

MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD EARLY LEARNING CENTER

2023 DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING

SNOWY MORNINGS...Due to dangerous road conditions on snowy or icy mornings the ELC may be closed on occasion. As mentioned in the last newsletter you may also look for school closings, and early dismissal information on channels 4 and 9. If the “big school” is closed, or DPS closes, we will be closed.

ARRIVAL...When dropping off or picking up your child please be aware that we have had valuables stolen from cars. Do not leave your car unlocked and running or valuables (especially children) in the car.

CLOTHES...Each child needs a change of clothes (or two) in their cubby labeled properly. Please don't forget to send jackets, hats, mittens, boots, etc. on cold/snowy days.

COMFORT...Each child needs a small blanket for rest/naptime. Please label and take-home weekly to wash.

FAMILY-TO-FAMILY PROGRAM

Thank you to all who signed up to buy a gift card for our adopted families this year. If you have not turned in your gift card please have it to the office by Wednesday, December 13th.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SUN. DEC. 3rd
WED. DEC. 6th
SUN. DEC. 10th
WED. DEC. 13th
SUN. DEC. 17th
WED. DEC. 20th
SUN. DEC. 24th
FRI. DEC. 22nd Thru
MON. JAN. 1st

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FEAST OF SAINT NICHOLAS
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FAMILY TO FAMILY GIFT CARDS DUE
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
POLAR EXPRESS PARTY
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHRISTMAS BREAK – ELC CLOSED



CURRICULUM

This month we will be focusing on Advent and the Christmas Season. We will be using Advent Calendars and Advent Wreaths to celebrate daily in each classroom. Your children have also received an Advent Chain. We make Advent Chains to count the days until Christmas, “Jesus’ Birthday”. Advent Chains are a wonderful way to start the Advent season for young children with a sense of meaning and purpose in anticipation of the many graces given during the liturgical season.

SAFETY

The first week of December we will have the following safety drills. Monday, fire drill, Tuesday, secure the perimeter, or lockout, and Thursday, lockdown drill. I also have some good news regarding safety. The ELC has received a grant from the Tracy Foundation. We will be using the grant money to replace the glass on the interior door, as well as the glass windows looking in on Ms. Dawn's office, and the library. The current glass will be replaced with shatterproof glass. When I know more regarding installation, etc. I will let you know.

PROCARE FEES

The ELC started using ProCare during the summer of 2022. For the past year and a half, the ELC has absorbed the fees that are charged when a payment is made with a credit card. Our budget can no longer absorb the fees for credit cards. Beginning in January if you choose to make your tuition payment with a credit card you will be charged the fee that accompanies that card. If you choose to make your tuition payment with a bank card or ACH, the ELC will absorb the fee. If you have any questions regarding this change, please let me know.

TRANSITIONS

Children transition from one activity to the next throughout their day at preschool. The ELC staff use a variety of techniques to make transitions easier for the children. A few of the techniques we use are timers, bells, yoga, singing, and visual schedules. This month a transition handout will go home with the December newsletter. This handout has transition strategies and tips for parents. The next big transition will come when the kids head back to school after Christmas break. If your child has a hard time, getting dropped off in the morning, you may want to try one of the transition strategies on the handouts.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM & PARTY

The staff is busy preparing the children for our upcoming Christmas program. The program will be held on Friday, December 15th at 10:30a.m. in the church. Please drop your child off at the ELC before the program by 9:30a.m. The children will be given a quick snack, and then they will be walked over to the church for the program. Children should be dressed in their best "Christmas attire". If your child attends school on Friday, please pack a cold lunch as hot lunch will not be available. After the program concludes the staff will walk the students back to the ELC. Parents can then pick up their children in the classroom. Parents are invited to attend a coffee before the program in the parish center from 9:30 to 10:15. We hope you can join us on this special day!

YOUR CHILD'S FILE

Before heading off to the doctor's office for your child's annual check-up, please check in with the office and pick up a physical form and/or immunization card. We are required by Human Services to have up to date files on all the children attending the ELC. Thank you!

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE STAFF!