

***The Epiphany and Winter:***

*The children will discover the earth at rest in this season and the earth's beauty as God's gift to us.*



**Important Dates**

**January 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>: Kindergarten Registration**

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to January. We would like to wish our families a very blessed and happy New Year. We hope that your Christmas holidays were filled with love, peace, joy, and the gift of family and friends.

**Christmas Concert**

The Kindergarten children enjoyed presenting the Christmas Story for their families and friends. We are so proud of each and every one of them for their efforts in preparing for the concert. Thank you for joining us on this very special occasion. We hope you enjoyed their heartfelt gift to you.

**Kindergarten Registration**

We will soon be accepting student registrations for the 2019-2020 school year. The Kindergarten program is offered to children who will be 4 years of age on or before December 31, 2019. If you have a child within this age group, or you know of a friend, relative, or neighbour who is looking for a school for their future Kindergartener, please share this information and ask them to contact the office at 613-258-7457.

**Kindergarten Learning**

We are very pleased with the progress the children are showing. They are developing good “writing” skills and most are holding their pencils appropriately. Thank you for your continued efforts in helping your child to recognize the letters in his/her name and in the alphabet. We have noticed many of the children are keen to learn their “popcorn words” and to begin reading simple poems and books. It is so encouraging to see this development in our young learners. Thank you for providing your child the opportunity to practise these skills at home.

**Library Day**

Please remember to return Library books in your child's mailbag to ensure they stay clean. Your child will be permitted to take out one new book each week provided the previous one is returned. Thank you for helping with this routine.

**Dressing for the Weather**

Please ensure that your child is dressed warmly every day as we will be outside at various times throughout the day. We suggest that the children wear the mittens with the nylon outer shell (i.e. ski-type mittens) in order to keep their hands warm and dry when playing outside. Please continue to label all winter clothing as this will help us to return any misplaced items to the proper child. For safety reasons, we encourage children to wear neck warmers instead of scarves.

Wishing you and your family many blessings throughout the New Year!

Your Partners in Education,

The Kindergarten Team

**Parent/Child Corner**

***Demonstrating Literacy and Mathematics Behaviours***

- \* Read to your child at least 15 minutes per day.
- \* Practise using the words “at the beginning, next, and at the end” when retelling and sequencing stories.
- \* Encourage your child to play with magnetic alphabet letters on the fridge. Talk about the letters and the sound each letter makes.
- \* Practise counting.
- \* Go on a shape hunt. See how many triangles are in your house. Squares? Circles?

***Belonging and Contributing***

- \* Have your child practise giving compliments (by saying nice things to people) and accepting compliments (by saying “thank you”).

***Self-Regulation and Well-Being***

- \* Encourage your child to dress independently (all zippers and fasteners). \*\*Mittens are always last☺

***Problem Solving and Innovating***

- \* Extend your child's play or thinking by asking:
  - Tell me about what you are working on.
  - How does it work?
  - What do you notice?