

CT Cats January 2019 Newsletter

Happy New Year

Welcome back Cats class families! We hope that you all have had a relaxing break. We can not wait to see what the rest of the 2019 school year has in store for the Cat's Class. **We appreciate everyone who participated in the class meeting last Thursday!**

Light and Shadow Exploration

In the Classroom, our children are becoming more familiar with the relationship of light and shadow. The children utilize the light table and our projector to further gain understanding of contrasting colors.



The children have gained a new interest for **magna tiles** and construction of objects on the light table. The children build different towers and castles as high as their imagination and arms will allow them to and "Boom" they knock them down just to reconstruct. The children's imaginations run wild as they explore with objects in meaningful ways and tell us stories about who or whom they are building homes for.



"No Olive don't knock it down." - Quentin



Auction Project

The annual auction is quickly approaching. Due to our class' interest in light, construction and clay, we have chosen to combine all of these interests in the form of a shadow box made of clay leaf imprints with a light source beaming from the bottom. The children have been preparing for the auction all year during their work in small groups. Our time exploring Light and Shadow in small groups have given the children the opportunity to work with many different types of light. The children have access to light ropes, handheld flashlights, book lights, and the light/shadow cased from the projector. While within the clay atelier the children have been exploring with different forms of clay and using natural materials to make imprints onto the clay.



“Listening should recognize the many languages, symbols, and codes that people use to express themselves and communicate. Listening produces questions, not answers. Listening is an active verb, which involves giving an interpretation, giving meaning to the message, and valuing those who are listened to by others.”

- Carlina Rinaldi, pedagoga from the schools in Reggio Emilia.

Happy Birthday!!



As the children turn a year older, we enjoy celebrating their birthdays in meaningful ways. We encourage you to bring a healthy treat to share with the class, please refer to the family handbook for clear guidelines as to what's appropriate to bring. This month we celebrated Quinlan's birthday on 1/21 and next month Olive will turn two on 2/9.

Parent Helper Duties:

Parent helpers please refrain from using your phone while being in the classroom. We need all hands on deck and to limit the distraction a phone can cause in the classroom setting.

We would like to remind Parents of the ongoing duties of the Parent Helper. For parents who have not gotten the opportunity to complete Parent Helper days or are unsure of the duties, the list is hanging inside of the classroom above the sink. We want to stress the importance of sanitizing the class during playground time. With the weather changing every other week this helps prevent the spreading of sicknesses that are already developing. Please read up on the Health Policies in Family Handbook starting on pg. 40 to be informed on when a child should stay home to prevent the spread of illnesses. Here are a few points from the Health Policies :

- **When Should My Child Stay Home?** Fever: The child should be fever-free for 24 hours before coming back to school.
- **Strep Throat:*** The child should return only after 24 hours on medication. The child must be showing signs of improvement and be willing to eat and drink.
- **Colds/Runny noses/Coughs:** If your child's runny nose will require frequent attention from the educator or if the child is irritable or running a fever, he/she should not be in school.

Reminders & Dates to Remember

Change of weather clothes, please dress accordingly for chilly playground time. **As long as the "feels like" temperature is 35 degrees or above**, the class will still go to the playground. Please be sure that your child comes prepared and dressed accordingly everyday.

Please make sure that all clothes, cups, and containers are labeled with your child's first name and last initial.

Calendar Dates:

- **Wednesday, January 30th - Child Talk Series at CT Campus 7:00 to 9:00pm**
(read more about it in gabriela's December letter)
- **Thursday, February 7th - Cabbagetown Picture Day**
- **Tuesday, February 12th - Child Talk Series 7:00 to 9:00pm**
- **Monday & Tuesday, February 18th & 19th - Winter Break - NO SCHOOL**
- **Wednesday, February 20th - Planning Day for educators - NO SCHOOL for children**
- **AUCTION: Saturday, March 23th**