



December 2020

The Staff at Loving Hands Preschool would like to wish each of our families a Merry Christmas! We hope your holidays are blessed!!

It is with great regret that we must cancel our in-person Christmas Programs for this year. The teachers and I met last week to discuss.. We just felt that with the rising number in cases, we would hate to contribute to the possibility of another quarantine having to happen and someone possibly having to isolate for Christmas! We are as disappointed as everyone else. We love watching our little ones up there singing their little hearts out! So...we will be working on an alternative so that our families can still see them perform. Stay tuned, your teacher will be reaching out with a date so that your children can wear their favorite Christmas outfit and bring their best singing voices to school!! We hope that 2021 brings us the ability to meet for our special programs again!! If any of our parents are tech savvy and could offer some help in putting a program together, please see Miss Shannon.

On Wednesday, December 16 (Green Room & MW 3's) and Thursday, December 17 (TTH3's, Yellow Room, Purple Room, and Blue Room), we will climb aboard the Polar Express at Loving Hands Preschool!! Please send your child to school in their pajamas on their "departure" day!! We will celebrate with hot chocolate and popcorn (If your child can't have these items due to dietary restrictions, please see Miss Shannon to help plan an alternative for this special snack) and watch a snippet of the movie to help us feel like we are really on the train!

Thank you to everyone who has been turning in Acme Receipts! I wanted to make sure that everyone knows that we must have the whole receipt to count towards Community Cashback. At the bottom of your receipt, it will give you a Community Cashback total. Loving Hands will earn 5% of that amount on the receipt. Lately, we have been getting some receipts with the bottom section, where the Community Cashback total is located, torn off. These receipts will be discarded and cannot be used. The Community Cashback program will end for this school year on December 26, 2020. Please bring in any receipts you have collected after Winter Break to assure that they are included in our final count. The program will not resume again until August 2021.

#### **December Dates**

- 5: Happy Birthday Audrey B.
- 8: Happy Birthday Wyatt W. & Emmy C.
- 10: Happy Birthday Kellen B
- 14: Happy Birthday Andrew K.
- 16: January Tuition Due
- 16: Polar Express for MW3's & Green Rooms
- 17: Polar Express for TTH3's, Yellow, Purple & Blue Rooms
- 18: Christmas Break begins (Green Local is in session)- NO PRESCHOOL
- 18-Jan 3: Christmas Break- NO SCHOOL
- 18: Happy Birthday Ailyn B, Stuart M & Teagan F.
- 19: Happy Birthday Caleb H.
- 22: Happy Birthday Lizzy R.
- 23: Happy Birthday Parker N.
- 24: Happy Birthday Katie S.
- 25: Happy Birthday Ashlyn K.
- 28: Happy Birthday Evelyn C.

#### **Important Registration Dates for 2021-2022 school year**

- 5: Registration begins for Current Students 8:00am
- 12: Registration begins for Returning Families/Siblings of current students 8:00am
- 19: Registration begins for New Families 8:00am

**\*\* If during any of these registration dates, Green Local cancels school for inclement weather, then we will push that registration date (and any that follow) back by one week.**

**Planning Ahead:** January 5th will be an important day because it will mark the beginning of registration for the 2021-2022 school year for current students! Registration paperwork will be sent home with each child BEFORE winter break. If you are planning to register your child for preschool with us next year, the doors will open on **Tuesday, 1/5 at 8:00am!** We strongly recommend any family, especially one that knows what days or times they prefer, come at that time to register to better assure that you get the desired time. Last year several classes were near capacity before the start of preschool that day, and by the time that registration opened for new families, there were several waiting lists. If your child will be attending Kindergarten next year (or will not be attending Loving Hands), you can return the enrollment paperwork to the "paperwork basket" or pass it on to a

friend. Any family that refers someone to our program receives \$20 off their tuition the following month. A referral card will be attached to all paperwork and additional cards are available outside of the preschool office. There is no limit to the number of referral discounts you can receive! If any current family would like to “tour” the classrooms or discuss the options before registration, please stop in and see Miss Shannon and I will be happy to schedule a time that you can spend in the other rooms to find the best fit for your child. We will be offering a \$25 discount on our Registration fee until Friday, January 8 for current students. The discounted rate will be \$50.

On **Tuesday, January 12 at 8:00am**, registration will open to all past families and siblings of current students. *Important Note: If you will have 2 students enrolled in our program next year (a current student and a sibling), please see Miss Shannon before registration. You will have the opportunity to register them both at the same time.* On **Tuesday, January 19 at 8:00am**, registration will begin for new families. Please let any of your neighbors or friends with preschoolers know. We don’t want anyone to miss the registration date! New families are welcome to call the preschool office or email Miss Shannon at any time prior to registering to schedule a tour.

Our Dogs with Dad events are planned for February 1 & 2. We are still working out ways to safely have this event. We may have to break it in to smaller class groups, and stretch it out over more than 2 days. We will send out info as soon as we can work out scheduling between the teachers and the church space availability.

On March 10, we are planning to hold a Spring Open House/Meet the Teacher for all families who have registered, or may still be interested in registering for the 21-22 school year. This will give students another opportunity to visit their school before the next school year. Like all events this year, we will plan to have it unless the pandemic doesn’t allow for it.

A few safety reminders as our school year progresses:

- Please come in as close to your child’s drop off/pick up time as possible (never any more than 5 minutes before). We are starting to have some groups having to gather in the Gathering Area because we are still helping another class to arrive. If we would have a covid-19 positive case in the school, our hope is to limit the exposures to smaller cohorts. Anytime a person is in the building for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more, their chances of being a close contact is greatly increased. This is why we are trying to keep just one class in the building at a time as much as possible.
- There is sanitizer at the door, next to the health screening forms, as well as at the temp check table. Please help yourself to sanitizer for yourself and child. They will wash their hands as soon as they get upstairs, but it is best to sanitize as everyone enters the building, as well.
- There have been several instances where the exit door has been left propped open at dismissal times. PLEASE do not prop these doors, or allow your child to prop. For the safety of our children and staff, we want to make sure that door remains inaccessible from the outside at all times.
- Please make sure that whoever is picking up your child knows that we should only be parking in the lot between the road and the playground. Please do not use the back part of the parking lot. This area has been reserved for other programs that may be using the building. This is especially important on Wednesdays when Green Good Neighbors are in the back of the building. They are distributing the food goods in the parking lot area, and we want to make sure we aren’t making that time any more difficult for them to navigate through.

A BIG thank you to each and every one of you for your help and support to make the beginning of this school year a great one! We know that there were so many new adjustments and changes. But with all your help with these new adjustments, we have loved every minute we get to spend with your children, and have been able to provide a fun school year for your kids!! We can’t wait to see all the fun 2021 brings! Have a Happy Holiday and New Year!!!

Preschool 3’s- Orange Room

Miss Terri & Miss Shannon B

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[csbelaney@gmail.com](mailto:csbelaney@gmail.com)

Miss Terri and Miss Shannon LOVE the month of December! Oh, what fun we are going to have together during this special holiday season! We cannot wait!

This month we plan to read several versions of the Gingerbread Man and will work on building a variety of literacy and math skills (retelling, counting and graphing) using these stories. We may even get to have a gingerbread treat! We will also continue to work on our early literacy and math skills while following a special secret recipe for some of Santa’s very special team! We will end the month of December with a very special Polar Express Day! And of course, we will not forget the reason for the season — celebrating the birth of baby Jesus! It’s going to be an exciting month with lots to celebrate, learn and explore.

Christmas and other holiday traditions can vary widely from family to family, but they always bring us closer together and remind us what’s really important. The best traditions are those that are not only fun, but also fill our hearts with love. We wish all our Orange Room families a very blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year filled with special traditions and love.

Green Room

Miss Libby and Miss Carolyn

[Libbyway4@hotmail.com](mailto:Libbyway4@hotmail.com)

As we wrap up a month of thanksgiving, we want to thank every one of our families for sharing your biggest blessings with us. Our green room “family” is so special and we are lucky to be a part of this amazing and loving community. November started off with a week of friendship and kindness. We read *Stick and Stone* and *Owen and Mzee*, both about an unlikely, yet meaningful friendship. The kids loved the true story of Owen, an abandoned baby hippo who formed a friendship with a 130-year old tortoise. We sang “You’ve Got a Friend in Me,” from Toy Story and even made some new friends in the class when we each shared a special toy from home. The second week of November brought the story of the first Thanksgiving. We talked about the pilgrims sharing this special meal with the Native Americans. Using the month we were born and the first letter of our last name, we were each given our own

Native American name, which we used for our Thanksgiving feast! Happy Rabbit and Quick Thunder are examples our friends' nicknames!

Stone Soup is always a class favorite. The story shows us that when everyone pitches in just a little, we can accomplish a whole lot! Each person brought in just a carrot, onion, celery or bean, and we were able to make a whole big pot of "Stone Soup" to enjoy together! We are always surprised how many kids end of loving this simple soup and often ask for seconds!! The lesson goes beyond just contributing one vegetable to make soup, as we discussed helping our classroom friends and even in the community helping others around us.

The magic is in the air as December approaches! This month will be filled with Christmas magic and fun! With our Christmas program and Polar Express Day, we are sure to have many great memories! Our dramatic play area will transform in Santa's workshop. We will also learn all about penguins. Be ready to learn many fun facts about these interesting little creatures! We will also prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus, as He is the reason for the season. The kids are doing very well as we navigate through the alphabet...we are about halfway through! We will begin working on our addresses and phone numbers this month and into January!

We wish you a warm holiday season filled with magic and peace!



Happy December Yellow Room families! We hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. As you know, we delayed our discussion of ocean animals until after the new year. That gave us more time to spend discussing Thanksgiving, being thankful, the history behind the holiday. This month, our classroom will be taken over by Christmas and gingerbread! We will read several Gingerbread stories to compare and contrast them. Our dramatic play center will transform into a gingerbread house with a cookie making station. It all leads to our gingerbread cookie decorating day (more info to come later on that one)! We will also spend a good deal of time working on a secret present project...but that's all we can tell you about that! And, of course, we will finish the month with Polar Express Day in the comfort of our jammies. It's a short month, but it's going to be a merry one! We will focus on the letters K, L, and M; the numbers 10, 11, and 12, and the rectangle.

Transitional Kindergarten-Purple Room  
Miss Alicia & Miss Stacey  
[aliciasobieski27@gmail.com](mailto:aliciasobieski27@gmail.com)

Our class has been doing a great job practicing letter sounds and letter recognition. They are improving every day and it shows. We have officially gone through every letter of the alphabet and talked about the sound it makes. We will spend December continuing to practice our recognition and sounds for all letters. This will prepare us for when we begin sight words in January. Our fire safety theme was a huge success, and they are all knowledgeable for what to do in the event of a fire. They also had fun pretending to be bears that hibernate for the winter and cozy up in their bear den. December's theme will be all about winter and Christmas. Our dramatic play area will become a Christmas decorating space where they will be able to choose different ornaments for our beautiful tree. December is also the perfect time to talk about winter. We will discuss what kinds of animals like the winter and how they are able to survive when it is so cold with their blubber. We are doing our best to still have all the special events that are planned for this month and will update you with any news. December is sure going to fly by!

Blue Room-Full Day Transitional Kindergarten  
Miss Jessica and Miss Mary Ellen  
[jfulmer0805@gmail.com](mailto:jfulmer0805@gmail.com)

Wow can't believe its December already! This year is sure flying by. We have been working hard in the Blue Room and have been learning lots of things. This month we are going to start working on phone numbers and continue sight words. We will finish working on the rest of our letters and the sounds and things that start with those letters. This month we are going to talk about Christmas.

We will be starting to build a sundae on our bulletin board in our classroom. When the kids have learned things such as all their letters, colors, shapes, phone number, addresses, and birthday we will add a part of a sundae and once we build a sundae we will have ice cream sundaes in our classroom to celebrate. We will also start our good deed tree and every time someone does a good deed they will get to hang a light bulb on our tree. Their good deed can be at school or at home. If they complete a good deed at home just send me a note to school to let me know. We are excited to see how many light bulbs we can get.

We will be bringing Santa's workshop into our classroom so the kids can be Santa's elves. They will get to fix toys and practice wrapping presents. We will have wrapping paper and ribbon along with scissors in our sensory bin to practice cutting skills. We will



bring some science into the classroom by doing some science experiments like Santa's milk and guzzling candy canes. We are so excited for a fun month of December. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!! 😊