



Angelic News

December 2014

Dates to Remember

Wed., Thurs., & Fri. 11:30 – 1:00 PM	December 3, 4, & 5	Portrait Viewing in the family center
Friday	December 5	M.A.D. FUN Donations are due!
Monday	December 15	Santa Books due!
Tuesday 6:00 PM	December 16	Young Child's Christmas Service: "Christmas in the Kitchen"
Wednesday & Thursday	December 17 & 18	Classroom Christmas Celebrations and a visit from Santa!
Friday	December 19	No After Care today
Monday	December 22	Christmas break begins!
Monday	January 6	Welcome back! School resumes

PORTRAIT VIEWING! Stop by the Family Center and view your child's photographs between 11:30 and 1:00 on December 3, 4, or 5! There is no obligation to purchase the pictures. Photos will be available to take home with you at the time of purchase. Cash, check or credit cards may be used for payment.

HERE IT COMES...the Young Child's Christmas Service "Christmas in the Kitchen"! The children are busy practicing their songs and you can just feel the joy and excitement rising! I can guarantee you that this "star" filled service will be a special highlight to your celebration of Jesus' birthday! You can enjoy every minute of the performance because you won't have to take pictures. **We will have a professional videographer recording the service and then produce a DVD that every family will have the opportunity to purchase. Information and an order form will be in your child's folder soon.**

HO! HO! HO! READ ALL ABOUT IT...BOOKS FROM SANTA! Santa is coming to Littlest Angels on Wednesday, December 17 and Thursday, December 18. He will visit each classroom and give each child the gift of a special book.

PARENTS, SANTA NEEDS YOU TO BE HIS HELPER! PLEASE FOLLOW THESE DIRECTONS:

1. Purchase a book for your child.
2. If your child attends school both days bring a book for each day.
3. Gift wrap the book.
4. Label it with your child's name.
5. Deliver the book to your child's classroom and give it to the teacher by Monday, Dec. 15.

Thanks in advance for your "elf" help!

(By the way, if your child is not fond of dear ole' Santa please let his/her teacher know in advance-we want this to be a happy experience!)

M.A.D. FUN ...it's almost done! December 5 is the deadline to turn in "backpack" funds. It is our hope that each family will join in this great opportunity to teach the children the joy of helping others. Look for the backpacks hanging in or around your child's classroom. Each child will have an opportunity to help fill the real backpacks! This is a "hands on" activity that small children can understand and feel a part of. Thanks for your enthusiasm and for sharing your Christmas love and joy with others!

The Story of Christmas According to Kids

Years ago I taught Kindergarten and the children dictated the Christmas story to me. I always smile as I reread them each year. This is how it happened according to some special little ones. Enjoy!

1. The Angel Gabriel said, "You're gonna have a baby." She said, "How is this?" He said, "Don't be afraid." The angel told Joseph. They walked all the way to Bethlehem. It took 100 hours, they were tired. They stayed in the little thing where animals live. They put Baby Jesus in the hay. Mary wrapped him up in a little paper. The shepherds came with the angels because the angels showed them where to go. Even the shepherds followed the bright star. And then they looked at the baby. And they gave Jesus gifts. And He's gonna have his birthday on Christmas.
2. Joseph said, "I love you" to Mary. God told Mary that you're gonna have a baby and then Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem. They got on a camel. They stayed at a stable cause the hotel was full. They had their baby, Jesus. The special star showed the shepherds the way and they found Jesus and the Wise Three Boys Men came. Then they brought presents for Jesus on the camels and then Jesus got bigger.

Jump for Joy!

It's Christmas time! I think if there is one word that captures the mood and spirit of Christmas best, it would be JOY! JOY can be defined as; "an inner state of peace and a sense of well-being regardless of outward circumstances; it is a contentment that you have hope that is sure and constant beyond all the uncertainties of this life."

It is no surprise that this month at Littlest Angels our virtue of the month is JOY. Around here, there is plenty of Christmas JOY and let me tell you it's contagious!! I'd like to share the script the children will hear this month from a book called *Humble Bumble's Humble Heart* written by Amy Meyer Allen.

"Felicity Frog lives in a little house near a pond. She loves to relax by the water. Felicity was always in a bad mood. Bah humbug! She was so grumpy, she even lost her hop! She used an old cane to hobble around. Harrumph! She felt very alone and sad. One day Fanny Fay came by. Boing! Boing! She was hopping from rock to rock outside Felicity's house. Felicity asked Fanny why she was hopping. Fanny said she was doing the "Joyful Jump." Fanny said what she was thankful for as she hopped from rock to rock. She told Felicity to give it a try. Felicity was a little afraid at first. Felicity practiced being thankful. One day she was so full of joy, she could hop again! Have you ever jumped for JOY?"

"The Lord has done great things for us and we are filled with joy" Psalm 126:3. It is our hope and prayer that the children will relate to these characters as they learn to be more like Jesus in their thoughts, words, and actions. We want them to take them to heart so that they can shine like stars in the darkness and share the love of Jesus with a world that so desperately needs the hope and JOY that Jesus brings.

Over 2000 years ago God sent a gift wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. Jesus is God's Christmas gift to all people. He didn't just send us any old gift; He sent us the best He had – His one and only Son, the baby that would change the world and our hearts. All that we have to do to receive this special gift of Jesus is accept Him and let Him into our hearts. Jesus came so that we could have JOY. After all, when you know Jesus and He walks with you and He talks with you and He tells you that you are his own you have every reason to JUMP FOR JOY! The thing is – JESUS JOY is contagious. When it is in your heart, it will be obvious to everyone! A joyful heart makes a joyful face! A joyful heart speaks the right words, brings understanding and peace to others, and is humble. Joyful hearts look for the good in others. Joyful hearts exuberantly praise God for what He has done and what He promises that He will do! Joyful hearts continually invite Jesus into their hearts!

This Christmas stop and take the time to engage your heart in a true celebration of Christmas JOY... JESUS JOY and don't forget to do a little jumping for JOY! Come on now, give it a try!!!!

Merry, merry Christmas from my heart to yours, and yours, and yours!
Kathy Stinson, Director

LITTLE BUNNIES NEWS



The holidays are a magical time, especially for the 2 year olds! Most of them are really seeing it all for the first time. Take time and enjoy the love, lights, sparkle, sweet smells, and joy that the season brings, like you are seeing it for the first time through the eyes of your two year old.

Our theme this month is **Christmas!** We will create our own little Christmas right here in our room with special Christmas projects, stories, and music! Our color for the month is **green** and our shape is the star. We'll explore pine trees and the wonderful scent of cinnamon. Our virtue this month is **JOY**. We will be singing some favorite Christmas songs like *Jingle Bells*, *Frosty the Snowman*, *Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*, *Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer*, and *Must Be Santa!*



We have some special events we want you to be aware of this month. The Young Child's Christmas Service on Tuesday, December 16 is something you don't want to miss. We have been practicing our songs a lot! Classroom Christmas parties and a visit from Santa will be on Wednesday, Dec. 17 and Thursday, Dec. 18. Please let us know ahead of time if your child is afraid of Santa so that we will be prepared to help them with their fears.

Christmas Joy to all!

Teacher Mindy, Teacher Teresita and Teacher Ruth



BUSY BEE NEWS

Tis' the season to be jolly! This month will be all about the **JOY** of Christmas and giving to others. (Just in case you haven't noticed the Busy Bees are bubbling over with **JOY**...they can hardly contain it!) What fun it is to see Christmas through their twinkling little eyes! We will be celebrating Jesus' birthday! The children will be busy little elves making Christmas art and gifts for their families. We are looking forward to a month full of excitement and fun!



We will enjoy (hopefully!) a special visit from Santa Claus. He will be visiting us on our class party days which are Wednesday, Dec. 17 and Thursday, Dec. 18. Please make sure you let Teacher Lisa know if your little one is scared of Santa – we don't want any tears.



The Busy Bees are having such a good time learning the songs for our Christmas program called "Christmas in the Kitchen." We hope to see you all at the Young Child's Christmas Service on Tuesday, Dec. 16 at 6:00 p.m.

We have a new teaching assistant joining us this month. Her name is Lisa Lynn. Please join us in welcoming her to our classroom.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Teacher Lisa, Teacher Lupe, Teacher Lisa Lynn

LITTLE TURTLE NEWS



The joys and enchantment of Christmas are already here! This is surely a most beautiful and busy time of the year. The Little Turtles will be busy decorating our classroom with their beautiful Christmas artwork, singing Christmas carols, baking, and learning about the celebration of Jesus' birthday. We are continuing our ABC'S this month with the letters L and M. Our shape will be the star and our color will be **red**.

The children are having a great time learning the songs for our all school Young Child's Christmas Service on December 16. Remember to mark your calendars because you won't want to miss this Christmas memory making event! We hope to see you there!



There will also be a visit from the jolly man in red... HO! HO! HO! He will be making his entrance on December 17 and 18. Please let the teachers know if Santa isn't your child's favorite fellow and we will try to ease their fears.

We hope you all find some time to pause and truly enjoy the holidays amidst all the hustle and bustle of this busy time of year! Taking a walk and looking at all the beautiful Christmas lights is always a nice and simple way to take in the holiday and all its beautiful colors.

May God bless you and your families with His peace and love! Have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Teacher Bettina and Teacher Amanda



LITTLE BEARS NEWS

Child's Christmas Prayer

Dear Jesus,

I'm sorry no one had room when you were born.
If you come to my house, I'll give you my bed and share my toys.
Because you and I are good friends!
Happy Birthday Jesus!



We hope all of our families and their loved ones enjoyed a blessed Thanksgiving! Now December has arrived and it promises to be a month filled with Christmas joy and fun in our classroom. Our monthly theme is "Christmas". We will learn all about Baby Jesus, Mary and Joseph. We will be creating decorations and special art projects for our classrooms and our homes. Our letters for the month are L, M, and N. Our virtue is JOY!

The children are enjoying learning the songs for our Young Child's Christmas Service. Their special song is *Hi-dee-hi, Hi-dee-hay...* ask them which animals in the barn had something they could give away to Jesus? They will have the answer!

We would like to welcome Teacher Giuliana to our classroom! She will be assisting us on Tuesday and Wednesday when Teacher Holly is teaching music.

Have a blessed Christmas!

Teacher Ana, Teacher Holly, Teacher Giuliana, and Teacher Ariel

LITTLE LAMBS NEWS



Christmas time is here! Happiness and cheer will fill our classroom this month. The Little Lambs will be busy elves, creating decorations for our classroom and home. We are working hard on the songs we will be singing for the Young Child's Christmas Service. The children are so excited to share them with you!

The Little Lambs will be learning about the reason for the Christmas season, the Baby Jesus' birthday! Of course, Christmas time would not be complete without a visit from Santa on our party days, December 17 and 18.

Our letters for December are J, A and G. Our color is **red**, our shape is the star and our virtue is JOY! Our December poem is *5 Little Angels*:

5 little angels, lovely and bright,
The first one said, "It's a special night!"
The 2nd one said, "The shepherds saw a star!"
The 3rd one said, "The Wisemen came from afar."
The 4th one said, "Praise the newborn King!"
The 5th one said, "Now it's time to sing!"



We wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Teacher Katie and Teacher Aida



LITTLE TIGERS NEWS

Happy December! Our theme this month will be Jesus and the story of His birth. We will be singing about Him, crafting about Him, and performing in honor of Him! We know that He is the reason for all this celebrating! We will also be very busy Little Elves!

Our poem will be *Peppermint Stick*:



Oh I took a lick of my
Peppermint Stick
And I thought it tasted yummy!

Oh it used to hang on my
Christmas Tree,
But I like it better in my tummy!

Our letters will be J, D and P. Our color is **green** and our shape is the triangle.

We hope to see all of you at our Young Child's Christmas Service on December 16. Your children have been working hard on learning all the songs and hand motions.

Blessings,
Teacher Robin, Teacher Anna, Teacher Elizabeth

LITTLE LIONS NEWS



It's that magical time of year! The joyous holiday is here... a time of giving, sharing and celebrating our Heavenly Father's greatest gift – JESUS! Throughout the month we will be exploring the Christmas story, learning new songs and poems, and decorating our classroom. We will learn that Jesus came for everyone by exploring unique customs for celebrating Christmas.



Your children will be encouraged to make cards and gifts for whomever they want. No matter how lumpy, sticky, or imperfect – they are surely a gift from the heart!

Academically, we will have many activities that review and reinforce the recognition of the big and small line letters, as well as developing awareness of the printed language in many of the projects that we create throughout the coming weeks. We will be learning about triangles, the color green, and letters J and D. We will continue to work on social skills and express our feelings with kindness and patience. In the midst of busy holiday schedules, here are some great ideas for family time this month:

- Have a baking time with another family or two.
- Help wrap gifts together.
- Deliver foods and gifts to charities.
- Play soft Christmas music instead of watching TV.
- Have fun with our Scavenger Hunt list that will be making its way to your child's folder soon.
- Share the JOY and SPIRIT of this special season.

God's blessings,
Teacher Staci and Teacher Lori


*Happy
Holidays*