

Monthly Newsletter: December, 2018

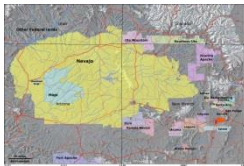
What do have the students have to look forward to this month?

Cultural Celebrations!

Our holiday focus for the next three weeks will be “celebrations in other cultures.” During this time we will be exploring and learning how different cultures celebrate the season and taste foods from around the world. In this way the children can learn about our multi-cultural world, its customs and celebrations instead of focusing on specific celebrations of faith. Your child will be learning about the geography, history, culture, and languages of Italy and Indigenous America. If anyone has any interesting artifacts, music or clothing from either of these cultures, we’d love you to share them with us.

Our Annual Multi-cultural celebrations are scheduled for Wednesday, December 19 and Thursday December 20 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Similar to our harvest celebration, the children will circulate around to each room or country/culture, sample foods from that area of the world, create cultural art projects and participate in cultural celebrations. We encourage children to participate by dressing in either traditional Italian or local indigenous dress for the celebrations. If your child feels uncomfortable dressing up they can come as they are as several of the activities will allow them to accessorize. We will be celebrating both cultures on Wednesday and Thursday so if your child attends both days they can pick one traditional costume or switch if they would like. We will be eating an Italian lunch on one day and a Four Corners inspired lunch on the other. **We welcome parents to sign up on the parent bulletin board to participate in all the fun and activities!**

The Blue and Red rooms will be studying
Indigenous America
(Focusing on cultures native to Four Corners)



Ideas for Native clothing include

- Zia or southwestern designs, turquoise, beading
- Buckskin or leather jackets/vest
- Animals and plant designs
- Current day and local traditions preferred

Please be as local and appropriate as possible – i.e. no warrior headdresses, no Pocahontas, etc.

Activities the students will be working on include

- Hopi & Navajo Kachina Dolls
- Zuni Fetishes
- Building a variety of traditional native dwellings

The Rainbow and Green rooms will be studying
Italy



Ideas for Italian clothing include

- Ancient Roman attire
- Renaissance outfits
- Masks
- Green, White, and Red clothing (like the flag)

Activities the students will be working on include

- Map and Flag works
- Building the Colosseum and Tower of Pisa
- Mask works

For Your
Calendar

**Dec 5: Blue Room
field trip to Center of
Southwest Studies**

**Dec 6: Rainbow
Room field trip
to Guido's**

**Dec 11: Red
Room field trip
to Get Fused**

**Dec 13: Green
Room field trip to
FLC Biology Lab**

**Dec 19 & 20:
9-10:30 Cultural
Celebrations**

FYIs and Upcoming Events:

The **Green homeroom** will be taking a field trip to the **Fort Lewis College Biology Lab** from 9:00-11:00 a.m. on **Thursday, December 13**. We will need drivers for this field trip. Please sign-up on the sheet on the front door if you can join us!

The **Red homeroom** is planning a field trip to **Get Fused Glass Art Studio** from 9:30-11:30 a.m. **Tuesday, December 11**. The students will be taking the trolley so dress your child warmly for the excursion and be sure to arrive at school on time. A sign-up sheet will be posted on the front door if you would like to join us as a chaperone. This field trip will **cost \$7.00 for materials** per child.

We will be **CLOSED Monday December, 24 through Friday, January 4** for the Winter break. School will reopen Monday, January 7.

Reminders:

Winter Necessities:

With winter on its way, it is important for your child to have a **warm coat clearly labeled** with his or her name inside. On snowy days we will only be venturing outside after lunch (12:00-1:00 p.m.).

We ask that your child have the following items (clearly labeled) at school each day: warm waterproof gloves/mittens, a hat, boots, and snowsuit. We also ask parents to bring in a bag (a reusable grocery bag works well) with all your child's winter items and ask them to hang it on their homeroom hook when they arrive at school. This enables them to find and carry their items when it is time to dress for recess. Thank you!

We ask that parents take home all items from the bin room and your child's bin so we can clean thoroughly during the break. Thank you!

Announcement:

Ms. Heaven will be moving back to Arkansas in a couple weeks to be closer to family. She has been an asset to our team and we will miss her though we wish her the best in this next chapter of life. Heaven's last day will be December 14th.

Project Merry Christmas

Dear Parents,

The Kindergarteners are organizing a gift/food drive in conjunction with Project Merry Christmas (PMC). As a class we have "adopted" several families. Based on the amazing outpouring from the Children's House families last year, I know that we can all chip in to make this holiday season a little brighter for our community. Remember, you may have family or friends that would like to contribute too!

If you are able to make a contribution you may choose a star or stars from the tree in the hallway above the Kindergarten bins. Each star has a specific need or want for each child/adult on our list. Once you have made your purchase, please wrap it and attach the original star, so that I know what it is and who it goes to. You can drop it off in the tub in the bin room.

If I notice that the needs are being met quickly, I will also add stars for the teenagers and adults in the family.

I need all donations in by Tuesday, December 18th so I can organize them. I will be delivering the gifts on December 22rd! I would also welcome any offers of help organizing or delivering the gifts.

Thank You!
Maira Loera

Email any questions to: maira@childrenshouseofdurango.onmicrosoft.com or info@childrenshouseofdurango.com