



December 2017



Message from the Director

Dear Grosvenor Families,

MCCA 2017 Holiday Giving Project . The Holiday Season is here! This year we will continue our partnership with the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service to reach out to families in Montgomery County. For the past 24 years, Fire and Rescue has organized a toy drive. The recipients of the gifts are identified by social workers with the “Families Now” program in coordination with the County’s Department of Health and Human Services. This is a wonderful program and presents an opportunity for children to see the holidays as a time to give back to those who may be less fortunate. Each MCCA center will be collecting new unwrapped toys for children aged infant to teen. If you would like to participate please bring a new, unwrapped toy to your program by Monday, December 18, 2017. If age appropriate, you may want to take your child shopping with you to select a toy that a child would be happy to receive.

Thank you
Karen Fajardo



What's New

CURRICULUM CORNER

We are excited to begin a study of pets and think it will be engaging and fun! A study on pets not only offers opportunities for children to explore a topic that interests them, but it also allows children to gather information, become more aware of the world around them, and solve problems. Children will explore many types of pets; investigate what pets eat, how they communicate, and what they need; observe people caring for pets; and learn about jobs related to caring for pets. Children will gather data, meet interesting people, explore a variety of materials used to care for pets, and create their own shelter or pet store. As we study pets, we will learn concepts and skills in the areas of literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, the arts, and technology. We'll also develop thinking skills as we observe, investigate, ask questions, solve problems, make predictions, and test our ideas. To get our study going, we need your help to gather pet-related materials for the children to explore, such as different plastic or stuffed toy pets and books or pictures related to pets. Below is a list of suggested items, but you may also send in other items that you think may add to our explorations. Please label all items with your name, so we can return them to you at the end of our study.

Pet-food containers	samples of dry pet food in airtight plastic containers	pet care books
Plastic or Stuffed animals (domesticated)	pet food dishes and water bottles	books about pet breeds
Pet carriers	pet bedding	pictures/videos or children with pets
Pet enclosures (e.g., cages, aquariums)	pet toys	pictures/videos of pets in everyday activities
cardboard shoe boxes	grooming materials	



Important Reminders

Birthdays: We want each child to enjoy their special day with friends. If you wish to bring in a special treat, we ask that it be store bought with ingredients label and be free of any nuts. We also ask that you bring in a healthy alternative such as fresh fruit if you choose a “sweet treat” option such as cupcakes.

Clothing: As the weather cools down, please check in your children’s cubbies to make sure that their extra change of clothes are weather appropriate.

Child Art Work: Please check your child’s cubbies for artwork to take home.

Signing In/Out: Please remember to sign your child in and out of the program each day.

Upcoming Dates

MCCA will be CLOSED:

Monday December 25th—Holiday Day

Tuesday December 26th— Holiday Day

Wednesday December 27th—Holiday Day

Suggested Resources and Reading

Thing to do in the month of December:

The Zoo Light— The National Zoo
ICE! – The Gaylord National Resort
Charlotte’s Web- Imagination Stage
Garden of Lights- Wheaton, Brookside Gardens
Frosty the Snow Man-Adventure Theatre, Glen Echo
Winter Lights Festival- Seneca Creek State Park

Books:

Caring for Your Pets: A Book About Veterinarians by Ann Owen and Eric Thomas
The Stray Dog by Marc Simont
What Pet Should I Get? by Dr. Seuss
How Do Dinosaurs Choose Their Pets? by Jane Yolen and Mark Teague
Pet Show! by Ezra Jack Keats
Pete the Cat: A Pet for Pete by James Dean
Oh, the Pets You Can Get!: All About Our Animal Friends by Tish Rabe and Aristides Ruiz