

## UPCOMING EVENTS

\* Jan. 1st - Jan. 3rd  
Closed- Winter Break

\*January 4th  
Welcome to the New Year

January 18<sup>th</sup>  
Winne the Pooh  
Celebration

January 28<sup>th</sup>  
Virtual STEM Science Fair

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

|             |      |
|-------------|------|
| William B.  | 1/2  |
| Isabelle B. | 1/3  |
| Rae P.      | 1/11 |
| Fox H.      | 1/14 |
| River H.    | 1/17 |

## RECALL LINK:

[Consumer Product Safety  
Commission Monthly Recalls](#)

## DID YOU KNOW...

January is...

- \* National Bath Safety Month
  - \* National Blood Donor Month
  - \* National Braille Literacy Month
- |      |                            |
|------|----------------------------|
| 1/8  | Bubble Bath Day            |
| 1/14 | Dress Up Your Pet Day      |
| 1/16 | Appreciate a Dragon Day    |
| 1/17 | Dr. Martin Luther King Day |
| 1/18 | Winnie the Pooh Day        |

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"For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"

-Jeremiah 29:11-

Welcome back to school for the New Year 2022!!! The start of a new year means so much. . . it is happiness that is the motor and purpose of one's life, a chance to relax and reflect on all that one has accomplished and has been blessed with, and most of all, to be truly grateful.

We hope our families and children had a relaxing and stress-free holiday, with lots of good times, great food, keeping family traditions, listening to holiday music, enjoying fun family outings safely.

Now that we had a relaxing winter holiday break, it's time to dive into the second half with several great events and activities. For the month of January, the children will make friendship posters and decorate cupcakes in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. We will also explore how other countries and cultures celebrate the New Year.

We want to wish each of you a Happy and Prosperous NEW YEAR!



Alan Alexander Milne, creator of Winnie the Pooh, was born on January 18, 1882. Winnie-the-Pooh first appeared by name on December 24, 1925, in a Christmas story commissioned and published by the London newspaper Evening News. A.A. Milne released his first volume of stories about the Hundred Acre Wood, titled "Winnie-the-Pooh" in 1926. In celebration of his birthday, we ask everyone to wear their favorite character shirt and bring their favorite Winnie the Pooh Book to share with their friends for the teacher to read to them on **Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>**.



**FULL STEAM AHEAD** for our 4th Annual and STEAM Science Fair on Friday, January 28th (virtually) from 9:30 to 11:30. STEAM is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math...seems like something preschoolers would be too young to embrace, but the contrary is true!!! Our teachers engage our children in STEAM learning every day, even our littlest babies.

Our infants enjoy hands on activities such as touch and feel sensory bags, our Toddlers are filled with excitement as their teachers make Glow in the Dark Water Bottles... the kiddos marvel at it as they observe, shake and explore, and our Pre-K 3's & 4's who create "snow" with white hair conditioner and baking soda and watch and feel the chemical changes that occur as the "snow" develops when they knead the ingredients. Activities like these occur in our classrooms every day. You engage in STEAM activities with your children every day at home as well... When you take nature walks with the family and marvel at the wonders outside. When your children help you with cooking, you measure and mix with them. When you go to the grocery store - try new fruits and vegetables, talk about different foods and packaging, and the texture and aromas of the foods. The most enjoyable STEAM activity of all is when you engage in water play with your kids...filling and emptying containers.

You will be amazed and delighted at the science experiments your children will demonstrate at our Science Fair. More information will sent out at a later date.

## Thank you! Thank You! Thank You!

To all our parents, extended family members, and Grace Episcopal Church members for joining us in person and on live stream for our Christmas Program. Thank you to all our Grace families for your generosity towards our teachers, staff, events, and our community outreach programs. Your generous response helped ensure that needy children had some Christmas presents. Without your help, it might have been a very bleak holiday for them! You embody what Grace Episcopal stands for...kindness, caring, and helping those who are less fortunate. It is so much appreciated. We welcome any suggestions you have for next year's celebrations and outreach.

Thank you for your support of our church and school!



# CLASSROOM NEWS

## **INFANT 'A' BUTTERFLIES**

Hello Butterflies Family!

First, we would like to say thank you to all our Grace Families for staying with us, for all your continued support, kindness, and love during 2021. December was a Holy and Cheerful month filled with a lot of fun art activities and amazing events. Our Babies were so happy to participate in every activity, but what they love the most was exchanging Christmas gifts with their classmates. For the month of January, we will be learning and exploring several fabulous themes such as Winter Snow, Cars and Trains, Animals and Dinosaur 🦖. Every theme will be with engaging activities such as snow sensory bags, dinosaur footprints, venturing around the room to find different winter animals, reading "Polar Bear, Polar Bear" and creating train carts to ride around. Our Babies are growing way to fast...Luke and Harrison moving and exploring around the classroom Frida is now crawling; Dorothy's beginning to sit with a little help; Isla loves to be cuddled drinking her milk; Molly is beginning to recognize familiar faces and loves to take little naps. Our little butterflies will continue develop their fine motor skills and gross motor skills by introducing Yoga exercises, also we will continue adding sign language to our daily activities. Again thank you Parents for all your support.

*Ms. Julia*

*Ms. Heidi*

*Ms. Dina*

## **INFANT 'B' HONEYBEES**

Happy New Year Honeybee Family!

We would like to welcome in 2022, but before that let us remember what fun we had the month of December. We enjoyed participating in the holiday program and taking a ride on the polar express. We worked on a special art project for our parents as a Christmas gift. We had so much fun and learned a lot. January will be an exciting month as we prepare to learn about Winter Wonderland. We will focus on animals that are out during the winter months and the clothing we wear during the cold months. We will be reading the book, "The Snowy Day/ Un Dia De Nieve" by Ezra Jack, Polar Bear, Polar Bear by Eric Carle, and "Five Little Penguins" by Steve Metzger. Our Spanish words will include penguin, polar bear, and snow. We will be playing with stimulating snow one day and observing ice cube float and melt in water. Our yoga poses will include the bear pose. On the 28th of January we will be participating in the stem science fair. The Honeybee class would like to applaud our individual accomplishments. Everly is now able to stand without any assistance. Way to go Everly. Rae is walking with the help of a walking toy. Cody is an artist...He really enjoys art time. Margaux and Rosalie are attentive and enjoy story time. Nick is exploring the room as he rolls around. It is with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to Kit and Eleanor as they transition to the First Steps class. We know that you will be learning so much and making new friends in your new class, but you will be missed. Thank you to all the Honeybee families and friends for all your support during the 2021 year and we look forward to the upcoming year. Thank you and please be safe.

*Ms. Roxana*

*Ms. Sylvia*

*Ms. Jenaeve*



## **FIRST STEPS KITTENS**



Happy New Year to you all!!

We pray that you had a safe and blessed holiday season. We would like to thank you for your help and participation in our Christmas party. The children had a blast opening all their gifts and we loved seeing them in their pjs. We would also like to thank you for your kindness we truly appreciate all that you've done for us.

We would like to give a warm welcome to Kit and Eleanor to the first steps class as they start their transition with us. We look forward to getting to know them and introducing them to their new friends. We would like to say farewell to Luke and Sallie who moved to the Pre-Toddler's class, we will miss you and excited to see you move on to your next stage of development. For the month of January our theme is Wintertime/Winter Animals. Some of our fine motor skill projects will be paper plate snowy owl, finger painting with winter colors, handprint polar bear and Penguin in a bottle. We will enjoy playing outside as we pretend to be penguins. Language and literacy books we will read: "Pete the Cat Snow Daze", "The Itsy Bitsy Snowman", and "Touch and Feel Winter". Our sign language for this month will be Cold.

Thank you, parents, for all you do and have a very blessed month.

*Ms. April*

*Ms. Cynthia*

# CLASSROOM NEWS



## **PRE-TODDLER PUPS**



Hello parents,

Happy New Year! We hope all of you enjoyed your Christmas break. Thank you so much for participating in our Christmas party a huge thank you to Isla and Margot's parents for providing lunch for the kiddos. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you for everything you did for us. We really appreciate it. We also hope you enjoyed our Christmas program. Our little ones did their best. Our curriculum for this month will be based on sky, letter E and winter. Some of the crafts we look forward to doing are making clouds out of cotton balls, making an elephant for letter E and a polar bear for our winter theme. Some of the books we will be reading are Frosty the Snowman, Pete the Cat, Snow Daze, and "Polar Bear, Polar Bear". For music and movement, we will be playing with maracas and dancing the chicken dance. We want to welcome Sallie and Luke into our classroom. We are so excited to have you. Parents thank you for everything if you have any questions, please let us know.

*Ms. Maggie*

*Ms. Katie*



## **TODDLER DOVES**



Happy New Year and Happy 2022...Yay! The Toddler Two's class had so much fun for the month of December. We enjoyed making different Christmas decorations. Our favorite project was the one we made especially for mommy and daddy. We want to thank each of you for contributing to our Christmas class party and the Secret Santa Books for the kiddos. They were really excited to receive a surprise gift from a special friend. For the month of January, the students will learn about different Animals and what they do during winter months. We will be using our imagination as we create and pretend to go to Grace's Toddler Zoo. Parents, we are asking for students to bring a Stuff animal to put in our Classroom Zoo. They will also learn where animal lives, eat, and who takes care of animals at the zoo. During circle time, we will review & identify numbers 1- 10, and enhance our prewriting skills as we learn to make numbers 1 and 5 using the handwriting without tears wooden pieces. We will also learn about Cold Weather and clothing worn during the winter as we work on our self-help skills by dressing themselves for the cold. We are looking forward to several fun Science and Social Studies project. Parents we thank you so much for everything you do for us and the students...we appreciate it!

*Ms. Shawntee*

*Ms. Tugba*



## **BRIDGE TURTLES**



Welcome Back Bridge Class Students and Parents!

We hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday. Before we start the new year, we would like to say everyone did an amazing job singing for our holiday performance. All the children worked extremely hard to memorize the First Noel song. We are excited to have the children back at school. January is a new year for the Bridge class. Since we been out for two weeks, we will start out with focusing on classroom management by staying in centers, cleaning up our toys after we are finished playing with them, becoming star helpers, and enhance our self-help skills. We are looking forward to creating snowflakes using paint and foam and paper plate penguins and pretend snow. The Bridge classroom will still be learning the beginning sound and writing uppercase letters R and N. We will let them be a little bit more independent this year with their activity work and will always be the by their side helping them along the way. We will continue counting our numbers to 30 by counting and sorting different winter animals and singing the number song to help us.

For science we are going to do an instant rainbow experiment, ice painting, and making snow. We are looking forward to reading and learning "All About Winter." Thank you so much for everything y'all do. God Bless all of y'all!

*Ms. Diana*

*Ms. Destiny*



Happy New Year from Thankful 3s! This month's theme is animals and dinosaurs! We will incorporate our monthly theme into our daily activities throughout the day during circle and center time. Our ASL words are bear, hungry, water, ant, alligator, eat, and animal. We will be learning all about animals with our vocabulary words: feed, shelter, living, zoo, farm, responsibility, rhyme, non-living, wild, and domesticated. We will use our new vocabulary words, and ASL in our daily interaction with our friends and teachers to enhance our communication skills. We will also improve our language and literacy skills through center time and story time. We will continue to work on our phonological awareness of the alphabet and focus on letters K,M,Z, and Q. We will use the Handwriting Without Tears to practice writing and reading letters and some small words. Some of the stories we will enjoy are Patrick's Dinosaurs, All Kinds of Animals, Animals on the Farm, Owl's Night, Curious George, ID on the Sled, Pig Pig, Dewey the Cat, and much more! For Science we will learn about sea animals, land animals, reptiles, and mammals through educational videos, books, and music. We will use what we learned about animals and dinosaurs throughout our lessons during dramatic play and public speaking. For our mathematics and numeracy lesson we will use music, counting games, shapes lessons, workbooks, and videos. We will work our way up to counting to 80. We will work on number recognition, improve counting skills, and practice simple addition. We will use music and movement as well to improve our counting and adding skills by keeping beats and counting syllables. We will use our workbooks and whiteboards to practice writing numbers and improving our fine motor skills as well. We can't wait to spend another enriching and exciting New Year in Thankful 3s!

~ *Ms. Jade*

*Ms. Daesha*

# CLASSROOM NEWS

## **PRE-K FOUR GIRAFFES**

Happy New Year to everyone! The Pre-K Four class will continue to delve into a myriad of activities through the We Can curriculum. The Giraffes will continue to learn more teaching strategies that will expose the children to more learning domains such as collaborative practice and relating topics to a real-world experience. The Giraffes will continue to work on sight words, handwriting, and our counting skills as we continue preparing for the upcoming transition to kindergarten. We will learn about snow through exploring, predicting, and observing, the physical properties of snow. We will work on Dream Clouds in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We will discuss what we want to be when we grow up, making friends regardless of skin color and respecting each other. We will also read and discuss Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This discussion is important to the children's social/personal development. We work hard to establish a sense of community and respect for each other's ideas and thoughts, as well as other's personal space. We will also talk about the rules of engagement and how we are to treat others how we want to be treated (The Golden Rule).

Thank You for All of Your Support,

Ms. Clementine

Ms. Marian



## **Children's Bible Fun**



The month of January is an exciting time for Bible Fun! It is a new month and a New Year, a time of new beginnings. We will start the month off for the first two weeks exploring the book of Genesis, learning about all of God's Creations that was made each day (Day 1- Light, Day 2- Sky And Water, Day 3-Land, Sea and Vegetation, Day 4-Sun, Moon and Stars, Day 5-Fish and Birds, Day 6-Animals and People, and Day 7-He Rested). The third week we will talk about the Fall. The Fall is an incredibly important story for building kids' awareness of why the world is not as perfect as God intended and think about what we can do to help God. The last week of January, we will learn how Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD" by walking with God, obeying God and waiting for God. We will also talk about what God told Noah about the ARK.

We are ready to learn so much more about the bible this year!

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



### *Welcome to our Grace Family*

Joins us in giving a warm welcome to Ms. Heidi who joins our infant classroom. She has been in early childhood for almost a year. She was influenced by her sisters to pursue a degree in the educational field so she would learn the real importance of teaching. She is currently enrolled at Houston Community College to earn her degree in education.

Ms. Heidi believes that children learn best through interaction with others, hands on, and positive reassurance. On the weekends, she enjoys going to the gym and spending time with her dog Coco. Her goal as a teacher is to help each child develop to their full potential at their own pace.

We are happy to have Ms. Heidi as a part of our educational team!