

December 2017

Tuesday/Thursday with Mrs. Elicker and Mrs. Ellison
Wednesday/Friday with Mrs. Elicker and Mrs. Gartley

Thank you to everyone for sharing part of your day with us to enjoy our special friendship Thanksgiving snack. Thank you also for your donations of fruit. The children loved helping to make our salad, especially chopping those fruits!

December will be a very busy month and full of childhood excitement! Our month will be full of play, learning activities, art, music, and science on the **5 Senses of Christmas**. You are more than welcome to join us for a morning of touching, smelling, tasting, hearing, and seeing all the beauty of the season!

We continue to go outside as much as we can to use our large muscles. Please remember hats and **MITTENS** please. Gloves make it extra hard to get ready independently and 150 fingers take a very long time to get into fingered gloves - playtime would be over before we could get out!

I hope you are hearing some of the songs we sing when you are at home.... One you can practice goes like this:

"Open shut, open shut, that's the way we cut, cut, cut. Fingers on the bottom, thumb on top, do not let the paper drop. Open shut, open shut. That's the way we cut, cut, cut" sung to the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

This little song can be helpful when practicing those important scissor skills. Why are scissor skills so important for your preschooler??? Scissor skills help:

Build Fine Motor Strength

Cutting allows a child to build up the little muscles in their hands with the open and close motion. These muscles are so important for writing, painting, and doing everyday things like brushing your teeth, eating with utensils, and getting dressed.

Develop Eye-Hand Coordination

Cutting requires kids to use their eyes and hands in unison to accomplish the cutting task. Eye-hand coordination is important for catching/throwing balls, eating with a spoon, and zipping a coat.

Increase Bilateral Coordination

Cutting encourages your child to use both sides of the body at the same time while each hand is performing its own task. When cutting a shape, a child must hold the paper with one hand while the other hand is opening and closing the scissors and moving forward to cut. This is essential for tasks like zipping up a coat or pants, washing dishes, and opening an envelope.

Improve Focus and Attention

Cutting out shapes takes concentration and attention to detail. Both skills are necessary for success not only in the classroom but in everyday life. The ability to sustain focus is essential to being able to read books, listen to instruction and complete many other classroom tasks.

Do you have children's scissors at home? They make wonderful stocking stuffers!

ECNS will be closed for Christmas Break Dec. 19 to January 2.

Please note our school weather policy: If E-town Schools are closed, we are closed. If E-town Schools have late arrival we begin at 10:00 AM. However, if E-town schools are open and we decide to close, you will be notified by phone. You will receive a Remind text and our inclement weather information will be posted on Facebook.

<p>Tuesday, Nov 28 & Wednesday, Nov 29</p>  <p>Touch – Christmas Trees</p>	<p>Thursday Nov 30 & Friday Dec 1</p> <p>Sight – Christmas Lights</p> 
<p>Tuesday 5 & Wednesday 6</p> <p>Smell – Cookies & Cinnamon</p> <p>**please bring a brown paper grocery bag**</p> 	<p>Thursday 7 & Friday 8</p> <p>Taste – Peppermint</p> 
<p>Tuesday 12 & Wednesday 13</p> <p>Hear –  Christmas Bells</p>	<p>Thursday 14 & Friday 15</p> <p>Reindeer Games</p> 