



December 2018 Newsletter

BELMONT WEEKDAY SCHOOL

DECEMBER TUITION

The Weekday School will be closed for the holidays December 22, 2018 through January 6, 2019. We will need to receive your December tuition or any outstanding before care/aftercare payment by December 17th. This is our financial year-end and we need to close out the books. If you need your check held until the end of the month, please write December 29th in the memo line of your check. Thank you.

Summer & Fall 2019 ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

When we return to school in January, after the Winter Break, we will begin the process of enrollment for the summer and fall sessions of 2019. You will be able to choose what days of the week you would like for your child(ren) to attend.

Please note that forms will be sent home by January 9th and Registration fees will be due to the office no later than January 16th, 2019.

Fees are as follows:

Summer:

Registration Fee: \$110

Fall:

Registration Fee: \$250

With Christmas around the corner, we wanted to make you aware of this added January expense so that you can budget accordingly.

Please complete and promptly return your forms with the applicable fees. Placement for the next school session is on a first-come, first-serve basis, so be on the lookout for the forms and respond quickly.

Also, if your child has a younger sibling you would like to enroll, you will need to contact the office with this information. We have a waiting list for all classes and you will need to be placed on the waiting list. Please do not "assume" you are on the waiting list. If you haven't spoken directly to someone in the office, then your child has not been put on the list. While siblings do get priority on the waiting list, placement and choice of day is prioritized based on the date your child was placed on the waiting list. We have had to waitlist siblings of current families in previous years due to a surge in sibling registration.



CURRENT HEALTH EXAM FORMS

A representative from the Metro Public Health Department will be visiting the Weekday School soon to inspect all children's files for current immunization records and health exams. All health exams must be completed within the last year.



We are not asking you to make a special trip to the pediatrician's office. Chances are, you already have up-to-date exams and immunizations. We only ask that you contact your pediatrician's office and ask them to send us an up-to-date record for your child(ren). In the future, please remember to have current records sent any time your child(ren) receives immunizations or obtains a well visit exam.

The Health Department may prohibit your child's access to the Weekday School if this form is not on file in a timely manner.

Please have the form faxed to 615-386-3298.

We thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

BWDS COLD WEATHER POLICY

Cold weather is here! Please do not forget to dress your child in cold weather attire when necessary. Also, it is time to change out the extra clothes in your child's cubby so they are seasonally appropriate. We will continue to go outside, so please bring a coat, hat, and gloves (labeled). We want to make sure your child is clothed appropriately to go outside and enjoy the fresh air. This is a great way to reduce germs in the school.

Please remember: If your child is well enough to be at school, he/she is well enough to play outside.

Snow could be in the forecast with the winter weather. To find out if the WDS is open or closed during snow days, please watch Channel 2 (WKRN), Channel 4 (WSMV), or Channel 5 (WTVF) as early as 6:30am as well as, 5:00pm, 6:00pm, and 10:00pm. We will also send out email notifications through our WDS list serve - please make sure that we have an updated and correct email address. In addition to emails, we post our closings or delays on Facebook and Twitter.



*****PLEASE NOTE*****

We do not follow Metro's School System, so please watch Channels 2, 4, or 5, and check your email for the most up-to-date information.

NEED OF THE MONTH

None for December

There is no “Need of the Month” for the month of December. Please be on the lookout for new needs in future months.



2018-2019 Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

- 12/5:** WDS 3 Star Assessment Visit
- 12/7:** Teachers’ Holiday Luncheon
- 12/21:** Holiday Celebration - Sanctuary
WDS Closes at 12:00pm
- 12/22-1/6/2019:** Christmas Holidays
WDS CLOSED

JANUARY

- 1/7:** WDS Classes Resume
- 1/21:** Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Birthday
WDS CLOSED

FEBRUARY

- 2/14:** Valentine’s Parties - individual classrooms

MARCH

- TBD:** Parent’s Night Out Fundraiser
- 3/11-3/15:** Spring Break **WDS CLOSED**
- 3/29:** Spring Luncheon
- Community Center

APRIL

- 4/18:** Parent Teacher Conferences
WDS CLOSED
- 4/19:** Good Friday **WDS CLOSED**

MAY

- 5/9 & 5/10:** Mother’s Day Coffee & Treats - WDS Hallways
- 5/17:** Pre-K 4’s & Pre-K 5’s Graduation - Sanctuary
- 5/20:** End of the Year Celebration Picnic
Last Day of Spring Session 2019
- 5/21 - 5/24:** Teacher In-Service
WDS CLOSED
- 5/27:** Memorial Day **WDS CLOSED**
- 5/28:** First Day of Summer Session 2019



CLASSROOM NEWS

INFANTS

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way! Oh what fun it is to play in Infants every day!

November has passed in the blink of an eye and all of the children are changing daily! During this last month, we enjoyed making chalk pilgrim hats, painting with feathers, using glue for the first time to glue feathers on a turkey, participating in a Cornucopia Petting Zoo (which allowed us to touch and experience fall produce), and beginning to learn about holidays around the world. We spent the last week of November celebrating Christmas around the globe with activities based on Christmas celebrations in Mexico, Germany, and the Netherlands. We will continue in December with Hanukkah activities, Kwanzaa activities, and finish up before break with activities based on Christmas celebrations in Australia and Sweden. We will continue working on self-

feeding with a spoon, using a napkin, and learning to play appropriately with classmates. We are looking forward to the holiday season and excited to see how the infants react to the activities we have planned!



Ms. Amy Kathryn
and Ms. Tahnee

TODDLERS



November in the Toddler room was an eventful time! We loved celebrating our birthdays and almost all of us are 2 now. We only have a few more birthdays remaining and we can't wait to celebrate each of our friends turning 2. Just a reminder that you may bring in a sweet treat on your birthday to share with the class if you would like.

This month we loved learning about Thanksgiving. We talked about all of the things we are thankful for, like our Moms and

Dads, circle crackers, and of course, Elmo! We also loved baking a lot of yummy treats like pumpkin pie and pumpkin bread. It was so much fun to stir all of the ingredients together and see how food is made. Our favorite sensory activity this month was playing with foam. We loved putting the cars in it! We had a delicious feast for Thanksgiving and we enjoyed all the different types of food. We even got to wear pilgrim hats and eat by candlelight.

December is going to be a great month! We are learning about "Holidays Around the World" and snow. We are looking forward to making gingerbread houses, ornaments, and having a Polar Express day. We are also very thrilled to be participating in the Christmas program this year. We look forward to all of our parents being able to see us perform.

Ms. Hannah, Ms. Jennifer, and Ms. Rachel

TWOS

It has been another eventful, amazing month in the Twos' Classroom! November was a blast, and filled with exciting activities. We talked about several different topics, including turkeys, being thankful, Thanksgiving and feelings/emotions. Our students loved singing Thanksgiving songs, such as "Super Turkey", playing in our cranberry sensory center, and having our annual Thanksgiving feasts! We want to again thank our parents for their participation and helping us make the feast an enjoyable event for the students.

We are looking forward to an equally

amazing month in December. We cannot wait for our annual Christmas program, when our class will be singing "Jingle Bells". In December, we will also be discussing different topics such as the Gingerbread Man, Holidays Around the World, and Christmas.

Also, please remember that BWDS will be closed for Christmas break, from December 22nd until January 6th. December 21st will be a half day, and we will be closing at noon. We hope everyone has a safe and merry Christmas!



Ms. Brittany, Ms. Megan, and Ms. Shelby

NEARLY THREES

It is hard to believe November is over and December is here. Soon, we will be facing a whole new year together. In November, we learned all about healthy foods and what we should eat to keep our minds and bodies well. We also learned that some treats we like to eat should only be eaten occasionally. We colored fruits, made fruit salad for snack, and shared our favorite fruits and vegetables. Surprisingly, some of our friends like to eat asparagus, artichokes, and kiwi, which are not common among this age. We talked about Pilgrims and Native Americans, how the Pilgrims came over on a boat, and how the Native Americans taught the Pilgrims to hunt, fish, and grow food. The Pilgrims were so thankful for the abundance of

food from their harvest, they invited the Native Americans to have dinner with them. This dinner became the first Thanksgiving. We had a short Thanksgiving week, but made time to share the many things we are thankful for with the class. Finally, in November, we talked about children's books. We read many books and shared our favorite books with each other. We decorated cups to make buckets and became bucket fillers after reading the book *Fill a Bucket* by Carol McCloud. This book showed us how to be kinder to our friends and loved ones. In December, we will be learning about "Hibernation", "Jan Brett" (children's book author), and "Holidays Around the World".



Ms. Amanda and Ms. Maria



THREES—ROOM 114



November in the Threes began with our parent/teacher conferences. Thank you to everyone who took time to come talk with us about your

child's progress. Our first unit of November was about the five senses. We talked about how they help us with every day life: hearing with our ears, seeing with our eyes, smelling with our noses, touching with our hands, and tast-

ing with our tongues. During the second and third weeks, we set sail on a journey to new land and learned the history about how the Pilgrims traveled on the Mayflower to America (special thanks to Ms. EnaShea and Ms. Kaleigh for making our Mayflower ship). The children had a blast sailing on the Atlantic Ocean and exploring a teepee. They learned how the Pilgrims met the Native American Indians and became friends, teaching each other new ways of living and coming together for the first Thanksgiving. We enjoyed our feast with our friends Ms. Liz, Ms. Melissa, and the Threes from Room 116. It was a festive way to end our unit. The last week was a review week, getting us ready to kickoff our December with "Holidays Around the World". Our December letters are H, I, and J, and we will be making gingerbread houses and practicing hard for our Christmas program.

Ms. Diane and Ms. Susan

THREES—ROOM 116

In November, our lessons focused on Nocturnal Animals, Turkeys, and Thanksgiving. Before Thanksgiving we asked the question, "What are you thankful for?" We got some amazing answers! The most common was "Mommy and Daddy", but we also got replies such as "my cozy bed", "my dog", and "my friends".

Our favorite activity in November was cranberry sensory play. The children loved pouring and draining the cranberries and water from container to bowl and back again. Our three-year-old Thanksgiving feast was a huge success! The children loved getting a chance to eat with special family members

in Parker Hall. All of the children ate and behaved very well.

In December, our lesson plans will include the Gingerbread Man, Holidays Around the World, and Christmas. We will make gifts for parents and practice our song for the Holiday performance.

Ms. Liz and Ms. Melissa



PRE-K FOURS



It is hard to believe that November has come and gone so quickly! This past month was filled with learning about the Native Americans, the Pilgrims, and the first Thanksgiving. We spent the day of our feast playing Thanksgiving themed games. The children raced to see who could blow their feather across the floor first, shook their tail-feathers, went on a turkey scavenger hunt, and played "don't topple the teepee". The most sticks pulled out before the teepee toppled was 4! We also thoroughly enjoyed our Thanksgiving feast with the Pre-K Fives class. The last week of November, we studied Frida Kahlo, her art, and her heritage. The children paid homage to Frida Kahlo by creating wonderful 3-D animals using Model Magic.



For the first week of December, our theme will be Christmas. The children will be able to write Christmas cards, and will work on a special (secret) Christmas present. We are looking forward to a wonderful and festive month!

Ms. Ann Walker and Ms. Karina

PRE-K FIVES

Bring on the cooler weather and Feliz Navidad! Our holiday spirit is in full effect as we gear up for a December of festive fun and anticipation for the New Year. But all of the hustle, bustle, and Christmas preparation can't overshadow a November filled with gratitude and great learning opportunities. Our first week of November crept in and caught us still reeling from the exciting Fall Fest extravaganza. As we transitioned over from October, we snuck in a few last-minute Halloween activities by painting spiders, trick-or-treating through the school and church, and even sharing a pizza party with the Pre-K Fours class. In Handwriting, we worked on the letter "N."

Week two saw us moving into fall-inspired lessons, beginning with the harvest. We had a wonderful time exploring our Indian corn and gourd sensory, creating cornstalk art to adorn our classroom door, and enjoying a veggie taste test. The class even made an impromptu mural together, which the students dubbed their "Alien Scarecrow." In Handwriting, we moved on to the letter "M," and French was filled with the sounds of music. The children are developing quite a repertoire of French classics. Week two also brought about Parent/Teacher conferences, which gave us a chance to continue helping with the Kindergarten preparation pro-

cess. We are so proud of the progress everyone is making! Week three was all about Thanksgiving and what it means to be grateful, and it culminated in our celebratory classroom meal. Turkeys, and feasting, and full bellies, oh my! We spent the week expressing our gratitude, as we read books on the very first Thanksgiving, as well as a few amusing stories about turkeys attempting to escape the holiday table. We constructed art to enhance our dining experience, such as special turkey hats and handprint turkey placemats. Circle time was especially inventive. Thanks to our creative students, Tom the Turkey made his daily appearance disguised as everything from a Christmas tree, to a Superhero, to Santa Claus. That pesky turkey will do anything to avoid taking his place at the Thanksgiving table! Handwriting was a comprehensive review of the letters and letter sounds from previous lessons so far this year. With a special interactive program from the RedRoad.org, week four offered a beautiful history lesson on Native American culture, as well as a demonstration on traditional dance, music, food, and more. We also began our focus on the winter season, building model magic snowmen and decorating Christmas trees out of ice cream cones. Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

Wishing you all a warm and happy December,

Ms. Elizabeth and Ms. Jenna

P.S. A special nod of appreciation to everyone who left notes and well wishes in our gratitude jars this month. We are so thankful for all of your beautiful words and thoughtful gestures!





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Belmont Weekday School serves children ages nine months to five years. The WDS does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, handicap or disability, sex, or age in its employment policies or in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and other school-administered programs.

Follow us on:



3-STAR QUALITY PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

On December 5th, we will have our annual 3-Star Quality Program assessment. The Belmont Weekday School participates in a voluntary program that recognizes child care agencies who exceed minimum licensing standards. Every year, the Weekday School is assessed by ECERS (Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scales) and ITERS (Infant/Toddler Environmental Rating Scales). The assessors will rate our school on EVERYTHING, including the lunches that you send from home. A proper lunch should include: one grain, one protein, and one serving

of fruit and one serving of vegetables or two servings of vegetables. Your child's lunch should meet this criteria every day. Your teacher will be sending home a note every time your child's lunch is missing a component of this criteria. Each classroom keeps crackers, fruit, vegetables, and cheese in the room during lunch in order to supplement any lunches that are lacking a component. Please do not send raisins or raisins in your child's lunch. These items are choking hazards. We also ask that you do not send cookies or candy in your child's lunch. If these items are

sent, we will ask your child to leave them in his/her lunch box to take back home. If you send fruit/vegetable pouches, we will squeeze out the contents into a cup. Your child will then use a spoon to eat it. Please feel free to visit www.choosemyplate.gov to find more nutrition information. We appreciate your support to help foster healthy eating habits for our children.



KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

If you have not linked your Kroger Plus Card, please use the instructions below from your computer or smart phone to do so.

How to Link Your Card: (takes about 5 minutes)

Go to www.kroger.com/communityrewards

Create an account by entering the following:

Email

Password

Zip Code

Find location of store you use most.

Add Kroger Plus Card 12-digit number or the phone number linked to you Kroger Plus account

Click on Community Rewards: First name

Last name

Address

Find your organization :

Type in our NDO number: **SH746** & hit search

Select Belmont Weekday School

Click Enroll



Please forward this information to any relatives or friends who would also like to support WDS. This program allows WDS to earn money on groceries, gift cards, and prescriptions. Unfortunately, fuel is no longer included.

PLEASE REMEMBER YOU MUST RELINK YOUR CARD AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR.