



# PRESCHOOL NEWS

December  
2011

## Mrs. Houldsworth's Class

### IMPORTANT DATES

Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> - PTA Meeting - 6:30  
Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> - Mon, Wed, Fri. - Class Snack Party  
Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Tues, Thurs - Class Snack Party  
December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup> - School Vacation

*Thank you to all the parents who visited during parent-teacher conference day. It was so nice to meet with you and share your child's progress at school.*

*Happy Holidays*



### Themes This Month

November went by quickly. We read stories about bears, made a "Brown Bear" class book and used clay to create turkeys. It was wonderful to meet with so many families during parent conferences.

In December we will focus on snowmen and read the story Snowmen at Night. Our color this month is blue and our shape is a square. Our bulletin board will display our snow people. We will be making a special surprise for you! At the end of the month we will have a holiday snack party. Please look for the sign-up sheet for snack donations outside the classroom door. We wish you all a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season. Thank you all for your continued support of the Preschool Program.

**See you in 2012!**

### REMINDERS

Please label all winter clothing your child wears to school.

### Holiday Toy Choosing Tips

- Remember good toys do not have to be expensive, and children do not need very many of them. We've all seen children become fascinated with the box in which a toy arrived! In general, the more things a child can do with a toy, the more likely he/she is to remain interested.
- Just because a child asks for a specific toy doesn't mean it will necessarily make the best gift for her. Children may have strong immediate reactions to what they see or hear.
- Don't hesitate to put a gift/toy away for a later time. If a child is bombarded with new playthings, feel free to put some gifts aside and let him/her focus on one at a time.
- Art materials may not last forever, but they foster creativity and help children develop skills that lead to reading, writing, and seeing beauty in life. Finger-paints, watercolor markers, and large sheets of paper make great gifts! Toys can teach children to use their imaginations, solve problems, build muscles, and figure out how things work -- not to mention how to cooperate.

Good toys are:

- appealing and interesting to the child
- suitable for the child's physical capacities
- appropriate for the child's mental and social development
- encourage cooperative play
- Well-constructed, durable, and safe for the child's age

Frequently, parents and teachers identify this season as stressful for children. Taking a little time to read a story or play a favorite game or puzzle can be remarkably calming for children and adults

### Mitten Weather

Please try to send your child to school with mittens. They are much easier than gloves for pre-school children to put on. This will help us to get ready for outdoor play quickly! THANK YOU!