



January 2018

Dear parents,

It is exciting to be back in the class room with the children. Starting today, we will be introducing a monthly calendar for the children to use at home. We encourage you to talk about the name of the month as well as the day of the week and date. At home your child may either trace the numeral that corresponds to the date or simply cross off the day. The children will make a new calendar each month until the end of the year. We also will continue practicing name recognition, including first and last names. Soon we will start our name initials.

Many daily themes at Nursery School relate to holidays and seasons. Beginning this month, we also will begin themes related to well-known children's books. I will introduce favorite books and authors, and if you have any family favorites, please let me know. I would enjoy your input. I'll announce ahead of time, or on the door, the title and author of the books I have featured. This is a sample of popular authors. Your librarian can assist you with additional choices. Our topics for the month are:

January 3 & 5    **Dinosaurs**    Both days we will have a dinosaur show and tell opportunity, and you may bring a dinosaur from home. We will show during first circle, and the items will go home the same day. Please put your name on the items. We will create three dimensional dinosaurs from dough and paint them. On January 5th, we will stamp dinosaurs to decorate our letter D page. At home, you might try to help your child think of words that start with the letter D. Please practice the sound that "D" makes.

January 8        **Opposites**        Our book today is Dinosaur Roar by Stickland.

January 10-12    **Winter Weather**    We'll do snow and ice related art and activities.

January 15        **No School**        Martin Luther King Day

January 17        **Winter dressing** and the concept of left and right is the theme for the day. We will read A Hat for Minerva Louise, by Janet Morgan Stoeke. Our letter of the day is Z. We will do zipper rubbings for our Z page. Please continue to work at home on zipping and buttoning winter coats, and we will practice at school.

January 19        **Animals in Winter**    The Mitten, by Jan Brett is a winter folktale about animals that fit into a lost mitten.

January 22        **Alphabet Letters**    The letters climb up the coconut tree in the book Chicka Chicka Boom, by Martin and Archambault.

January 24        **Penguins**        We will use the library traveling truck activities for a favorite story, If You Were a Penguin, by Minor.

January 26-28    **Bears**        We enjoy learning about live bears and books about Corduroy and Winnie the Pooh. Have you read Paddington Bear at home or seen the movie? Karma Wilson has written a series of fictional bear stories, too.

January 31        **Shapes**        We'll make our February calendar using hearts.

Just a reminder- if the Elizabethtown School District closes due to bad weather, we have no school, but if there is a weather-related delay, we have school from 10:00-12:00. This information is broadcast over many television and radio station, will be sent through Student-Announce, and posted on our Facebook page.



Near the end of January, we will have a sign up to schedule parent/teacher conferences. Conferences will be held mid-February, and are an opportunity for you to bring questions and concerns about your child's development. We will be sharing our observations of your child in the Nursery School setting, including social, emotional, cognitive and physical development. We ask that you arrange child care so that your child does not accompany you to the conference.

If any of our themes coincide with your interests, hobbies or work, we would love to have you join us for all or part of the class. Please submit your clearances to the office and give me a call (367-9438) or e-mail [dreigle@etowncns.org](mailto:dreigle@etowncns.org) to let me know. I can also schedule birthday/special day celebrations at your convenience. We appreciate all that you contribute to the Nursery School program. Thanks so much, and have a happy new year!

Mrs. Reigle and Mrs. Ellison