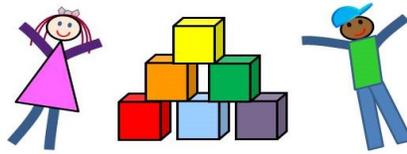


First Church Early Learning Center



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December 2017



Dear Parents,

As we prepare for the holidays, thank you to those of you who donated non-perishable canned goods to the Windsor Food Bank. In addition, we are excited to say that we were able to raise over \$450 to put towards our school's scholarship fund through the sale of our class pictures fundraiser. We greatly appreciate your support for our school as well as the Windsor community.

Flu shots are a mandatory requirement by the State of Connecticut. If your child has not already received their flu shot, please have them get one as soon as possible. First Church Early Learning Center must receive documentation about your child's flu shot by Friday, December 29, 2017, for him or her to be able to return to school in January. Medical and religious exemption forms are available in the office but must be signed off on by the doctor or notarized based on the type of form. Please see Laurel Slate or myself as soon as possible if you have any questions.

We here at First Church Early Learning Center hope you have a wonderful time celebrating the holidays with your family and friends!

Sincerely,
Elith Howard

Events

December 8 — Full Day care needs for the week between Christmas and New Years' Day forms due

December 12 — Hanukkah begins

December 20 — Holiday Sing-A-Long: Mrs. Mitton & Mrs. Drangenis' class, Mrs. Sherman & Mrs. Pitter's class, and Ms. Sanborn & Mrs. Kopacz's MWTh, M-F, MW, and MWF classes

December 21 — Holiday Sing-A-Long: Mrs. Mitton & Mrs. Drangenis' class, Mrs. Sherman & Mrs. Pitter's class, and Ms. Sanborn & Mrs. Kopacz's MTuTh and TuTh classes

December 21 — First Day of Winter

December 25 — **CLOSED** Christmas Day

December 25 — **January 1** — Ms. Sanborn and Mrs. Kopacz's classes **CLOSED** for Holiday Break

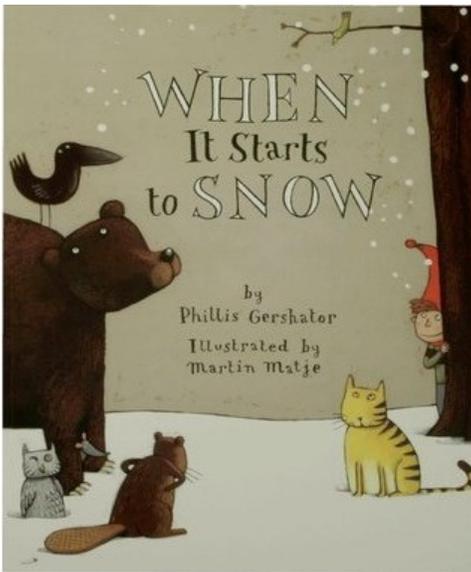
December 26 — Kwanzaa begins

December 29 — **Flu shot documentation due to the FCELC office**

First Church Early Learning Center wins Windsor Bridge Builder Award

On Thursday, November 30, 2017, First Church Early Learning Center (FCELC) was presented with a Windsor Bridge Builder award by the Windsor Human Relations Commission. FCELC won this award as a result of their continued work with and for children and their families over the past 61 years. Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) since 1986, FCELC continues to provide a high quality early education experience. In addition to donations made to various community organizations, First Church Early Learning Center has a total of 30 School Readiness spots for preschool children in the Town of Windsor who are income eligible to help provide children with the benefit of the best foundation possible as they prepare for kindergarten and beyond. Keep up the great work!!





Mrs. Sherman and Mrs. Pitter's classroom read When it Starts to Snow by Phillis Gershator. In discussing this book, the children were able to find out more about where different animals go and what they do when it starts to snow. They learned that some animals hibernate, and though some birds migrate south, others stay here in the cold weather of the north. By using mini bagels, cream cheese, and a corn based bird food, the children were able to make delicious bird/animal feeders to be sure that the animals that are here throughout the winter have something good to eat!



During the literacy activity as well as the cooking activity, the teachers were able to observe the children meeting various performance standards and benchmarks from the Connecticut State Department of Education Preschool Assessment Framework.

Benchmarks from the literacy activity include: Cognitive 8: Uses complex sentences and vocabulary to describe ideas and experiences, Cognitive 9: Understands and participates in conversations, and Cognitive 10: Shows understanding of stories

Benchmarks from the cooking activity include: Personal/Social 2: Sustains attention to task/goal that child has set out to accomplish, Personal/Social 7: Interacts cooperatively with peers, Participates in teacher-lead group activities, Physical 2: Uses coordinated small muscle movements, Cognitive 5: Compares and orders objects and events, and Cognitive 6: Relates number to quantity