



December Newsletter

Heritage Learning Center

Holiday Greetings

Happy Holidays! We are preparing for a fun holiday season here at Heritage Learning Center. Remember to check out your child's ornament on the tree in the front lobby. Also, sign up at the front desk if you'd like to attend the "Growing Cash Conscious Kid's" presentation at 6:30 p.m. on December 15th. *Guess what?!* Santa is coming to visit all the HLC children. See the notices on the doors about specific times.

Have a fabulous holiday season from your Heritage Family.



Classroom Themes

Many fun and exciting activities are being planned by the teachers to go along with our themes this month.

Week 1

Hanukkah (2's)

Hanukkah (3's)

Time, Weather, and Seasons: Night Time (Pre-K)

Week 2

My Favorite Things (2's)

Giving and Sharing (3's)

My Neighborhood: Places in my neighborhood (Pre-K)

Week 3

Christmas Around the World (2's)

Christmas Around the World (3's)

Gifts and Review (Pre-K)

Week 4

Happy New Year! (2's)

Happy New Year! (3's)

Gifts and Review (Pre-K)

The Little Primers theme is *Things that Go*. Our color is green, The new words are car seat, helicopter, wagon and stop light. This month's special events include Hanukkah, Christmas and New Year's.

HLC

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Who in the office can help me?

DeeDee Schultz - Director
Kim Adams - Scheduling
Jennifer Coalson - Billing
Lisa Whitley - Student Files
Lisa LaFon - Office Support
Angie Morrell - Office Support
Max the dog - Bringer of Happiness



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School-Wide December Celebrations



Let's see WHOOOOO
is having a birthday
this month?

Chloe H.	1st	Ryan G.	18th
Sydney W.	3rd	Skyler R.	18th
Tristan S.	4th	Thomas N.	20th
Sydney G.	5th	Thomas C.	20th
Riley D.	6th	Lorenzo G.	21st
Ian B.	6th	Marcella G.	21st
Kayla B.	6th	Brittney P.	21st
Braden S.	8th	Hayden J.	22nd
Grayson K.	9th	Liana A.	22nd
Rekiah E.	11th	Andrell H.	24th
Kyla M.	12th	Cate M.	25th
Katie N.	13th	Jada M.	30th
Mandy M.	14th	Landry Kate Y.	31st
Haley F.	15th		
Abigail W.	18th		

HLC Staff Birthdays

December

Ms. Jeni	11th
Ms. Catherine	22nd
Ms. Kristi	29th

January

Ms. Lisa L.	14th
Mr. Bill	28th
"Max"	31st

Adventures and Explorers News

- December 9th Early Release for McKinney ISD
- December 18th Early Release for Prosper ISD
- December 21st - January 1st Holiday Break for McKinney ISD, Frisco ISD, Prosper ISD and Life School
- Dec. 21st: Strikz Bowling 9:30 am - 1:30 pm. (lunch included)
- Dec. 22nd: Holiday Party Book Exchange 9:00 am. Bring a \$10.00 book, a child friendly game or puzzle book.
- Dec. 23rd: Karaoke Sing-A-Long at HLC. 10:00 am.
- Dec 24th: Holiday Movie-thon & Pajama Day. Pick your child up by 3:00p m today.
- Dec. 28th: Thunderbird Skating. 10:00 am - 2:00pm. (lunch included)
- Dec. 29th: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel. Cinemark Allen . 8:00 am - 12:30 pm. Parent Consent needed as movie is PG.
- Dec. 30th: Toy Day. Bring your favorite toy to share.
- Dec, 31st: New Year's NOON Countdown. *A daytime celebration of the big event!*

School News

Many thanks to our generous families! Heritage collected 1324 cans for the McKinney Food Pantry. All classes did an outstanding job and we all celebrated with a pajama day. Pre-kindergarten 1 did collect the most items with 290!! They will have a special movie day and their own pajama day. Also, Ms. Jenny and Ms. Gretchen will make a wish list for a special item to be added to the classroom for the children .

Clothing Donations: Our classrooms are in need of underwear, shorts and pants for children 18 months through 5th grade. As you clean out closets and find that your child's clothes are too small, feel free to drop your (clean) donations off at the front office. Thanks!

The weather is getting colder!! Please remember to bring a jacket and hat for outside recess.

Santa: Santa is coming to Heritage! Santa will be here on December 9th , 10th and 11th to visit and take pictures with the children. He will come in early at 7:00 am for the after-schoolers. See Notices on the doors.



The Family at Christmas (Susan Olson Higgins)

The family gathers
Around the tree,
Caroling, singing
On Christmas Eve.

Shoulder to shoulder,
Their hearts harmonize.
Together for Christmas,
They each realize

Their song of joy
That fills the air
Is their greatest gift -

The love they share.

Craft Time



Christmas Banner

You will need:

Felt in various sizes and colors

Scissors

Glue

Dowel or thin branch

1. Find a large square of felt (any color except green).
2. From green felt, cut out a simple Christmas tree shape to fit on the felt square.
3. Glue the tree in place.
4. Cut various colors of felt scraps into small pieces.
5. Invite your child to glue the pieces onto the tree for decorations.
6. Glue loops of felt to the top of the felt square for hangers.
7. When the glue has dried, insert a dowel or a thin branch through the hangers and display the banner as a holiday decoration.

Kids In the Kitchen



Christmas Pudding

Serve this traditional Christmas Eve dessert with a whole almond hidden in the pudding. The person who finds it will have good luck during the coming year. A small Christmas surprise may be given to the person receiving the almond to open immediately.

Ingredients:

2 cups milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/2 heaping cup raw rice

1/2 pint heavy cream, whipped

1 - 5 1/2 ounce package whole almonds

1 twenty-one ounce can cherry pie filling

2 Tablespoons sugar

1/4 teaspoon almond extract

Combine rice and milk; cover and cook slowly over low heat for one hour or until done, stirring occasionally. If all milk is not absorbed, drain rice. Blanch and chop almonds, reserving one whole almond. Add chopped almonds, sugar, and almond extract to rice. Cool thoroughly. Fold in whipped cream and one whole almond. Spoon pudding into a six-cup serving bowl. Cover and chill at least two hours. When ready to serve, warm cherry pie filling over low heat. Serve pudding with pie filling as a topping.

Upcoming Events



December 3rd - 6th	Canton Trade Days (www.FirstMondayCanton.com)
December 5th	10th Annual Christmas Parade of Lights in downtown McKinney at 6:30 pm
December 5th	Home Depot's Children's workshop (ages 5 - 12). 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
December 9th	Holiday Tea and Conversation with holiday music (www.heardcraig.com)
December 9th - 11th	Santa Visits HLC. Photos will be taken for parent purchase.
December 12th	Hannukah
December 12th	Breakfast with Santa. McKinney Community Center. (www.McKinneytexas.org)
	Reservations are required. Cost is \$6.00. Call 972-547-2690 to add your child's name to Santa's list.
December 15th	Growing Cash Consious Kids presentation at Heritage Learning Center. 6:30 pm
December 18th	KLTY FM 94.9 Christmas Wish location, 2011 W. University McKinney. 972-569-8884
December 18th - 20th	McKinney Trade Days
December 18th - 19th	Holiday Trail of Lights. The nature trails at the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary will feel like an enchanted forest, complete with twinkling lights (and the 9 life sized dinosaurs!)
December 21st	Winter begins
December 24th	Heritage Learning Center closes at 3:00 pm
December 25th	Christmas



HLC Family Advertisements

The office is offering advertising space to any parent who may have a business they'd like to share with other HLC families. If interested in participating, please stop by the office.

Scentsy Wickless Candles Sarah Brooks - (972)523-1453

Wickless, smokeless candles. Great for homes, offices, classes, etc. No flames!! Ask about hosting a Scentsy Home Party to receive free and discounted items.

Jewelry Sam Barrett - (619)964-7546.

I make NCAA, NFL, school necklaces, bracelets, Mommy and daughter bracelets, and earrings.

Notepads Angie Morrell - (972)757-5480.

Adorable personalized notepads. They are great for baby and wedding showers, birthdays, Grandparents, teachers, and Christmas gifts.

On-site Photography David Drake - (214)906-8774 www.drakedigitalphoto.com

World-class photography in your home, in my studio, or on-location outdoor. Family portraits, sporting events, family keepsake memories.

Ink & Toner USA Michael Dodson - (972)542-4800 Located at 3001 S. Hardin Blvd. Suite 114 McKinney

Save BIG BUCKS on all your printer supplies! Mention this ad and save additional \$5.00 on your purchase.

HLC does not personally endorse any one family business over another. HLC simply provides this space for family advertising purposes.
