



The Junior Kindergarten at Holland Hall

Mrs. Panicker's class

January 2012

Dear Parents,

I wish you all a Happy New Year! I hope all of you enjoyed a wonderful and safe holiday season! The children were excited to be back. They greeted their friends enthusiastically and followed our routines without any hesitation.

Units of study

During the next four weeks we will discuss the various changes winter has brought for the animals and us. We will learn about the five different types of bears. We will discuss their features, habitat, food, adaptation, hibernation, and camouflage. Our pretend center has already been converted into a stuffed bear store and will be transformed into a bear cave for hibernation in two weeks time. **We would like to invite parents, grandparents, and siblings to a special 'Teddy Bear Picnic' on Wednesday, January 25, at 11:30a.m. There will be a short program and you are welcome to stay and eat lunch with your child.** Details for this special event will follow.

Spanish

Maestra Hankins will continue to visit our class on Tuesday at 2:20 p.m. and Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. She will teach words related to our unit of study. Students will show off their **Spanish vocabulary during our teddy bear picnic.**

****Please remember to send a jacket, hat, and gloves everyday****

Curriculum Update

The children in our class are involved in art activities every day. Art helps develop several skills, including fine motor, language development, problem solving, math and science concepts, and creativity. Each unit of study has its own unique art activities. The children are involved in two kinds of art- project and process. Project art involves a product children create with the materials provided and their own creativity. Children learn to follow directions and sequence steps to arrive at an end product. Most of these projects are representational art. Process art allows the children to experiment with different media to achieve a unique piece of work. They determine the outcome of their projects. This instills self-confidence and decision-making skills. When your child brings home art work, have him/her

tell you about it. Be careful not to ask, “What is this?” or to say something like, “I love your house” (it might not be a house!). Simply say, “Tell me about your work” or “How did you do this?” Make comments such as, “I like the colors you used” or “I like your design.” It is important to display their work at home or at your work.

Holland Hall Website (www.hollandhall.org)

Be sure to check our lesson plans, newsletters, and all school activities on the web.

Parent Readers for January

Friday, January 6

Friday, January 13

Friday, January 20

Friday, January 27

Mrs. Beckwith

Mr. Kelley

Mr. Smith

Mr. Mahan

Dates to Remember

January 16

January 25

Martin Luther King Jr. Day – **No classes**

Teddy bear picnic at 11:30a.m.



Happy New Year

