



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

We are so excited to see everyone at our Christmas Programs this year! To allow for adequate space in the Sanctuary and do our part to lessen the crowds, we will be offering 10 programs this year. The time schedules are as follows:

Wednesday December 11

Orange Room MWam	10:45
Orange Room MWpm	2:15
Green Room AM	4:30
Green Room PM	5:30
Purple Room	6:30

Thursday December 12

Orange Room TTHam	10:45
Orange Room TTHpm	2:15
Yellow Room AM	4:30
Yellow Room PM	5:30
Blue Room/Pink Room	6:30

Because we are breaking the programs up into smaller groups, we will not be limiting guests per family. Please bring your child to the program 10 minutes before the start time (for Orange Room and additional guests at all shows, please arrive no more than 10 minutes before the start time. The main doors will be locked until then). We have multiple programs each day, and need some time in between to prepare for the next group. Orange Room students will begin class at their normal time these days, and will dismiss after the program.

On Wednesday, December 18 (Green Room & MW 3's) and Thursday, December 19 (TTH3's, Yellow Room, Purple Room, Blue Room and Pink 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 (chocolate milk) and popcorn (Pirate's Booty) (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!

Blue Room: Just a reminder, Polar Express day (Thursday, December 19) will be an early dismissal day for the class. They will have Polar Express in the morning, and then have their Christmas celebration. Their dismissal will be at 12:00pm, before lunch, so no need to pack a lunch that day.

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. The Community Cashback program will end for this school year on February 15, 2025. Please bring in any receipts you have collected no later than Friday, February 21 to assure that they are included in our final count. The program will not resume again until August 2025.

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. It gets too congested and confusing for new people who are trying to drop off or pick up.

- Please be careful in the parking lot. We have noticed cars driving at an unsafe speed, as well as children running ahead of parents. Please keep your children close at all times!! The speed limit in the parking lot should be under 5 mph. Thank you for your help!!!

Important Tuition Info:

January tuition is due by Monday, December 16. Any late payments made after Thursday, 12/19 will NOT be included in your tax form for 2024. It will not be deposited until January. Your 2024 tax info will be sent home no later than Friday, January 24. The tax info will include our Tax ID # for when you file your taxes. For current students who had a sibling attending last school year, payment info for them will be included, as well. For former students, you are able to contact Miss Brittney at bhurley119@gmail.com to request a copy of your tax information for 2024.

Important Registration Dates for 2025-2026 school year

14: Registration begins for Current Students 8:00am

21: Registration begins for Returning Families/Siblings of current students 8:00am

24: 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

Tuesday, 1/14 at 8:00am will be an important day because it will mark the beginning of registration for the 2025-2026 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, 1/14 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, but a card must accompany the new families registration paperwork! 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.

On **Tuesday, January 21 at 8:00am**, registration will open to all past families and siblings of current students.

Important Note: If you will have multiple 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 14th.

On **Thursday, January 23 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.

The week of February 10, will be conferences for our families. If your child has a late spring or summer birthday and you are trying to decide whether to send your child to Kindergarten or enroll in our Transitional K program for next year, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher before registration begins to get their input.

Our Dogs with Dad events are planned for January 29 & 30th. We will send out info soon! This event takes place between approximately 11:15-12:15.

Spring Pictures will be on March 5 & March 6. There is no class picture option for spring pictures.

On April 23, 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 25-26 school year. This will give students another opportunity to visit their school before the next school year.

December Dates

7: Happy Birthday Jack T.

8: Happy Birthday Drew E & Mia P

11: Christmas Program (see page 1 for times), will be early dismissal day for Orange Room

12: Happy Birthday Lincoln B

12: Christmas Program (see page 1 for times), will be early dismissal day for Orange Room

14: Happy Birthday Beckham B

16: January Tuition Due

17: Storytime with Miss Brandie from Green Library 10:00am

18: Polar Express (MW3's and Green Room), NO ENRICHMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS

19: Polar Express (TTH3's, Yellow, Blue, Pink)- NO ENRICHMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS, BLUE ROOM WILL ATTEND MORNING ONLY

20: Winter Break begins (Loving Hands Preschool only- Green schools still in session) thru Friday, Jan 3.

20: Happy Birthday Heather H

23: Happy Birthday Emmeline B

28: Happy Birthday Eddie C

29: Happy Birthday Caiden D

Preschool 3's- Orange Room

Miss Tara & Miss Shannon B

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The month of December is always filled with such joy and magic at preschool! A special visitor, from the North Pole, will be joining the Orange Room very soon!

Oh, what fun we are going to have together during this special holiday season!

We cannot wait!

This month we plan to read the Gingerbread Man and will work on building a variety of literacy and math skills (retelling, counting and graphing) using this story. 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 also be introducing SCISSORS during the month of December!! We will have a couple of projects where we will work on these important skills — making candy canes and Christmas trees. This month we will also focus more on name recognition with an emphasis on our first letter. Mark your calendars (Dec. 11/12) for our highly anticipated Christmas programs (see newsletter for further details). 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.

This month we will be introducing:

Letters: M and Z

Numbers: 10

Color: Red

Shape: Star

Assessments will also be sent home Dec. 18/19. Please review and sign a copy to return to school. Christmas and other holiday traditions can vary widely from family to family, but they always bring us closer together and remind us of 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.

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

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

Pre-Kindergarten TTHF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

misskate.lhp@gmail.com

Happy December, Yellow Room families! We hope everyone had a wonderful November and a blessed Thanksgiving. This month seemed to fly by! We had so much fun learning what it means to be 'thankful' and what the Thanksgiving holiday is really all about. Next month, our classroom will be taken over by gingerbread and Christmas! We will read several Gingerbread stories to compare and contrast them. Our dramatic play center will transform into a gingerbread cookie making station. It all leads up to our gingerbread cookie decorating day on Dec. 13 (more info on that coming soon...). We will also spend a lot of time this month working on a secret project. It is the gift giving season, of course! We can't forget our Christmas Program - we've already been working hard to make it magical for you! And we finish the month with Polar Express Day in the comfort of our jammies. It's a short and merry month, jam packed with fun! Our letters are L, M and N. Our numbers are 10 and 11; and our shape is the rectangle.

Pre-Kindergarten W-F- Pink Room

Miss Terri & Miss Leanne

Tnettleton316@gmail.com

Happy December to all. The upcoming month is going to be extremely busy! We will start the month by introducing the letters M, V, R, and N! This month's shape will change to the star, and the color will be red. Miss Leanne and I have planned a plethora of fun-filled activities, including arts and crafts. The Christmas program is scheduled for Thursday, December 11th @ 6:30. Please be on the lookout for Christmas song lyrics so your student can practice at home. Polar Express Day is Thursday, December 19th! We will also celebrate two birthdays in December. Wesley will celebrate his half birthday, while Caiden celebrates his birthday on the 29th!

Polar Express Details:

- Students wear their favorite pajamas
- A small celebration with volunteers before the film.
- Students view the film at the train station (the muscle room)

Other Important dates:

- Christmas Break begins after school on December 19th
- There will be no school on Friday, December 20th
- School resumes January 6th, 2025!

** Please keep in mind that the weather is changing. Students need their winter coats and should be instructed on how to fasten them. Please practice with your student, as this encourages finger dexterity and independence for your little one**

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Alicia & Miss Courtney

aliciasobieski27@gmail.com

Our class has been doing a great job practicing all letter sounds and letter recognition. 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. December's theme will be all about winter and Christmas. Our dramatic play area will transform into all about Christmas! They will be able to choose different ornaments and decorate our felt tree or become elves that help make new toys for Christmas in our tiny workshop. This is another very busy month filled with so many fun activities. We have already begun practicing for our Christmas program coming up and they have been doing a great job. We also will be taking our ride on the Polar Express before we head out to our break. This is a fun day spent wearing our pajamas, watching parts of The Polar Express movie, and having yummy treats while on our "ride". Winter assessments will be going home this month so you can view where your child lies in their academic journey. This is our most exciting and enjoyable month, and I cannot wait to start it!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica & Miss Renee

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Wow, I can't believe it's December already. This year is sure flying by. We have been working hard in the blue room and have been learning lots of things. We will finish working on the rest of our letters and the sounds along things that start with those letters. This month we are going to talk about Christmas.

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.

Just a couple reminders our class Christmas Program will be Thursday December 12th at 6:30pm. We're excited to share with you the songs we have been working hard on. Polar Express will be Thursday December 19th we will get to wear our pajamas to school and enjoy some Hot Chocolate and popcorn and watch some of the Polar Express. It will be an early dismissal day. We will dismiss at 12:00pm. Winter Break will be December 20th – January 3rd. School will resume January 6th.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!!

Enrichment Class

Miss Kate(MW) & Miss Libby (TTH)

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libbyway4@hotmail.com

MW: Happy December, Enrichment families! We had so much fun in November making our Advent Calendars. I'm so glad it's now time to use them! We also enjoyed learning about Thanksgiving and discussing what we are thankful for. This month we have so few days, they will all be spent working on a secret project. Unfortunately, you'll have to wait until the end of the month to find out more about that! 'Tis the season!

TTH: The weeks of November were filled with funny turkeys and thankful conversations. We laughed as we curled our turkey feathers and watched them spiral up into a wild "hair style." We also used mini dentist cups to build tall, thin towers, and long, wide towers, to see which kind held the most characters and figurines. They often tumbled down as we added more items, and we had to repeat, "that's okay, let's build it up again!"

December will be quick, and filled with a few special Christmas surprises as well as some fun, festive games and songs. We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas break filled with love & peace.