



Monthly Newsletter: December, 2019

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 Thailand and Mexico. 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 18 and Thursday December 19 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 Thai or Mexican 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 Thai lunch on one day and a Mexican lunch on the other. **We welcome parents to sign up on the parent bulletin board to participate in all the fun and activities!**

Thailand



Ideas for Thai clothing include

- Brightly colored textiles and silks
- An animal from Thailand
- Fisherman pants (baggy pants)

Activities the students will be working on include

- Elephants and other animals of Thailand
- Lotus flower works
- Map and Flag of Thailand

Mexico



Ideas for Mexican clothing include

- Brightly colored woven and embroidered textiles such as shirts, skirts, scarves, sashes and ponchos
- Straw hat or sombrero
- Sandals (with socks please ☺)

Activities the students will be working on include

- Map and Flag of Mexico
- Mask works
- Aztec and Mayan works

For Your
Calendar

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

**Dec 23 - Jan 4:
Closed for Winter
Break**

**Jan 6:
School reopens!**

FYIs and Upcoming Events:

Snow Day Alert System

We will be sending out a test text from our Remind alert app sometime in the first week of December. We use this system only for Snow Day closures and emergencies – more information to come.

We will be **CLOSED Monday December, 24 through Friday, January 3** for the Winter break. School will reopen Monday, January 6.

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!

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!

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 17th so I can organize them. I will be delivering the gifts on December 23rd! 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