



The Walden School

January 2018 Newsletter



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(281) 980-0022 www.thewaldenschool.com

6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Monday-Friday

Many Thanks to our Walden Families and Friends

Once again we are so pleased to be able to tell you about the kind-hearted contributions made by The Walden School families to House of Tiny Treasures during our December Community Service Project. Each year Walden families have opened their hearts and wallets to provide much needed items for the young children and siblings served by this small school and their homeless families. The Walden families provided an outfit with shoes and socks for each child, and a toy. 34 children in all had a much happier holiday thanks to your generosity.



Our Walden Staff would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection of funds to give each teacher here at Walden a very generous gift card from the Walden families and children. It is so appreciated, and quite useful to each one of us. A very special thank you to Keith and Jennifer Marrero, and Josh and Amanda Silberman for organizing and carrying out the purchase and distribution of the gift cards.



January 2018 Events

- *Mon., Jan. 1st — Walden is closed for the New Year's Holiday*
- *Fri., Jan 5th—Walden Spirit Day—Wear your Walden T-shirt.*
- *Tues., Jan 8th — Classes resume for Private Kindergarten class.*
- *Mon., Jan. 15th — MLK Day—No classes for Private Kindergarten. Walden will be open for child care.*
- *Mon., Jan 15th — Taekwondo classes resume*
- *Tues., Jan 16th — Gymnastics classes resume*
- *Fri., Jan 19th — Dance classes resume*
- *Tues., Jan 23rd—Private Kindergarten, library field trip 1:15 to 2:30.*

Spring Classes and Tax Information

Sugar Land

Gymnastics

Pick up enrollment information at the office for Sugar Land Gymnastics classes for age 3 and above. Tuition is due and payable for the first day of the spring session which will begin the week of January 15th. Spaces are limited. Requirements for children to be admitted to class require proper clothing. This is for safety. Girls are to wear gymnastics leotards.

Boys should wear shorts which do not have zippers, snaps or buttons (elastic pull-on shorts) and t-shirts. Children can bring clothing to change into for class.



Taekwondo

Taekwondo will be offered to Pre-kindergarten children and above on Mondays beginning January 15th. Sign up forms are available at the

office. Uniforms are required. See Mr. Mike for any other information.



Ballet

Ballet classes will resume January 19th. Please pick up a form with the ballet class schedule and fees. A recital will be held in April. A costume fee of \$60 is due in January.



2017 Tax Information

We will provide for you, at your request, a printout of your charges and payments for the year 2017. The Tax laws may have changed this year on what expenses are eligible for childcare deductions. Be sure to consult with your accountant about what you may deduct. A sign-up sheet for 2017 payment information is located at the front desk bulletin board.

January 2018 Classroom Topics

Greetings and best wishes for the New Year! Throughout January all the classes will observe the winter weather and learn about how it affects us. We will help the children learn to dress and play safely in colder and wetter weather. We will also emphasize the changes in the natural environment brought about by the cold: snow, sleet, ice, crystals, and frost. We will examine snowflakes and their hexagonal (six-sided) shape and hope for snow so we can look at the real thing! Our classrooms will start to look like the Arctic and Antarctic as we learn about bears, penguins and other cold weather animals. We ask your cooperation during the cold months in sending warm jackets and other clothing necessary for your child's health and comfort. Please label everything with your child's name so that lost items can be returned.

The shape and colors for January: hexagon, blue, white, and gray.

Nursery and Infants

January sensory activities for the Nursery and Infant rooms will include activities to introduce them to the concept of cold. Nursery will play and explore with applesauce. They will experience finger painting, penguin prints, and magazine play. Infants will also experience the differences between warm and cold and play with ice cubes and shaved ice in our water-table. We will work on coloring and painting and placing stickers on cut-outs of polar bears, stars, penguins, mittens, snowflakes, snowmen, and cups. Tasting cocoa, marshmallows, and warm oatmeal will be interesting. Our reading books will be about winter as we also continue learning about shapes, colors, parts of our body, and friend's names.

Toddlers

Animals and Winter

Toddlers will:

1. Talk about how we must dress for winter weather.
2. Learn about bears and penguins, and where they live.
3. Work on pre-academic skills such as learning animal songs and finger plays and making animals out of play-dough.
4. Work on physical skills including walking like bears and penguins, hopping like Arctic hares, and walking on a line or balance beam.

Young Threes

Animals and Winter

Young Threes will:

1. We will begin this month with a unit on Season's All Around. We'll be talking about the differences among seasons.
2. Talk about how we must dress for winter and other types of weather.
3. Learn about animals and how they live in cold climates.
4. Begin working on letter recognition and phonological awareness through songs, poetry, and literature experiences.



Preschool

Animals and Winter

Preschoolers will:

1. Learn about snowflakes and snowmen.
2. Talk about different kinds of winter animals, i.e penguins and bears.
3. Continue working on our fine motor skills by tracing and cutting. Letters we will focus upon are W, B, and S.



Pre-Kindergarten

Winter and Polar Animals

PreK 1 and PreK 2 will:

1. Learn about winter and the weather changes that occur during this season.
2. Learn about the properties of snow and ice with melting activities and exploring solids and liquids.
3. Learn many interesting facts about polar bears, penguins, and other winter animals.
4. Be introduced to the letters W, I, and B, and work on pre-academic skills such as one to one correspondence and ordering.



Kindergarten

Alaska will be our destination of choice for the month of January. We will include map reading skills and the properties of snow and ice. Martin Luther King's birthday will be acknowledged as we honor his memory with historical facts and stories to be presented. Kindergarten will be starting spelling tests and reading exercises. Look for parent notes in the take home folders. Important Kindergarten Dates:

- Class resumes on Monday, January 8th.
- There will be a class holiday on Monday, January 15th for Martin Luther King, Jr. day.
- We will visit the First Colony Library on Tuesday, January 23rd from 1:15pm-2:30p.m. Wear your Walden t-shirt and closed toed shoes.

