

Teetertots  
January 2012



Dear Parents,

December was such a busy month beginning with the theme **Global Sharing**. We took a look at all the different ways the holidays are celebrated around the world. Each child got to take home a country to learn about and were asked to create a person from that country. In class the Tots made a flag to go along with the country that they researched. During our next theme, **Universal Bazaar**, we focused on one country to transform our classroom into. Our class chose to do the Philippines. We learned about the language, different foods, art projects, and different games played in the Philippines. During theme day we got to travel to each classroom to learn about the countries that they chose for their rooms. In preparation for the New Year our next theme was **Traveling Through Time**. The Teetertots took a look back at all of the things we have learned and accomplished this year. The children also made clocks for our letter of the week "C". Our last theme for the year and for the month of December was **2012 Welcomes You!** We spent the week making decorations and noise makers for our New Years parade. What a fun way to bring in the New Year!

January begins with the theme **Winter Wonders**. This theme will be introduced during circle time with the vocabulary words cold, snow, and coats. What things can we observe through our window? How is the weather changing? Have the clothes we wear changed since the summer? As we take a look at the difference between hot and cold the children are sure to enjoy some science experiments. We will be making hot chocolate and ice pops. Do these things feel the same? During art the children will be using various materials to create mittens, snowflakes, snowmen, snow globes, sleds, and winter mobiles. As part of our H.U.G. P.A.K this week we will be asking each family to decorate a snowball with their family's favorite winter activities. These snowballs will be shown off on a board in our hallway for everyone to see.

With Martin Luther King Day this week our theme will be **Respect Diversity**. This theme will be introduced during circle time with the vocabulary words respect, diversity, and team. This week we will revisit old themes, such as Unique Me, as we talk about our differences and what makes each of us special. We will use this theme to build on that concept as we learn that even though we have differences we are still the same and we can come together to make a great team. A great game to reinforce our team building will be having a relay race where each team has to work together. During art this week the class will work on creating a big box of crayons for our board to show that even though each crayon is different they can still come together to create a beautiful picture.

The next theme for this month will be **Geographical Concepts**. This theme will be introduced during circle time with the vocabulary words map, graph, and volcano. This week

will be filled with learning about all of the different land formations such as hills, valleys, mountains, oceans, and volcanoes. A really fun science experiment will be adding blue food coloring to marshmallows to make an ocean. These marshmallows can be added to graham crackers to be enjoyed as a yummy snack. During art the children will work to create a background for our board. Will they choose to make hills, mountains, oceans or volcanoes?

After learning about all of the different land formations, we will take a look at what kinds of creatures used to roam these forms with the theme *Dinosaur Dynasty*. This theme will be introduced during circle time with the vocabulary words dinosaur, eggs, and fossil. What is a dinosaur? What do they eat? During art the Teetertots will make fossils. They will use our toy dinosaurs to leave footprints in their fossils. We will also make dinosaur eggs. As our H.U.G. P.A.K project this week each family will be given a different dinosaur to research and create. All of these projects will be added to our *Geographical Concepts* background to complete our board.

Sincerely,  
Miss Cole, Miss Heather & Miss Shannon

**A few friendly reminders:**

- No School on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Please label all food and cups
- Please sign your child in & out each day