

No  
backpacks  
Friday!



Preschool Newsletter  
Preschool Webpage

December 14, 2006

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

Because space will be at a premium in the Meeting House, please leave your child's backpack at home the morning of Friday, December 15. Any that arrive that day will be stored in the cubby room until School reopens January 2.

Parents and children, wear comfortable clothes for our Jingle Bell celebration in the preschool. You will be sitting on the floor for circle time. Can you still sit criss-cross applesauce?

As a kindness to the children, the class parents, Patsy and Lisa, have been asked by the preschool teachers to guide arriving parents to a gathering spot upstairs in the foyer or gym. Once all of the preschool parents have arrived by 10:00am, the group of parents will walk en masse to the classroom. The parents' "group arrival" at the classroom will prevent anxious moments for the children waiting in the classroom. Early and late arrivals can be upsetting to young children who are expecting a parent.

Thanks for your help in this.



Important Dates

December 15  
Friday  
10:00am-10:45am  
Preschool parents invited  
to the classroom to join the  
Preschool  
Jingle Bell Band!

Holiday Meeting  
for Worship  
11:00am  
Winter Holiday Begins  
after Meeting for Worship

January 2  
Tuesday  
School Resumes

January 5  
Friday  
First Friday @ FSH  
8:30 a.m.

January 6  
Saturday  
OWLS Gathering

January 9  
Tuesday  
PTO Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

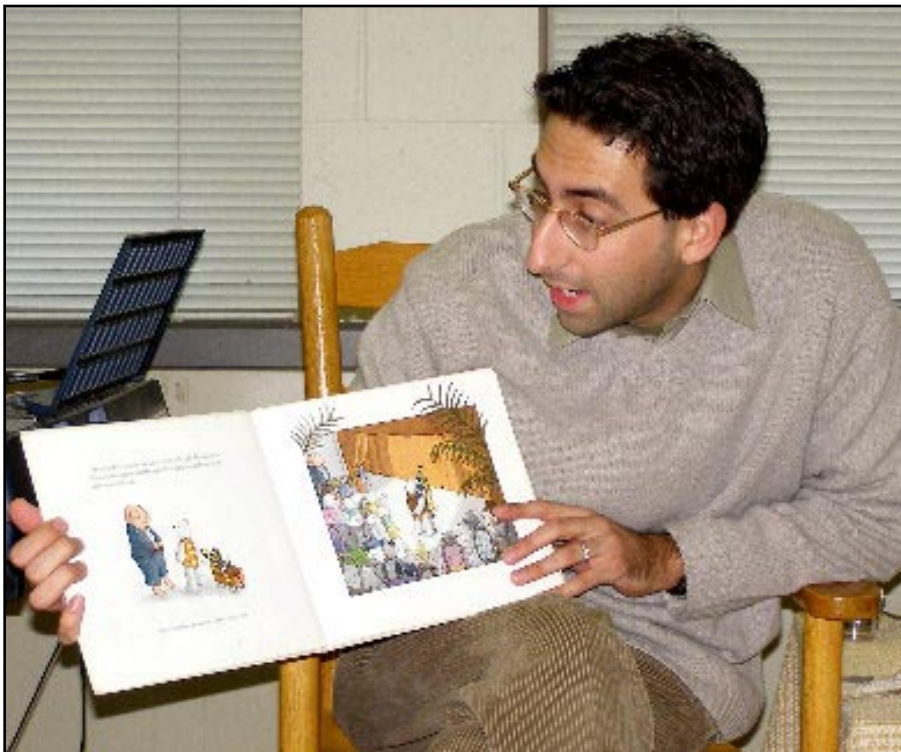
January 12  
Friday In-Service Day  
PUPIL HOLIDAY

January 15  
Monday  
Martin Luther King Day  
SCHOOL HOLIDAY

January 16  
Tuesday  
Parent/Teacher  
Conferences PS & PK  
PUPIL HOLIDAY



Above: A picture from the PS Jingle Bell Celebration December 2005  
At right: Look at what we had on our playground last December 15!



Above: Gabriel Nathan is Friday's guest reader. Gabe is also newly known as "Miss Tenenbaum's husband" (since October 22, 2006!). Mazel tov!

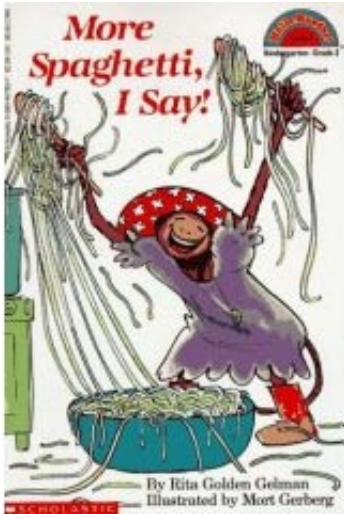
Books we have recently read include:

- Everywhere Babies*, Susan Meyers
- Plaid Bear and the Rude Rabbit Gang*, P. K. Roche
- Hanukkah Lights, Hanukkah Nights*, Leslie Kimmelman
- Light the Lights!*, Margaret Moorman
- Keeping a Christmas Secret*, Phyllis Naylor
- Santa's Crash-Bang Christmas*, Steven Kroll
- The Very Special Baby*, Carol Woodard



**P**otatoes anyone? On Friday teachers carved shapes into the flesh of some potatoes. Preschoolers dipped their homemade stamps into paint and created vegetable art!

Later, teachers carved the first letter of each child's name into a raw potato and dabbed the initials with food coloring. After these potatoes were baked the children enjoyed their monogrammed spuds with butter on top.



Language arts, food, fun!

Inspired by the book by Rita Gelman, Monday's preschoolers snacked on spaghetti.

There were a variety of methods for coaxing the slippery pasta onto forks and into mouths but there was unanimous agreement that it was a very delicious snack!



*Oh, baby, it's cold outside!*

Beginning in January, each preschooler needs to pack a pair of snow pants in his/her backpack each day.

These pants provide an extra layer of warmth on cold mornings.

Snow pants can also protect play clothes when conditions on the playground are muddy or when the sandbox is wet.

Snow pants can also be used for SNOW PLAY! We are keeping our fingers crossed for plenty of the white stuff this year.

*Snow pants need to be packed in the backpack everyday beginning in January. NO BOOTS UNTIL THERE IS SNOW ON THE GROUND.*



Bib-style pants keep the mid-section of the body warmer than pants that only go to the waist. Bib-style pants cannot slide down during active play!



Happy birthday to Emily who turned four years old December 12.



Happy birthday to Lily who turns four years old December 17.



*Naturalist (pinecone, seeds, birds), Tactile*

Some preschoolers have been talking about evergreen trees that have found their way into houses recently. Tr. Jennifer told the class how she found lots of little cocoons that almost look like pine cones on her Christmas tree. We've also noticed the pine cones collecting on the white pines outside our classroom window. It's as if the cones were calling to us! So on Tuesday morning preschoolers painted and glittered pine cone ornaments to decorate their homes and made pine cone bird feeders as a treat for their backyard friends.



*Fine motor, Social Studies (celebrations)*

Have you spun a dreidel lately? When preschoolers play there's no exchange of candies or pennies. We spin just for the joy of spinning! Like any skill, it includes some trial and error, but once mastered, your small hands do have quite a bit of power in them.



*Birth, Drama, Song*

Mary had a baby, yes Lord,  
born in a stable, yes Lord,  
lay him in a manger, yes Lord,  
named him Jesus, yes Lord,  
the shepherd came to visit, yes Lord,  
the kings brought him presents, yes Lord...

*psstst! hey, parents....*

Thursday's backpack will have what a former preschooler once referred to as a "FRAGILE" (fragile/breakable). Please help your child find a suitable hiding place for the gift until your family opens presents together.



*The Twenty Second Soap Challenge*

Turn on the water just enough. Take one squirt of soap. Wet your hands. Start scrubbing. Here comes the challenge. Count to 10 two times and, wow, look at all those bubbles! Now rinse. Turn off the water. Take one towel from the wall. Pat dry. Towel in trash. You did it!



*Spanish with Profesora Adriana*

New vocabulary:

- Feliz Navidad/Merry Christmas
- Abuela/Grandma
- Instrumentos/instruments
- Maracas
- Flauta/flute



Do you remember your first View Master? Preschool has three in the classroom. The slide collection includes several *Discovery* slides of animals in the wild. If you know of any sources where we can find more quality slides let us know; we are always hoping to add to our collection.



*Wednesday, December 13*

Why is there a rope in this spaghetti box?  
(ask your preschooler)

*What would be a good gift for a baby?*



Do you recognize these young tots?

(Pictures from December 2004)



- a bib
- a bed
- blocks
- a binky
- a rattle
- diapers
- a lantern
- a pacifier
- a blanket
- a toy tiger
- a little duck
- a baby chair
- a teddy bear