

January Angelic News
2014

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Today, as I sit and write this newsletter the date is December the 31st. The New Year 2014 is on the horizon and I realize that it is time once again for me to pause and flip through my 2013 calendar and recall what the year brought to my life...a time for reflection for sure. The moments, days and months of 2013 bring to mind gratefulness, laughter to my heart, tears to my eyes, lessons of love, precious family time and love shared, caring friends, and new dimensions to my thinking.

This past year, I learned, big time, that the gift our good God gives us is the gift of each new day. So from now on I have decided that I will no longer make New Year's resolutions. I will think in terms of each day's resolutions-decisions, and promises. I am sure you have all heard the quote, "Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is the gift, that's why we call it the present." Each day is precious and I am making a promise to myself to make each day the best that it can be. I may not be able to change the world but I can sure change my little corner of the world. Just think if each person in your home, your neighborhood, your city, your state, and your country did their very best to change their perspective little corners of the world, what a wonderful world it would be!

As you know, I have a heart for the little ones in our "corners of the world". I wonder what daily and weekly events would make their world happier and more meaningful each day? One of my favorite books is [100 Ways to Build Self-Esteem and Teach Values](#). Children were asked the questions "What is a happy home like? What makes your home happy?" The children didn't mention fantastic trips, big houses, expensive toys or clothes. Instead, feeling good, encouragement, kindness, connection with mom and dad, and play were at the top of the list. Here are a few of their answers:

"When I come home, my mom and dad hug me a lot. That's when my house feels happy."

"My home is happy when my mom lights candles while we eat dinner."

"I like it when dad throws me up in the air and messes up my hair."

"I like it when my mommy brushes my hair for a long time and sings songs to me before bed."

"In my house, when it's happy, there is music playing and we all dance together. My dad teaches us the cha-cha-cha."

"Everybody listens to each other instead of yelling."

"In a house that is happy people ask about how your day was and they really mean it."

"When people like each other in their house, they sit around for awhile after dinner and talk about stuff."

“Everyone compliments each other and does special things for each other.”
“When I am gone, I can’t wait to get home because I just like being there.”

There you have it. Here is an abbreviated list of what we can do each day to contribute to a child’s happiness. **Hug more. Create special moments. Express affection. Share special quiet time before bed. Dance and play together. Listen to one another. Show interest in one another. Communicate openly. Acknowledge one another. Create a friendly, loving and warm environment.**

As I read this list I am convinced that children are the smartest and most honest little beings around. We adults can learn from them and keep our daily resolutions in check. It is truly the little things that matter. Cherish them. Keep them close at heart. And remember, “Each day of this new year comes bearing gifts. Untie the ribbons.” A.R. Schabader

And...have a happy, happy New Year...one day at a time!

Kathy Stinson
Director



Winter



Icy fingers, icy toes, bright red cheeks and bright red nose.
Watch the snowflakes as they fall, try so hard to count them all.
Build a snowman way up high; see if he can touch the sky.
Snow forts, snow balls, angels too, in the snow so white and new.
Slip and slide and skate so fast, wintertime is here at last!



During January Littlest Angels Preschool will be turning into a wintery wonderland! Most of our classrooms will be having “snow”much fun with this winter theme. **(This is why we are not having individual classroom news this month.)** We will learn about all the changes that winter brings; winter clothing, snow and ice, hibernation, polar bears and penguins, weather changes and many more chilly facts! Our manipulatives, books and classroom activities will center around this theme. We may even find some snow to bring in and do some slipping and sliding!



This month our “Let’s Get Growing” virtue is **OBEDIENCE**. This is something we all want for our children...obedient hearts! Hearts that obey us and hearts that obey God! Obedience is not something that we are born with. Just the opposite, we are born wanting to do our own thing. As parents and teachers it is our responsibility to faithfully and consistently teach children obedience. It takes lots and lots of practice, patience and positive reinforcement for obedience to grow and and become a way of life!



I CARE CAT! This month we will be learning that we are all precious! Even though we don’t look the same on the outside we are all the same on the inside! We will have a chance to talk about Martin Luther King, Jr. and his dream of peace for the whole world. Try to catch your child being peaceful, listening to a friend, using helping hands, or using I care language. Let them know you noticed. Your positive reinforcement will inspire them to try even harder. We all need cheerleaders you know.

THANK YOU PARENTS! The entire Littlest Angels Preschool Staff would like to thank each of you for your kind generosity during this special time of the year. The Christmas love and joy you and your children shared with us made us feel appreciated and loved.



A FEW REMINDERS:



NO SCHOOL! Monday, January 20th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

BE CAREFUL of germs! The cold and flu season is upon us! Please keep your child home if they show any sign of a contagious illness. Their “off” disposition can often be a good indicator of not feeling well and they just don’t have the words to tell you. Please be reminded that your child must be on antibiotics for 24 hours before they can return to school. Your cooperation will help us all stay happy and healthy!

