



Pre-Kindergarten

We hope everyone had a memorable holiday season! We were super busy this month getting ready for the holidays! We practiced many songs for Christmas and Hanukkah and sang them in the lobby to spread some holiday cheer! We would like to thank all of our families who contributed to our Holiday Party. We really enjoyed our breakfast! We were most excited when Santa Claus stopped in for a visit! He brought smiles and presents to our classroom.

This month, we had a great time decorating our room and hallway for the season. We learned about the letters H, I and Y. We practiced identifying numbers up to 9 and simple patterns. We discussed the holidays around the world and what they mean to us. In science, we ate popcorn and discovered how we used our five senses to enjoy it! Next month, we will continue learning about the letters and discussing the new winter season. We will also introduce Word Families and our Popcorn Words! To prepare the students for their Science Fair project in May, we will begin learning about our first animal habitat! Happy New Year!

Preschool

“December, December, presents in December!” This month the children learned about three holidays celebrated in December: Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza. Children who celebrate these holidays receive presents! The children really enjoyed spinning dreidels, jingling bells and sitting on Santa’s lap! Most of the class sat on Santa’s knee and told him what they wanted for Christmas. Thanks to all of your participation, our Holiday Party and Ugly Sweater Day were a success! Next month, we look forward to some really fun science experiments and learning about winter!



Toddlers

The Busy Bees have been so busy in December, celebrating Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanzaa! We had fun spinning dreidels and making holiday crafts. The Toddlers were so surprised when Santa Claus came to visit and gave them a holiday goody bag. We sang “Jingle Bells” and “Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer” in the lobby for our YMCA members. We were also busy making a special holiday craft for mommy and daddy! Our Holiday Party was very enjoyable. Thanks to everyone who contributed. We wish you all a happy and healthy New Year!

Waddlers

Happy New Year! December was a bright and festive month in our room. We celebrated Christmas and Hanukkah. The Waddlers sang Christmas carols in the lobby for our friends and families. The Waddlers loved singing their two favorite holiday songs: “Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer” and “Jingle Bells.” This month, we welcomed Juliette and Gianna. We are so happy that they have both come to play with us!



During the month of December the Waddlers tasted gingerbread and listened to the story, *The Gingerbread Man*.

Speaking of stories, the Waddlers read many holiday books. They especially enjoyed *Frosty the Snowman* and *I Spy Christmas*. We also decorated our room and hallway with crafts. We even made ornaments for our mommies and daddies. What would December be without a visit from Santa?! He visited our room and gave all of our friends presents. We are looking forward to the winter and snow. Building a snowman will be so much fun!



Infants

Our infants were very busy this month. Ari is crawling all over now. Sofia and Alexa went from taking a few steps to walking steady. Jaqueline is getting ready to move on to the Waddler room! Also, Santa came to drop off little gifts for the babies in their cute pajamas. Only Ari was sitting on Santa’s lap to receive the gift. The rest of the bunch preferred to watch him from a distance. We are all looking forward to a Happy New Year!



Picture Corner



Reminders



With the winter weather hitting our area: jackets, gloves and hats are a must for all. If there is inclement weather please call the YMCA main number at 732-462-0464 or visit the website www.ymcanj.org, to see if there is a delayed opening or if we are closed for the day. In case of an emergency or if the phone lines are down, please call 732-598-8178.

No program Monday, February 15th.