



## Early Learning Academy DECEMBER 2008 NEWSLETTER

### THANK YOU

To all the parents who attended and brought sumptuous dishes to our Thanksgiving Party, we appreciate you, and I hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. Thank you!

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled this month. This is a great opportunity for you to talk to your child's teacher one on one. Please note, however, that for us to be able to accommodate everyone, we cannot reschedule missed appointments.

### DECEMBER CALENDAR

**December 1** – Bring child's present

**December 1 – 5**

Parent/Teacher Conferences for the Panda & Caterpillar Classes

**December 12**

9:30 AM – Santa Claus Visits  
(children only)

10:30 AM - Holiday Program/Party  
(Parents are welcome to come)

**December 25 – January 2**

Winter Recess **School Closed**

### HAPPY DECEMBER BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to dear Drake Canete, Ryan Hilliard, and Jessica West.

### BIRTHDAY BOOK

On your child's birthday, he/she may donate a book to the school.

### SANTA VISITS E.L.A.

Santa will visit our school on Friday, December 12th at 9:30 AM; this event is for the children only. I am sure your child has already told you what he or she wants from Santa Claus. This will be your chance to let Santa give his gift to your child personally. Please bring the present, wrapped, with your child's name on it by December 1.

### HOLIDAY PROGRAM & PARTY

Mark the date, December 12<sup>th</sup>, because you won't want to miss this celebration! Join us at our Holiday Program and Potluck Lunch at 10:30 AM. It has been an Early Learning Academy tradition that each family brings a dish to share. A sign - up sheet will be posted on the door.

# PARENT'S CORNER

## SHARING IS LEARNING

Young children have a hard time understanding the concept of sharing. They are *egocentric* – that is, they are at a stage where they view themselves as the center of the world and see the world only from their own perspective. They do not easily see the viewpoint of another person.

As parents and teachers, we sometimes mistake egocentricity for selfishness. But they are not the same. Egocentricity refers to the total inability to see another's viewpoint. It is normal in young children. Selfishness, on the other hand, is doing something for one's benefit, knowing that it may inconvenience or even hurt someone.

Sharing is a learned behavior. It is up to us to instill in our children the value of sharing. We can help kids learn to express their feelings and understand the feelings of others. At the same time, we should not shame any child for not sharing.

Most children do not begin to *de-center* until they turn 5 or 6, when they begin to see themselves in relation to other children. Even then, some traces of egocentricity remain until 11 or 12. Instilling the values of sharing requires continuous support and encouragement by teachers and parents.

Please encourage your child to bring something to share for Show and Tell every Tuesday. Your child may bring a favorite snack to share with her/his friends, too.

## HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD

Throughout the month of December, the children will be learning about how children around the world celebrate the holidays. They will participate in cooking projects and art projects such as making a Star of David. They will learn the traditions from a variety of countries.

If you have a special family custom or a tradition that you celebrate each year, we would love to learn about it.

No matter which occasion or tradition your family follows, make it a perfect season for the whole family to gather together. It's also a great opportunity to create your own family traditions.

Here are some fun poems and songs for you and your kids.

### I'm A Little Snowman

(Tune: I'm A Little Teapot)

I'm a little snowman, short and fat.

Here is my broomstick, here is my hat.

When the sun comes out, I melt away.

Down, down, down, whoops...

I'm a puddle. (spoken)

### The Chimney

Here is the chimney (fist)

Here is the top (other hand over fist)

Open the lid (remove hand)

Out Santa will pop (pop up thumb)

### Candles of Hanukkah

Burn little candles

Burn, burn, burn

Hanukkah is here.

Burn little candles

Burn, burn, burn

Burning bright and clear.

# Children's Corner

## Who is Santa Claus?

Amir Aslanbaigi – Daddy.

Grace Bajek – A big fat person.

Drake Canete – He gives you presents.

Kimorah Castaneda – Mommy.

John Paul Cosino – He brings something, rice.

Sujean Doo – He gives us presents.

Lea Elarde – He brings toys.

Victor Espinoza – He brings presents.

Kira Federoff – Santa is coming.

Ryan Hilliard – From the reindeers.

Elizabeth Langley – He brings toys.

Kiely Madrid – He brings toys.

Carlos Mayorga – He is the one who gives us toys.

Samantha Santiago – He brings toys.

Jada Stine – He gives us presents.

Gabriela Tamacas – He gives presents to those who are being good.

Tito Toribio – He brings presents.

Jessica West – He brings presents.

Vinnesa Whitaker – He brings presents to everybody.

# Learning Corner

Theme: Spirit of the Season

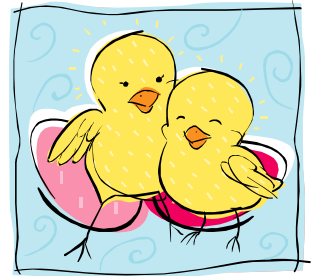
Shape: Star

Color: **Purple**

## Chicks:

Letters – J, K, L

Number – 3



## Pandas:

Letters – J, K, L

Number - 5



## Caterpillars :

Letters – Review Hh – Ii, Jj, Kk

Numbers – 9, 10



The children will be working on many exciting holiday art projects. They will learn the real meaning of the holidays, which is giving and sharing.



→ DON'T  
FORGET!

# Reminders



PLEASE!!

## **SHARE THE JOY**

Parents are encouraged to help out by spreading the news to prospective parents about what a great program Early Learning Academy has. Please know that we really appreciate your support and recruitment efforts!

### **Parents, you are our best advertisers!**

Please pass flyers on to a friend or neighbor with preschool children. You will be assisting them with their search and will keep enrollment strong at Early Learning Academy. We are currently offering \$100 off the first month's tuition for **new students**.

### **No Refunds or Credit**

We do not offer refunds or tuition credit for vacation or illnesses and when school is closed.