



***Teddy Bears/Honey Bears/Panda Bears
Newsletter
December, 2010***



Ho Ho Ho! Santa Claus is coming to Wah Mei School! We always have lots of fun this time of year decorating the classroom and learning favorite Christmas songs. Check with your child's teachers to help celebrate or bring something to share.

At the end of the month, all classes will be holding Parent-Teacher conferences. A sign-up sheet will soon be available. Sign up early to reserve the time and date that is most convenient for you.

Teddy Bears and Honey Bears Special Thanks:

- Thank you to **Justin's** dad for a more quiet filter.
- Thank you to **Sophia's** dad for working on our class computer.
- Thank you to **Kevin's** parents for helping us to pick up turkeys.
- Thank you to **Aden's** dad for helping so much around the school.
- Thank you to **Kayla's** grandparents for the window shades.
- Thank you to **Eason** for bringing paper.
- Thank you to **Kira** and **Benjamin** for bringing apples.
- Thank you to **Jasmine** for bringing snacks.
- Thank you to all of the parents who donated cereal.

Teddy Bears and Honey Bears Wish List:

- Christmas arts and crafts materials
- A classroom calendar



Teddy Bear and Honey Bear Themes:

English- Let's Go Around the World, 5 Senses, Christmas, New Year

Chinese- Winter Festivals, Christmas, Seasons, New Year

Teddy Bears' and Honey Bears' Special Announcement

As the rainy season begins, entering and leaving Wah Mei School can be challenging. Please check with your child's teacher for which entrance and exit to use. It may seem a little confusing at first. Teddy Bear, Honey Bear, and Panda Bear parents, please avoid using the Busy Bees and Fireflies door if possible. Please try to minimize bringing in excess water from your umbrellas and rain wear. Thank you.

Activity Highlight

Ms. Lee, Lung Sin Saang, and Ms. Sandy would like to invite the Teddy Bear and Honey Bear parents to an activity day. Invitations will be sent later. Come and share activities with your children and their friends on a Christmas theme. We want the parents to experience working together in the classroom and to see how learning takes place in our environment. It will be lots of fun!

The Panda Bears Special Thanks

- Thank you to **Ellie's** mom for emailing and making flyers for parents.
- Thank you to **Neil's** mom for donating more fish and donating another small fish tank to the class.
- Thank you to **Jordan's** grandmother for providing Chinese books to the Panda Bears class.

Panda Bear Themes:

Household Items, Holiday Songs, Numbers, Winter.

Activity Highlight

Healthy Snowman Cookies

The Panda Bears will mix flour, baking soda, salt, sugar, oil, and vanilla extract together while singing a song called "Snowman". Then each child will receive a small piece of dough to knead and shape into a snowman's head, and a big amount of dough to make the snowman's body. Then we'll use different kinds of food such as raisins, small cookies, berries, and bananas. to decorate and personalize the snowmen.

Through this activity, the children will be working on their fine motor skills, math skills, and language. They'll also be learning about snow, nutrition, and music.

Mark your calendars:

12/02	Library (Story)
12/04	Holiday Faire (Saturday, 10a.m. - 3 p.m.)
12/06	Deck the Halls Filed Trip (For older TB kids)
12/09	Library (Holiday Story)
12/10	Kaia, Sophia, and Robert's birthday celebration
12/14	Book Sharing Day
12/16	Library (Film)
12/16	Chloe, Yihua, and Morgan's birthday celebration
12/28	Toy Sharing Day
12/30	Library (Lee Weiss, singer and guitarist)
12/30	Cot Cleaning Day
12/31	No School

.....Ms. Lee, Lung Sin Saang, Ms. Sandy, Ms. Tracy, Zhang Sin Saang, Yeung Sin Saang

Director's Corner:

Dear Parents,

Please join us for all the fun activities at **Holiday Faire** on December 4th. Santa Claus is waiting for your children. How about taking a family picture? Enjoy the gingerbread house decorating and delicious meals.

It's time for parent-teacher conferences. Our teachers would like to share with you about your children's growth and development in all developmental areas using the DRDP assessment tool. Please read the article below and be prepared.

Sincerely yours,

Diana Jung
Director

Are You Ready for Parent-Teacher Conference?

The goal of the conferences is to help your children have a wonderful school year. It's the time that you can sit down with the teachers and discuss your child's strengths and needs. Here are some tips on making the most of the conference.

1. **Be on time.** Conference time is short. Usually teachers schedule back to back meeting time with different parents. A delay of one meeting may affect all the rest.
2. **Prepare ahead of time** the questions you want to ask. Write down all the questions you have, in case you get sidetracked.
3. **Have positive attitude.** If some of the teachers' comments are not encouraging or not what you have expected, try to get more specific information and ask how all of us can do to make a plan for improvement.
4. **Tell the teachers** how the child feels about the school, the teachers, his/her classmates, what h/she has been telling you at home. Give the teachers positive feedback so as to encourage the teachers to do more of the same.
5. If you want to help the teacher better understand the child's behaviors, you may **share with them** some of the personal or family stress you have. Try not to give details, but only general information.
6. If **something is not clear** to you, ask the teachers to explain it again.
7. Ask teachers about **the overall development** of the child, his/her cognitive, language, fine motor, gross motor, social/emotional, self-help skills. Check the child's portfolio to see the child's progress and learning patterns.
8. Ask the teacher **what you can do at home** to complement or reinforce what is learned in the classroom.
9. If it will help, **takes notes** during the conference.
10. If you think you **need more time** or would like to schedule another meeting, don't hesitate to ask the teachers. We are always available.

Hope you have a great conference!