



## December, 2011

Dear Parents,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents who took time from their busy schedules to help with all of our fall activities. We want to thank everyone who sold Yankee Candles, donated items for our fall festival and donated items from our center's needs tree. With the money raised from our Yankee Candle Fundraiser we were able to furnish the remaining classrooms with resting cots and sheets. We also purchased 6 trikes, 2 train sets with train tables, 2 doll houses, and a new safety crib and evacuation kit for our infant room and were able to install a new light by our front door. Thank you again to all of you who worked so hard selling those candles. We appreciate your support and generosity.

During the month of December, we will be learning about how children in different countries celebrate the holidays. We will be learning about what "customs" are and we will compare the customs of different countries to the way each child celebrates their own holiday. We are asking families to share their traditions with us and maybe come into the classroom and read a story or prepare a special craft with the children. Please see me if you are interested or have any bits of information that you would like to share with us about your traditions.

Our curriculum themes for the month of December are:

Week 1 – Getting Ready for Winter

Week 2 – Night and Day- We will be learning about the solar system and what happens while we are asleep. We will be also having a pajama party on December 8<sup>th</sup>. (More information to follow).

Week 3 - Christmas Around the World – We are asking for volunteers to help share holiday customs and tradition with the children.

Week 4 - Teacher's Choice – The teachers will use their creativity to create a special week for the children.

Week 5 – Happy New Year- We will be celebrating the arrival of 2012.

Please remember to dress your child warmly for the approaching winter weather. We do go outside even in the snow unless the temperatures are dangerously cold or there is a dangerous wind chill factor. Please make sure that your child has a complete set of winter gear at the center each day. This should include a snowsuit, hat, mittens, and boots. All items must be labeled with a permanent marker.

Once again, Webster Child Care Collaborative is working in collaboration with the Webster Police Department to collect coats, hats, scarves and gloves for those who are in need. The items should be clean and in good condition. There will be a decorated box in the foyer for your convenience at drop off and pick up time. We will be discussing the spirit of giving with the children throughout the month. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

The staff of Webster Child Care Collaborative wishes all of you and your families a happy and healthy holiday season. Please remember that we will be closed on December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2nd to celebrate the Christmas and New Years holiday.

Happy Holidays!