

Happy New Year Everyone!

We are in a brand new year! All of your children have grown so much so fast. We are so impressed by how thoughtful, considerate, compassionate, and cooperative our class is becoming. We also appreciate all of you who joined us for the class meeting last Thursday! Our presentation is going to be posted on our class webpage.

Las Posadas

We had a wonderful Las Posadas. Senora Clara worked tirelessly on the pinata. The children worked tirelessly attempting to hit it open singing, "Dale Dale Dale, Dale Dale Dale, que si no la rompes, no salen los dulces". It was a wonderful day of celebrating. Children were busy stringing up their ornaments (please take one, they are hanging by the front door) and costuming themselves for the celebration. We hope you all had a happy holiday.



The Love of Music

Lately, the children have been really enjoying our morning music time. They have been using drumsticks as violin and cello bows. They have been enjoying rewriting our favorite songs with their own words. If you hear your child wanting to sing "Lion King", it is the 'Lion sleeps tonight'. We have all sorts of things happening in the jungle, "dinosaurs pushing down lions and helping them back up and getting their water", "elephants taking a bath", "elephants pushing lions". It seems like we are learning about pushing, not pushing, and rectifying situations through our songwriting process. Their creativity never ceases to amaze us. Miss Mel has been working on "Hey Jude" and "Lean on Me." The children are loving learning these classics if you would like to play them in the car sometime.





Stuck Hug Collage

In a reflection of the children's love of *The Hug that Got Stuck*, the children have been working on a collage they have titled "the sticky web". They have enjoyed practicing using scissors, working with glue, and painting over their collaboration on the light table. We are working on making this into a visual for our safe space loft that demonstrates what to do when we have "stuck hugs". If you need a hint: take a deep breath, focus on the love you have for those you love, don't worry, and know that all feelings pass.



This *Hug that got Stuck* book has been an inspiration for our class to care for those who are upset and is responsible for many heartwarming moments of children embracing each other to help get each other's hugs "unstuck". We are looking forward to working further with your children on their ability to relate, problem solve, communicate their needs and feelings, and form relationships.

Cutting it Up

From the start of the year, there has been serious interest in sewing. Children really enjoyed the process of creating pillows for our safe space loft. Inspired by this fascination with sewing we created a sewing area beneath the loft. Connected to the love of sewing is the love of cutting. The children have been working very well with scissors. They have enjoyed figuring out they can best hold the scissors in their hands. In connection and



addition to these sewing threads, the children have had a strong passion for collage and mosaic composition. Combining this with their interest of "building a house", we are embarking on a quilting fort adventure for our auction project.



Building a House

Your children are incredible at the art of building with magnet tiles. The height, complexity, and functional design of their projects prove that they all have a potential career in architecture or design. We will let the photos speak for themselves.



Auction Project Declaration



Inspired by the children's love of building houses and their fascination with sewing, we are creating a quilted fort for our auction project. We are currently practicing the art of picking pieces and putting them together. The careful selections are getting our gears turning for when we create a large masterpiece of the children's own design.



Sewing gives us an excellent opportunity to practice self-regulation. Each child knows that they may only press the pedal after Miss Britt says, "1,2,3 GO!" and we learn how to control impulses when we have to release the pedal after a "1,2,3 Stop!". We are also learning the importance of caring for other's safety by being very careful to not hurt miss Britts fingers in the machine. We, of course, are careful with our fingers first and foremost.



Miss Shaquira's Brithday,

Thank you to everyone for creating a very special day for Miss Shaquira! She was brought to tears by the bouquet, card, and gifts. We love her so much and are so thankful she is with us!

A Few Reminders

- Please make sure that your child's cup is spill proof for safety and hygiene concerns. We have had a few spills lately. Also, please take your child's water bottle home daily for a good at home scrubbing.
- Please always check your child's cubby for soiled clothes and make sure they have adequate supplies of pull-ups, wipes, and 3 pairs of extra clothes. We are here to support your potty training adventure.
- Please put your child's name in their coat. Coats can either go in the stairwell cubbies or they can go on the hooks.
- The weather is about to get REALLY COLD. If it feels like it is colder 34, we go outside. We advise you send your child with a hat and gloves. If you want to bring mitten in, we can sew them onto a ribbon to string through your child's jacket to keep the mittens nearby.
- **Child Talk Series! First one is Wednesday, January 30th at 7pm. Child care is free!** The first talk is from our very own, Bennett's dad, Jerome.

All the Best,
Miss Britt & Miss Quira