

201 Bioeducational News

In 201 we have made some exciting changes to our Morning Meeting routine. To utilize the new technology in our homeroom, we have started using the Clear Touch during our Morning Meeting. The students now place their picture in a feeling category to express how they are feeling coming into school. The screen is available throughout the day so students can move their pictures as the day goes on. We have seen an improvement in our homeroom based lessons because the ClearTouch engages the students more.

To go along with this month's theme of generosity, students were encouraged to spend tokens they earned on gifts for others. We attended the Holiday Shop where the students picked out special gifts for their loved ones. Each of them chose their gifts very carefully with their loved ones in mind. Our students were so excited to pick out gifts and wrap them for loved ones at home. We are especially proud of the students' eagerness to give instead of receive, which can sometimes be a difficult concept for children.

Our homeroom was a buzzy with excitement this week especially. We had lessons, holiday activities, Holiday Fest and a whole school assembly! Holiday Fest is always such an amazing time where students have the opportunity to have their loved ones come into our school celebrate the holidays together. We worked hard to decorate our window for our annual holiday window stroll. We took our time and made sure to put in our best effort to make our window look beautiful. The highlight of the Holiday Fest was that Santa came to visit us. We all sat with Santa and told him what we wanted for Christmas. He even brought early presents for all of us! Our faces lit up when we found out that he brought us gifts. There were so many "thank yous" coming from 201! We loved welcoming all of you that were able to come in and spend the day, the students were so thrilled to be able to show off their homeroom and school with you!

202 Bioeducational News

During the holiday season, our students are so frequently asked, "What do you want for Christmas?" That is why each year Lighthouse School holds an annual "Holiday Shop" where students can use their tokens to buy for the people they care for in their life. It is a great opportunity for the students to think of others, and to use their hard earned tokens to make someone else's day. All of the students in 202 can be so kind and generous, so it was no surprise that they were so motivated to earn tokens in order to shop for family and friends. After we saved up, we went down to the curriculum room, which was transformed into something like Santa's Workshop! The students browsed and found the perfect gifts for who they chose to shop for, and excitedly wrapped them in the homeroom afterwards! It was a fun and rewarding experience for everyone.

203 Bioeducational News

I can't believe December is almost over! This month has flown by and second quarter quickly came to an end. We had another exciting and busy month as a homeroom. The long awaited event of Holiday Fest finally occurred. We not only had the opportunity to spend time as a homeroom family to celebrate the holidays, but our own families got to join us. Students spent time in the decorated gym and participated in activities such as building a train made of candy. We spent time in the homeroom making gingerbread houses and frosted Christmas trees made of sugar cones. Santa even paid us a visit and gave each student a gift. Everyone had a great time! We wish you and your family a very Happy Holidays and a Wonderful New Year!

204 Bioeducational News

Our homeroom was full of holiday cheer this month! We hit the ground running as we embraced the bioeducational theme of the month, which was generosity. The kids were very excited about Christmas coming so we worked that excitement into Morning Meeting, Writer's Workshop, and their lessons throughout the day. The second week of December was spent learning about Hanukkah. We read stories, watched videos, and even learned how to play the dreidel game. We wrapped up the week by enjoying the most delicious Hanukkah tradition and ate latkes. The next week was all about Christmas traditions. We brainstormed all of the festive traditions that we do at home with our families and recreated them with our 204 family. We decorated a Christmas tree and our entire homeroom, baked Christmas cookies, and worked together to decorate our homeroom window for everyone to enjoy during the Holiday Stroll for Holiday Fest. 204 was in the giving spirit this month and that showed when the students saved up their hard earned tokens to buy a gift for two of their family members. They were very thoughtful in not only choosing who to buy for, but also in picking out a present that each person would really enjoy. Lots of tape, wrapping paper, and bows later, they left school that day with big smiles on their faces knowing that what they did was going to make someone else feel happy. Holiday Fest is an annual tradition at Lighthouse when we get to celebrate together as a whole cluster. We went to the gym for games, crafts, and snacks, and then headed to the library for a visit with Santa. 204 was patient while the younger students took their turns first. We then went outside on the Holiday Stroll to look at the windows that each homeroom worked hard to decorate and even got to visit with Hazel the goat dressed in her Christmas best. We wish your family a wonderful holiday vacation and a Happy New Year!

205 Bioeducational News

Even though December was a short month, there were a lot of exciting things that happened. Students saved their tokens for Holiday Shop, where they could buy two gifts for friends and family. On the Thursday before break, we had our annual Holiday Fest. On this day, we celebrated with a parade outside, where we walked around the school to observe all the windows to see all the hard work every homeroom did on their decorated windows. In 205, we came up with the idea as a group to have a Christmas polar bear theme. Holiday Fest also included indoor crafts and events in the gym, an appearance and gifts from Santa, as well as working together in the homeroom to create gingerbread houses. On the Friday before break, we gathered for a school wide assembly in the gym to watch the annual slideshow featuring each student and staff member.

The bioeducational theme for the month of December was generosity, which is fitting for the month and the holidays. During Writer's Workshop, we wrote about examples of ways that we are generous or how we could become more generous. In Group Therapy, the students generated lists of ideas for how we can be more generous around the school. They then performed those acts of generosity, which included asking staff members if they needed help, or simply writing thoughtful cards to staff members. Generosity was also discussed during Physical Education as we discussed sharing the ball during a game of Team Handball. We hope you have a wonderful vacation and a Happy New Year!