Dear Parents,

We have had a wonderful week returning from our holiday. We began by enjoying our environment and working on our footprint reindeer. We have a full agenda for our holiday art project which you will have the joy in having on your tree and decorating. We are watching our environment change as the children decorate our room with their work.

We have two holiday trees in our environment. Our lit tree gives us the practice of placing and removing ornaments. This is fine motor work. Our small unlit tree gives us the practice of building our finger muscles as the child squeezes the small decorated clothespins to attach to the tree, then removes them to ready the lesson for the next person. The children are drawn again and again to these activities.

Each year we make a special ornament as a gift to you from your child. Rosa works with each child in choosing the paint. We then finish the gifts and ready them to come home. They will be ready during our last week and will come home as they are completed.

We welcomed our visit with Alec this week! We look forward to him being with us in January!

Thank you:
To the Burgess Family for healthy snack this week

Have a wonderful weekend!

Ms. Christine and Ms. Rosa

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**Important Dates:**

- **December 11th-13th** will be the Elementary 1 Annual Holiday Gift Shop. Any parents looking for more volunteer hours can find them here. Elementary 1 will be in need of parents willing to wrap presents sold at the gift shop. Please let me know if you are interested and I can find out what time slots are available.
- The Holiday Gift Shop is a time for your child to shop for gifts on his or her own for family members. If you wish for your child to participate, we will help in picking the gifts for those on your list. Please look for the holiday gift envelopes which have come in your communications envelope.
- **December 19th** will be the Elementary 2 Plant and Gift sale at 3pm and during pick up.
- **December 20th** will be the last day before our break and will be a day of celebration. Our classroom tradition is to make and decorate dipped pretzel sticks. We will need parent/grandparent volunteers to help work in the kitchen with the children from 8:45am-11am. Our dismissal time for all children will be 12:30pm on this day, as it is a half day dismissal for our entire school.
- **December 20th** is also our Pajama Day! We love the relaxed festive day and chance to wear our PJ’s to school. Yes, I wear my pajamas too.
- **January 7th**, school resumes. Registration will also open for current families.
- **January 16th**, Follow the Child is our annual Open House from 6pm-8pm. From 6pm-7pm is a tour of each classroom while 7pm-8pm is focused on the environment you are most interested in learning more about. Please invite and bring friends to come and experience our Montessori world.
- **January 15th**, Positive Discipline for Preschoolers. This is a Wednesday evening workshop from 6pm-8:30pm.
Thank you to:
The Haspel Family for healthy snack the week of September 3rd
The Pallegar Family for healthy snack this week of September 9th
Coach Taylor for his addition of our small basketball hoop

Nest Notes Pictures

Holiday Clip Tree Decoration

Reindeer Art

Hanging Ornaments