



Village News

December, 2009



Happy Holidays To All

We hope that all of our parents and little Villagers have a fun and safe holiday season. Although we will miss you all so much during our short winter break, *we're also happy to have a vacation too!*

Reminders To Parents

* The Village will be closed **December 23 and reopen January 4, 2010**. Take this time to enjoy your family, as we will be doing!! If you are in need of some help over the holidays, several of our teachers have offered to help our Village families, just ask!

* Please plan to have your children at school by 10 AM so they can participate in morning activities and be on schedule with our other villagers. If you have an appointment we will be happy to work with you on drop off times.

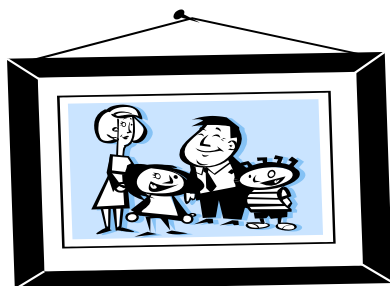
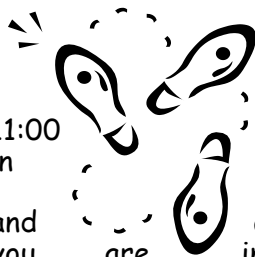
* Don't forget to check our website for weather related closings

Winter Happenings At the Village

Our **Holiday Donation Drive** to benefit Mary Benson House has gotten off to a great start! We will be accepting donations through **Friday December 11th**. You can give donated items to your child's classroom teacher, or leave them in the foyer downstairs, between the Infant and Toddler rooms. Feel free to **contact Ms. Cassidy** at the Village from 7:30-1:30 with questions. You can also visit our website for more details. **Thank you for your ongoing support!** Ms. Cassidy



Turning Pointe Dance
 Will be at the Village every Friday to 11:45 starting in January. Please see your child's teacher and you are interested! The class cost is \$35 per month.



We Want Pictures !!
 Feel free to bring in some winter family pictures for Your child's classroom!
 Many of you have taken photos for your Holiday cards and many photos will be taken during this time of vacation and outdoor fun. *Let us show you off and get to know everyone in our Villagers' family!*

Classroom News.....

Infant Room - Ms. Petra, Ms. Cassidy, and Ms. Stephanie

Happy Holidays from the Infant Room! Hopefully all of you enjoyed your Thanksgiving holiday and are ready for more holidays. Welcome **Ms. Stephanie** to our Infant Room! We would also like to welcome **Jack, Silas, and Evan** to our classroom. Our older babies, **Bailey and Leeyna** will be transitioning to the Toddler Room this month! We love to watch them grow and develop! Our babies are all becoming great friends and love to sit in a circle and smile and talk with each other. Please let us know if there is anything else we can do for you this holiday month!

Toddler Room - Ms. Lael and Ms.

Brandi

We hope that everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We are excited about this wonderful holiday season! We are going to be doing a lot of Holiday art. We are also excited about our toddlers growing into their own and exploring their world!!! Please remember to bring **warm coats** and clothes to accommodate the colder weather.

Two's Room - Ms. Ashley and Ms. Trisha

Welcome **Ms. Trisha** to the two year old room! We can't believe it is already December! We have some really great things planned for this month. Our themes are colors, manners, and holidays. We are going to have PJ and movie day along with a holiday party on **December 22nd**. There will be a sign up sheet for that soon. We hope that you all have a great break and we will see ya next year!

Preschool room - Ms. Tara, Ms. Carla and Mr. Todd

Happy December from the Preschool Room! Welcome **Mr. Todd** to our classroom! It will be an exciting month and we are looking forward to all of our special activities that we have planned. We are talking about healthy habits and things we can do to fight germs. We are taking a **field trip to the Health Adventure on Friday, December 4**, and we are excited about it! The second week of December we will talk about manners. Tuesday **December 8** will be **Bring a toy from Home day/Show and Tell**, so the children can bring a toy to share with all their friends. We will then talk about the Holidays before our break and will be holding another **PJ day** on Tuesday, **December 22**, along with a special Holiday party! Our **yoga Friday's** are still a big hit and we plan on continuing it through the year. We are excited about the Holidays and the beginning of Winter!

Recommended Reading

Omnivore's Dilemma: A
Natural History of Four
Meals

by

Michael Pollan



This book explores the source and the unfortunate journey of most of what we eat. The author discusses industrial farming and the prevalence of corn in the process, small farming and attempts at "organic", and the ultimate meal put on the table through hunting and gathering; in other words, from your own garden, neighborhood and community. He states, "The way we eat represents the most profound engagement with the natural world." The book ends with a realistic goal of doing what you can to eat locally grown, unprocessed food, for health, well being and the good of our planet. *You will be amazed at the eye opening information about both industrialized and organic food!*



And for the Little Ones...



Zen Shorts

by Jon J Muth

These great little stories introduce young children to a Zen approach to their world. Three children meet their neighbor, a panda, who tells them tales that subtly illustrate various Zen principles, such as the value of forgiveness. They can be taken simply as a picture book by the very young, and they present opportunities for preschoolers, kindergarteners and older children the opportunity to fill in their own answers. These tales are perfect leads into discussions between adults and children. *Interesting views about the world and each other, and beautiful watercolor illustrations!*

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