12/2
JAKE 12/5
ARYA S. 12/8
MARZANNA 12/10
RHEA 12/17
AMARI 12/24
MS. MARY 12/24
MS. TAYA 12/31

AZARIAH 1/2
BIANCA 1/10
MS. JEN 1/10
MS. MONICA 1/10
IYANN 1/14
KYRIE 1/17
BRODY 1/19
JACOB 1/27
THEO 1/28

GABRIEL 2/1
AARON 2/8
LUCA 2/22
JAXON 2/24

Reminder

1.) Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the cold weather, as they will be going outside daily for fresh air and physical activity. Hats, gloves, scarves, and heavy coats are recommended and can be kept at school for convenience.



2.) The following documents are due by December 31st:

- Flu Shots
- Universal Health Records
- Enrollment Agreements

Please be aware that child care services will be suspended effective January 1st for any child whose required documents are missing. You will be notified individually if any documents are incomplete.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters. We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring the well-being of all our children.

FAMILY FUN: MAKING GINGERBREAD COOKIES!



Ingredients

- 3 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for rolling
- 2 teaspoons McCormick Ground Ginger
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Ground Cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ¼ teaspoon McCormick Ground Nutmeg
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¾ cup butter, softened
- ¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
- ½ cup molasses
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon McCormick Pure Vanilla Extract

Recipe:

1. Mix flour, ginger, cinnamon, baking soda, nutmeg, and salt in large bowl.
2. Beat butter and brown sugar in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until light and fluffy. Add molasses, egg, and vanilla; mix well. Gradually beat in flour mixture on low speed until well mixed.
3. Press dough into a thick, flat disk. Wrap in plastic wrap. Refrigerate 4 hours or overnight.
4. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
5. Roll dough on a lightly floured surface to a thickness of 1/4 inch. Cut into gingerbread men shapes with a 5-inch cookie cutter. Place gingerbread men 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheets.
6. Bake in the preheated oven until edges of cookies are set and just begin to brown, 8 to 10 minutes. Cool on baking sheets for 1 to 2 minutes, then remove to wire racks to cool completely.
7. Decorate cooled cookies as desired. Store cookies in airtight container up to 5 days.



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