Holiday Music Program Tomorrow  10 AM–12:30 PM
At Neel Auditorium, SCF
Level 3 Students Must Arrive by 11 AM

Level 3 OPTIONAL Holiday Gift Exchange

Each year Level 3 students can choose to participate in a holiday gift exchange. Level 3 students from long ago initiated this custom, and in order for it not to be tied to any particular religion, they gave it the unusual name of “Oompa-Loompa.” The Oompa-Loompa process goes like this: the name of everyone who wants to participate is put into a bowl. Students draw a name from the bowl, and reveal it only to Deana and Erica, who keep a secret master list. The Oompa-Loompa event runs for three days, and follows this protocol:

Day 1:  Students anonymously give a small gift to the person whose name they’ve drawn (By small, we’re talking several pencils, a pack of gum, or something of that sort.)  (Tuesday, December 10)

Day 2:  Students anonymously give another small gift to the person whose name they’ve drawn. (This time, the gift is a little nicer: for example, a bag of Skittles and a pencil, or a $4 fidget spinner, etc.)  (Weds., December 11)

Day 3:  On this day, the giver reveals his or her identity, and gives a final nice gift in the $10-15 range. (Thursday, December 12)

Our Oompa-Loompa event this year will run next week on Tuesday, December 10, Wednesday, December 11, and Thursday, December 12. Participation is entirely optional,
but we do ask that if a student chooses to participate, that they make sure they follow through on their commitment: it’s upsetting for a person expecting a gift not to get one.

The students generally have lots of fun with this, and there is much intrigue during the first two days!

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**Academics**

This has been an atypical week, work-wise. Because of our dynamic rehearsal schedule for the music program tomorrow, students did not have an overall work plan due. Instead, students were assigned their weekly math and language work, plus whatever history lessons and work that would fit in. The accumulated assignments will be posted on [http://level3678.com/7th-and-8th-grades/weekly-work/](http://level3678.com/7th-and-8th-grades/weekly-work/).

We are now in the social studies (Social World) portion of our cycle. In keeping with our cycle theme, the focus is on exploration. A big portion of our study will be the Age of Exploration and the Columbian Exchange; however, students are also choosing individual projects on explorers from ancient times to the present. Students have been working on readings and questions on the Medieval origins of the Age of Exploration, and have had a lesson on the Age of Exploration.

In connection with our science work, we’ve been growing two types of mushrooms: oyster mushrooms and lion’s mane mushrooms. The mushrooms were harvested yesterday, and we plan to sauté and eat them today or Monday!

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**A Word about the 3rd Grade Holiday Shop**

The annual Holiday Gift Shop, operated by the 3rd grade students, will take place next week, Wednesday-Friday (December 11-13). Rachel works hard to source a number of their gift shop items from our Center Community. This year, the Holiday Gift Shop will include jewelry made by one of our own 6th grade students, MaryAnn. The Holiday Gift Shop is a powerful experiential learning activity for our 3rd grade students. The entire proceeds go to Turning Points Coalition for the Homeless. If your child wishes to shop for family members and friends, please send in your agreed upon budgeted money. It is anticipated that the L3 students will be invited to shop on Thursday and then they often enjoy returning on Friday when end of sale discounts are applied.
Thank you to...

❤️Everyone who contributed a dish and your presence to our annual Grandparents Day Multicultural Potluck Luncheon!
Level 3 Families, we are always grateful for all you contribute to our middle school program.

Questions?
PARENTS AND STUDENTS: We encourage you to contact us with any questions and concerns. The best time to call us is in the evening; alternatively, you can email or text us any time:
- Robin   redidin@centermontessori.org 941-544-5617 (cell)
- Beronica bjolson@centermontessori.org 941-586-9024 (cell)
- Deana dreemelin@centermontessori.org 941-932-7662 (cell)
- Erica eandre@centermontessori.org 941-266-7636 (cell)

Mark Your Calendars

- Holiday Concert .......................................................... Saturday, December 7
- Winter Break ............................................................... December 23-January 7
- Second Immersion Week ............................................... January 7 - 10

Regularly Scheduled:
- Tuesday - Tutorials .........................3:15 - 4:30 PM
- Wednesday - Mathcounts ...............3:15 - 4 PM PM

- The Level 3 Team (Robin, Deana, Erica, and Beronica)

Please send any email address changes and updates to redidin@centermontessori.org