



## John Knox Cooperative Preschool

December 2019 Newsletter

School: 925-828-2887 Registration: 925-413-4636

[www.jkcp.org](http://www.jkcp.org)



### Director's Message

December is a short month of classes with January on the horizon. We will be preparing for our January conferences in the 4am class and Prek class. Our 3-year-old class will be choosing which class to attend in the fall. Please look for a sign-up genius for parents to share their job, hobby or culture in January and February as the children learn about the community around them. We really enjoy learning about our community helpers alongside the children- parents have so much to share.

We all know the song "it's the most wonderful **time** of the year", so let's really take the **time** to enjoy each other, family and traditions this holiday. I say this because your children will see wonder in the simple things. Try to slow down so you too can see the wonder with them during the holidays. Maybe don't create the perfect Hallmark Holiday- that can be so stressful. Instead enjoy the little moments- driving by Christmas lights or a yummy glass of hot cocoa. Play a game or read a story under the Christmas tree. Or for even more fun have your children fall asleep under the tree lights one night.

Instead of a Parents Corner this newsletter, I want to give you this reminder to relax....If you are stressed, your children can be stressed. Keep your routines as much as possible and then add some a few special moments. If you all stay out late one night for fun, sleep in the next morning. Getting enough sleep really helps everyone relax and enjoy the holiday. Children can get more emotional over the holidays- too many toy commercials, too much rushing around, too much of everything and then there is the anticipation of Christmas morning. A good story about all the hustle and bustle in Llama Llama Holiday Drama. Llama doesn't like to wait. He and his Mama rush around and bake cookies and Llama begins to worry if Christmas will ever come. It takes a cuddle from Mama Llama to remind him that "Gifts are nice, but there's another - the true gift is we have each other."

I know the staff and I are so glad for the gift of all of our wonderful Co-op families and we wish you a warm and wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. I know you have heard me say this before- but the gift of your time with your child is the very best gift of all.

Happy Holidays,

Leslie James

## President's Message



Welcome December! I hope you and your family are enjoying this magical and delightful time of year.

I would like to encourage you to create a yearly holiday tradition. It is fun and meaningful to look forward to something that the family does together every year. Mrs. James had a special tradition of sleeping under the Christmas tree with her family. My brother-in-law and his family wander into the same designated forest every year to find their Christmas tree. When my parents were little, both their families would wait until Christmas Eve to put up and decorate the tree. My family has been going to Bob's World which has been a wondrous experience. It does not matter what the tradition is, just so that it's yours!

Thank you all for coming to the Parent Craft Workshops to decorate the capes and masks. There are several more workshops scheduled to complete these special holiday gifts for the children. I have seen some remarkable creations! Also, thanks to everyone for the support with the See's Candy and Games Unlimited Fundraisers. Thank you, Sherry Leong, for organizing the See's Fundraiser. Hopefully, Games Unlimited will be your new go-to for great kids' gifts.

This is such a festive month. The Book Fair will be held Dec 9<sup>th</sup> – Dec 13<sup>th</sup>. It will be set up like a small bookstore in Room C and is a marvelous source for holiday gifts. The Book Fair helps the school earn points as well. Please mark the calendar for your class holiday party. While the parties are only for our children, you might like to arrive at pickup earlier so you can witness the joyous, little faces when the parents' gifts are opened.

From my family to yours, I wish you all a happy and fun-filled holiday season.

Heidi Wallace

JKCP Parent Board President

## Assistant Director's Message



December is here and the countdown to Christmas begins! Our Christmas parties will be on the last day of school before the Christmas break. In the meantime, we'll have some fun Christmas projects and class lessons, and festive holiday music and singing. Check what is happening at our school this month...

### Upcoming events and holidays:

- Monday December 9<sup>th</sup> – **Pre-K** class “**Singing for the Seniors**” Fieldtrip
- Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Party** for **4am** class
- Thursday December 19<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Party** for **3am & Pre-K**
- Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> – Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> – **Christmas Break** – NO SCHOOL (school resumes Tues., Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>)

### Letters of the Week for December

Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> – “K”

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> – “L”

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> – 4am: No Show & Tell (Christmas Party)

Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> – Pre-K: Free choice S & T

\* The Pre-K class will sing Christmas songs for the Pleasanton VIP Seniors Club on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Please look for sign-ups to help chaperone and transport the children to and from this event.

\* The 4am class Christmas party will be held during class on Wednesday, Dec 18<sup>th</sup>. The 3am and Pre-K class parties will be held on Thursday, Dec 19<sup>th</sup>. Please look for the sign-up on the door or by email for food items needed.

*Over the years we have found it best that we do not include parents at the class parties other than the parents working that day. The holidays can be an emotional time for the children, so we try to keep it as low key as possible. You will be invited inside at the end to help them open their gift.*

Please look for paperwork and emails in December regarding 2020-21 registration, description of each class, and tuition information. We know it seems early, but most preschools have registration around the same time. Parents of current students will select their class for next year, then we call siblings, and then the new families on the wait list. For any questions, please contact Alison Jensen at “[registration@jkcp.org](mailto:registration@jkcp.org)”.

We will be having parent/teacher conferences with the 4am and Pre-K classes beginning in mid-January. More information to follow.



Alice Richards – Asst. Director

## A Note About Snack

Thanks to all who have brought snacks so far this year and for remembering no nut products. Just a reminder, as we tell the children, it is just a snack (not a meal) and please try to be on the healthy side. There are so many choices. Cheese, fruit, cereal bars, veggies, muffins, go-gurt etc. For the 3 year old class, please bring it in bulk (not in separate bags when possible) and the staff will hand it out. For 4am and Pre-K, your child will be handing it out so please do bring it in separate bags. We do understand that birthdays call for special treats so of course on your child's birthday bring the snack of their choice.

\*\*\* 'Snack Thank You' for December will be postponed until the January Newsletter\*\*\*

## Upcoming Dates

### 2019-2020

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup>                        | PREK Singing for The Pleasanton Seniors Group |
| Dec. 9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup>      | Scholastic Book Fair (Room C)                 |
| Dec. 20 <sup>th</sup> -Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup> | No School: Christmas Vacation                 |
| January 20 <sup>th</sup>                    | No School: Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday     |
| Jan. TBD                                    | No School: 4am & PreK Conferences             |
| February 14 <sup>th</sup>                   | No School: Following Dublin Unified Schedule  |
| February 17 <sup>th</sup>                   | No School: President's Day                    |
| April 6 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup>    | No School: Spring Break                       |
| May 4 <sup>th</sup>                         | Sulphur Creek 4AM - NO SCHOOL PREK            |
| May 5 <sup>th</sup>                         | Sulphur Creek in-class visit 3AM              |
| May 11 <sup>th</sup>                        | Sulphur Creek PreK - NO SCHOOL 4AM            |
| May 19 <sup>th</sup>                        | Last Day of 3AM class                         |
| May 21 <sup>st</sup>                        | Graduation 4AM class - AM                     |
| May 21 <sup>st</sup>                        | Graduation PreK class - PM                    |
| May 29 <sup>th</sup>                        | Memorial Day                                  |
| May 31 <sup>st</sup>                        | Dublin Unified Schools Out                    |

