



Dear Parents,

At the time of this writing, the Chickadees are amidst the hustle and bustle of the holiday season. It's hard to imagine that another year has come and gone! We hope your holidays were filled with wonderful times and memories. We give special thanks to our families for your support during the past weeks and months helping in the classroom and generously donating toward activities. The genuine interest shown by our families in your child's school life is most appreciated by our teaching staff.

### ***Looking Back...***

We kicked off the month of December by talking about gingerbread. We read several variations of the classic Gingerbread Man and even baked our own gingerbread cookies! Thankfully ours did not run away! We created gingerbread houses with frosting and candies. Our children dreamed of sugar plums dancing in their heads.

The remaining weeks we were preparing for and celebrating the Christmas season. The Chickadees were enthusiastic to learn about holiday traditions. The children were busy creating classroom decorations, decorating and re-decorating the Christmas tree, making presents, gift wrapping, singing carols and reading lots of holiday stories. We enjoyed dictating "Dear Santa" letters and many families were entertained reading them! The Chickadees had a blast with David Landau, musician and guitarist, who entertained the children brilliantly with songs, movement and music. The grand finale was the school's tradition of "Cookies 'n Carols" and a visit from "the jolly old elf, himself"!

### ***Looking Ahead...***

#### **4K Information Meeting**

Informational Parent Meetings about \*4K program for 2012-13 for residents of Hartland/Lakeside & Kettle Moraine School Districts will be held Thursday, Jan. 12, 6:30 pm for Kettle Moraine School District at Wales Elementary School and Monday, Jan. 23, 6:30 pm for Hartland/Lakeside School District at North Shore Middle School.

#### **JANUARY TOPIC & ACTIVITIES**

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The Chickadees will ease back into the groove of school after our holiday break and focus on snow people, polar bears and penguins. Starting in January, the Chickadees will begin tracing their names and placing them in the mailbox.



### **Special Dates:**

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Jan. 12th</b>        | <b><u>Scholastic book orders due to the office</u></b> -Make one check payable to Wee Know School for your entire order.     |
| <b>Jan. 12</b>          | Kettle Moraine School District 4K Information Meeting - 6:30pm, Wales Elementary   |
| <b>Jan. 23</b>          | Hartland/Lakeside School District 4K Information Meeting - 6:30 pm at North Shore Middle School                              |
| <b>Jan. 23</b>          | <b><u>Present Family Registration Begins.</u></b>  |
| <b>Jan. 24 &amp; 25</b> | <b><u>School Pictures by Mortensen Photography...</u></b> See school news for details.                                       |
| <b>Jan 30</b>           | <b><u>School House Players</u></b> present, "The Elves and The Shoemaker" at 10 am. in the gym. See school news for details. |
| <b>Feb 1</b>            | <b><u>Midwest Twisters Fieldtrip</u></b> – check permission slip coming out later this month for details                     |

### **Cold & Flu Season...It's Here!**

As you know, the cold and flu season is upon us. Work with your children on hand washing skills, coughing & sneezing into elbows and using tissue for their noses. **Please remember:** when you send your sick child to school, it spreads the illness to other students, teachers and families. When your child is sent home with an illness, he/she needs to be symptom free (without medication) for 24 hours before coming back to school. Any medications for coughs, inhalers, or antibiotics need to have a school form completed, per State of Wisconsin Codes. Finally, it is important for parents to have a plan in place ahead of time for when your child is sick.

### **OUTDOOR CLOTHING REMINDERS**

We will be outside daily when the temperature/wind chill is 20 degrees or above and conditions are not too wet.



- **Winter jackets, hats and mittens are needed daily.**
- When weather is snowy or sloppy bring snow pants and boots, as well.
- Look for wet hats on the red post and mittens on the hanging drying rack by the boot shelf.
- Work with your child on dressing independently at home.
- **LABEL EVERYTHING WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME!** Label both mittens and both boots.

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

Here are some suggestions to make snack and lunchtime easier for your child. We want to promote independence in our Chickadees! Cut sandwiches in 1/2 or 1/4's. Peel orange and slice apples.

### **NAPTIME**

If your child is napping at school, **please provide a pillow and warm sleeping bag.** Pillows are important for comfort and help with positioning for coughs & stuffy noses. School pillows are not allowed to be used by children for naps.

### **VOLUNTEERS WELCOME**

The Chickadee classroom welcomes any volunteers (parents, grandparents, special friends & relatives). Come and read a favorite story, share an interest, cook with the class or just visit for a morning. You will be received with lots of hugs and admiration! Talk with a teacher if interested.

### **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**



Mallory 1/14



*Sincerely,*

*Amanda Meyer Pam Semler Rikki Callison*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**