

Fruit of the Spirit: Joy; Verse: “the joy of the Lord is your strength.” Nehemiah 8:10; Color: green

Happy December! This is a short month in days, but a busy month in activities. Please mark your calendars so nothing is missed!

1. Send warm coats and hats for children – sweatshirts won’t cut it for **outside recess time**. Mittens work better than gloves, as children are to put them on independently. We go outside **every day**, weather permitting.
2. Book orders are due Wednesday, December 6th so we can get the order back before Christmas Break. The reasonable prices make them great gifts! These orders will be distributed to parents only, as some may be gifts!
3. Green Day is next Thursday, December 7th and Friday, December 8th.
4. We will be caroling for our neighbors around the corner at the Oregon City Care Center on, December 13th at 12:30. Rain or shine we will walk over (it is just around the corner), sing a few songs, and pass out ornaments the children are making. Here are a couple of other details:
 - a. **Morning children are welcome (and needed!) to join us! Please let us know if you are coming.**
 - b. We need 4-5 parents to help with supervising the walk. There hasn’t been traffic at this time in the past years, but we would like extra eyes to keep the children safe!
 - c. If we **do not** hear from you, this will indicate it is okay for your child to walk with us.
 - d. If you do not wish for your child to participate (afternoon classes), we ask that you keep him/her home that day since **ALL** teachers will be chaperoning the students at the care facility, and will not be in the classroom.
5. **Christmas parties** are the last day before Christmas Vacation, Thursday, December 14 (Tu/Th 3s) and December 15 for everyone else. Party treat sign-ups will go out *next week*.
6. The **ornament exchange** will take place on the party day. Please choose a non-gender specific ornament, wrap it, label it “from …” and send it before or on the party day. The children choose numbers for a random pick of the gifts.
7. Families are invited to attend the last 45 minutes of the day on Christmas party day. There will not be group time as the ornament exchange takes a while!
8. **Christmas Break** is from Friday, December 15 to Thursday, January 4.
9. We are accepting any and all grandparent day paperwork. Thank you to those that have already turned things in!
10. Our Christmas Giving Project this year is The Father's Heart Street Ministry here in OC. They service (in-house) up to 100 people a day, M-F, during daytime working hours and provide an overnight warming shelter when the temps drop. They also deliver up to 100 sack lunches a day on the weekends. We are making “hygiene kits” for the clients. Each family will receive a cloth bag to fill with personal items – hand sanitizer, hand warmers, gloves, socks, comb/brush, individual wet one packets, toothbrush/paste, etc. Teacher Chrystal will deliver the bags on Friday, December 15th. Thank you to those that have already turned in their bags!
11. Thank you to those families that have turned in a “Family Holiday Tradition” page to share at group time. We welcome any more and will be happy to share them at group time.

Here are the phrases we use to help children identify/recognize numbers 1 to 10.

Stick in the mud, 1

Around and back, along the track, twoooo twoooo

Bump, bump 3

Down and over jump down some more, 4

Over down, around the hive, 5

Circle bottom 6

Across the sky down from heaven, 7

Snowman number 8

Circle top line, 9

Easy number 10

December Songs

The angels sing, La la la,

The Shepherds Laugh Ha Ha Ha,
The donkey brays hee-haw, hee-haw
The crows all caw—caw caw caw!
Moo-oo lows the cow, baa baa bleats the sheep
Mary smiles and Joseph leaps—
Moo-oo lows the cow, baa baa bleats the sheep
How on earth can God's baby sleep?
(repeat last line, speaking loudly!)

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock

Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring.
Snowing and blowing up bushels of fun
Now the jingle bell rock has begun!
 Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
 Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time.
 Dancing and prancing in jingle bell square
 In the frosty air.
What a bright time, it's the right time
To rock the night away.
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go riding in a one horse sleigh.
 Giddy up jingle horse pick up your feet
 Jingle around the clock.
 Mix and mingle in a jingling beat
 That's the jingle bell
 That's the jingle bell
 That's the jingle bell rock!!

Silent Night, holy night

All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace (repeat this line)
 Silent night, holy night!
 Shepherds quake at the sight
 Glories stream from heaven afar
 Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
 Christ the Saviour is born (repeat this line)
Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth (repeat this line)

Away in a manger,

No crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
 The cattle are lowing the poor Baby awakes
 But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes.
 I love Thee Lord Jesus look down from the sky
 And stay by my side 'til morning is nigh.
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And take us to Heaven to live with Thee there.

To tune of She'll be comin Round the Mountain

We will ring those Christmas bells so loud and clear

Repeat first line
We will hear the dingle dingle
When they jingle jingle jingle
Yes, we'll ring those Christmas bell so loud and clear
 We will ring those Christmas bells so quietly...
We will ring those Christmas bells fast and loud...

To tune of We Wish you a Merry Christmas

Let's all do a little clapping (repeat 3X)
And spread Christmas cheer!
Jumping...twirling...stretching...bending...swaying

To tune of Sing A Song of Sixpence

Sing a Song of winter,

Frost is in the air
Sing a song of winter
Snowflakes everywhere!

Sing a song of winter
Hear the sleigh bells chime
Can you think of anything
As nice as Christmas time?

It's December and it's time to have some fun!

Yee-haw!

It's December and it's time to have some fun!

Yee-haw!

Baby Jesus on the hay...

Christmas time is His birthday.

It's December and it's time to have some fun!

Yee-haw!

The Lord above us gave his son and

Jesus is his name-o.

J-E-S-U-S! J-E-S-U-S! J-E-S-U-S!

And Jesus is his name-o.

A Savior born on Christmas Day,

And Jesus is His name-o.

J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S,

And Jesus is His name-o.

Wise men still seek Him today,

And Jesus is His name-o.

J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S, J-E-S-U-S,

And Jesus is His name-o.

On the first Christmas Day

From the Father above

Came the little Lord Jesus

To show us God's love.

Happy birthday to you

Happy birthday to you

We love you dear Jesus

Happy birthday to you.

J-O-Y, J-O-Y This it means to me

Jesus first, yourself last and others in between.

Five Christmas bells hanging in a row.

The first one said, "Ring me slow."

The second one said, "Ring me fast."

The third one said, "Ring me last."

The fourth one said, "Ring me with JOY!"

The fifth one said, "Ring me for God's baby boy!"

"Ooo," sighed God's angels in the bright, heavenly light

And those five Christmas bells rang through the night

Still, still, still, the little Jesus sleeps.

Tenderly his mother holds him;

Near her heart she gently folds him.

Still, still, still, the little Jesus sleeps.

Jingle bells, Jingle bells,

Jingle all the way.

Oh what fun to sing and praise

Our Savior born today!

To shepherds in the field, an angel came to say,

That Jesus Christ is born, in Bethlehem today!

The shepherds ran to town, they hurried down the street,

And when they found the Son of God

They worshipped at his feet!

Oh ... CHORUS

There came the wise men three, all following a star,

On camel back they rode, traveling from afar,

The child king was found, just like the Bible told,

Bowing down they gave him myrrh

And frankin'cense and gold!

We wish you a Merry Christmas,

We wish you a Merry Christmas,

We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year.

Glad tidings we bring to you and your kin,

Glad tidings for Christmas and a happy New Year.(We

fish you a hairy Christ-moose and a hippo New Year!)

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart to stay!

And I'm so happy, so very happy

I've got the love of Jesus in my heart

Down in my heart!

And I'm so happy, so very happy

I've got the love of Jesus in my heart!

There was a little baby, oh my Lord. (3x)

Way down in Bethlehem, way down in Bethlehem.

They laid Him in the manger, oh my Lord. (3x)

Way down...

They named the baby Jesus, oh my Lord. (3x)

Way down in Bethlehem, way down in Bethlehem.

Joy to the World, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King!

Let every heart prepare Him room.

And heaven and nature sing

And heaven and nature sing

And heaven, heaven and nature sing!

Must Be Santa Bob Dylan

Who's got a beard that's long and white?

Santa's got a beard that's long and white

Who comes around on a special night?

Santa comes around on a special night

Special night, beard that's white

Must be Santa. Must be Santa.

Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who wears boots and a suit of red?

Santa wears boots and a suit of red

Who wears a long cap on his head?

Santa wears a long cap on his head

Cap on head, suit that's red,

Special night, beard that's white

Must be Santa. Must be Santa.

Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who's got a big red cherry nose?

Santa's got a big red cherry nose

Who laughs this way ho, ho, ho?

Santa laughs this way ho, ho, ho

Ho, ho, ho, cherry nose

Cap on head, suit that's red

Special night, beard that's white

Must be Santa. Must be Santa.

Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who very soon will come our way?

Santa very soon will come our way

Eight little reindeer pull his sleigh

Santa's little reindeer pull his sleigh

Reindeer sleigh come our way

Ho, ho, ho, cherry nose

Cap on head, suit that's red

Special night, beard that's white

Must be Santa. Must be Santa.

Must be Santa, Santa Claus