



December 2021

THE GUIDING LIGHT

Monthly Newsletter

Important Events

12/1: National Pie Day
12/6: Hanukkah Ends
12/7: National Cotton Candy Day
12/8: National Brownie Day
12/9: Letters to Santa are due
12/10: Gingerbread Houses are Due
12/13: Wear **RED** and **GREEN** Holiday Colors
12/14: Wear your Festive Holiday Shirt
12/15: Dress as your Favorite Holiday Character
12/16: Wear your Holiday Hats
12/16: Holiday Music Recital
12/17: Wear your Ugly Holiday Sweaters
12/17: Classroom Holiday Parties @3PM
12/21: Pajama Day
12/24: **School is CLOSED**
12/30: Pajama Day
12/31: **School is CLOSED**

IN THE NEWS

- Happy Holidays to everyone! We have lots of activities planned for this month. Be sure to check our December important events section for key dates and information on **School Holiday Hours**. **We will be Closed December 24, Christmas Day Eve. We will be closed on December 31, New Year's Eve.** Please confirm your child's attendance for the Holiday weeks by emailing us your plans.
- This month every classroom will have our Annual Holiday Book Exchange on Friday, December 17th. Your child can bring a new book as a gift and receive one in return. Write "From: (your child's name)" on the inside of the cover so each child knows who the book they received is from. It will be a fun gift exchange for all ages! (rooms 6-9)
- We hope all of our families have a wonderful and joyful holiday season. All of us here at Childrens Lighthouse would like to thank each and every parent for entrusting us with your child's care every day. We strive to provide quality care and would like to hear from you should you have any concerns or suggestions. Again, Thank you for choosing us as your child's early childhood educators.

What is Kwanzaa?

Kwanzaa starts on Saturday, December 26 and ends on Friday, January 1. The celebration of Kwanzaa includes an acknowledgment and honoring of its seven principles, known as Nguzu Saba. Each day of Kwanzaa emphasizes a new principle, and the evening candle-lighting ceremony provides an opportunity to discuss the principle and its meaning. The first night the black candle in the center is lit and the principle of Umoja (Unity) is discussed. The principles include:

Umoja (Unity): maintaining unity as a family, community and race of people.

Kujichagulia (Self-Determination): defining, naming and creating and speaking for ourselves.

Ujima (Collective Work and Responsibility): building and maintaining our community--solving problems together.

Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) building and maintaining retail stores and other businesses and to profit from these ventures.

Nia (Purpose): work collectively to build communities that will restore the greatness of African people.

Kuumba (Creativity): to find new, innovative ways to leave communities of African descent in more beautiful and beneficial ways than the community inherited.

Imani (Faith): the belief in God, family, heritage, leaders and others that will leave to the victory of Africans around the world.

What is Hanukkah?

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday which celebrates the victory of the Maccabees over the larger Syrian army. It also celebrates a miracle that happened during this time, where just a day's supply of oil allowed the menorah in the rededicated Temple in Jerusalem to remain lit for eight days.



Holiday Spirit Week

December 13-17

Monday: Wear GREEN and RED Holiday Colors.

Tuesday: Wear your Festive Holiday Shirt.

Wednesday: Dress as your favorite Character.
(Ex- Frosty, Grinch, Santa, Elf's, or Rudolph)

Thursday: Wear your Holiday Hats.

Festive Friday: Wear your Ugly Holiday Sweaters.



Our annual holiday book exchange will be on Friday, December 17, during our holiday party. Your child can bring a new book as a gift, and receive one in return. Write "From: (Your child's name)" on the inside cover so each child knows who the book they received is from. It will be a fun exchange for all ages! (rooms 6-9)

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear Parents,

It's the most wonderful time of the year! I am so excited about the month of December, It is one of my favorite times of the year. So much celebration! We have packed December with plenty of fun activities for our children. We hope to make it a joyous time for you and them.

Our Weather is hard to predict. Please send your child with a coat or jacket that is clearly marked with their name. We will always take time for regular or limited outside time when the weather permits.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and my sincere thanks for your trust and encouragement throughout the year. Your child is so important to us and we feel it is a great honor to share in helping them grow. May you have the gladness of Christmas, which is hope; the spirit of Christmas, which is Peace; the heart of Christmas, which is love!

Thankfully yours,

-CLLC Administration

Gingerbread House Decorating Contest

We invite you to enter your creatively decorated gingerbread house for a chance to win tuition \$\$\$.

All entries are due by Friday, December 10. We will post pictures of the gingerbread houses on our Childrens Lighthouse Facebook page. There will be 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Winners will be based by the amount of likes on the Facebook photo. Winners will be announced on Tuesday, December 14.



Happy Birthday!

Adeline R.	12/2
Sophia C.	12/10
Zuri J.	12/14
Audrey S.	12/17
Cody C.	12/20
Elayna A.	12/20
Yansh B.	12/27
Elijah A.	12/28
Luke N.	12/30

Teacher's Birthdays!

Mrs. Connie	12/18
Mrs. Sadia	12/28



December Curriculum

Infant Innovations

Theme: Sounds

Song: Old MacDonald Had a Farm

Rhyme/Finger-Plays: Open, Shut Them

Shape: Stars

Color: Red and Green

Toddler Innovations

Theme: My Neighborhood

Song: The Muffin Man

Sign: Play

Rhyme/Finger-Plays: Big Steps, Little Steps

Shape: Triangle

Color: Red and Gree

C.A.R.E.S. Preschool:

Theme: Dinosaurs, Holidays Around the World, Five Senses

Character Value: Patience

Monthly Letter Focus: Dd, Ee, Hh, and Review

Book of the Month: The Gingerbread Man

C.A.R.E.S. Pre-K/ APK

Theme: Dinosaurs, Holidays Around the World, Five Senses

Character Value: Patience

Word Families: -ell, -ay, and Review

Sight Words: Down, I, Me, My, Up

Artist of the Month: Pablo Picasso