

BIG BEAR NEWS

Number 6

December 1, 2014



I am thankful...

Avaneesh- for a gift and a firetruck.
Cate- for going to the mall and eating pasta.
Chien- for Mom, Dad, Leon.
Christopher- for being best friends and playing with people when they are sad.
Eleanor- that God created family.
Estella- for my Mommy, my Daddy, my sister, and Didi.
Kenley- that I can share food with my friends.
Kyra- when other people are being nice.
Louis- for my family.
Manu- for my Mom, my Dad, my toys, and my brother.
Nina- for giving stuff to people, puzzles, magna tiles, and bricks.
Sabrina- for my toys, my crystals, my pretend pets, my house, and my Dad and Mom.
Sadie- for going on vacations and for iguanas.
Shun- for tickles.
Sonali- for my sister.

The Past Two Weeks

We spent the last full week of school before Thanksgiving preparing for our Day for Dads, grandparents, family and special friends. As a gift, each child made a turkey using play dough we had made, feathers, and beads. We made shakers and drums to use while singing “The Earth is Our Mother.” We decorated the bulletin board with a turkey whose feathers were thankful phrases (see left column) written by each child. To prepare our special Dad’s Day snack we mixed spices as a topping for popcorn and then prepared a bag for each guest by adding either sweet, spicy, ranch, or cheese spices to the popcorn and shaking. During small group time we worked on the Dad’s Day Book—drawing pictures of favorite activities, adding text in fancy fonts, and writing “DAD” on the cover. We hope that all of you enjoyed Friday as much as we did!



We ended the month with many special classes—Spanish, Music, and Art. <http://nurseryschool.wustl.edu/curriculum/enrichment-programs> On Monday we ate the apple crisp made the previous week. On Thursday we celebrated Manu’s fifth birthday. During the week we also played in a teepee, used Lincoln Logs, made patterns with beans and unifix cubes, built an amazing marble maze, and visited the indoor play space.

On Monday and Tuesday we prepared for our annual Thanksgiving Feast with the Teddy Bear Class—except that this year everyone who came to school on Tuesday had a place at the table! Each guest took home a name card written and decorated by the Big Bears.



We celebrated Thanksgiving in the spirit of Charlie Brown and his friends with popcorn (Pirates Booty), jelly beans, pretzels, and buttered toast. Many children had fun buttering the small pieces of melba toast. As each class arrived they watched a short video of Snoopy and Woodstock preparing their Thanksgiving feast. Then they found their spots at our table. The teachers and Suzy's daughter Sydney circled the group, giving out the snacks. The Bear Cubs brought along S'mores they had made. What a feast!



Here is a photo that Sonali took this week.



Coming Up

During December we will explore holiday celebrations around the world. We hope that several families will be able to share their traditions with us!

~~Look for **December Scholastic Book Order** forms in backpacks this week.

~~We will let you know the date for our walk to **Trinity Presbyterian Church** to deliver canned goods and personal care items that have been donated! Let us know if you have a wagon we can borrow.

~~We will attend **Sneetches** at New City School on December 17. Permission forms are available on the WUNS website.

~~**Last day in 2014: Wednesday, Dec 17.**

THANKSGIVING DAY SONG

I'm gonna eat on Thanksgiving Day (2X)
Turkey and stuffing and cranberries, I'm...
Sweet potatoes and corn and peas, I'm...
When I'm done my belly's so full down I lie
But before you can count to one, two,
three, I'm up for the pumpkin Pie!