

Wee Folk in January

Happy New Year 2023!

January should prove to be a busy month for us at Wee Folk, as we have a full calendar of activities planned. Our calendar song, “This month now is January, the weather is cold,” will help us focus on the **winter season**. We will discuss the physical changes associated with this time of year, and the adaptations that are necessary for plants, birds, animals, and people to weather the cold!

We look forward to having the children bring their favorite storybooks to share as our show-and-tell theme this month. With this in mind, we will highlight the work of some of our favorite authors and illustrators while keeping with our winter theme. Some of these will include, *The Snowy Day*, *Stranger in the Woods*, *Snow Balls*, and *The Mitten*.

Our theme for the rest of the month will give us the opportunity to track down the “bear facts” as we focus our attention on a unit all about **BEARS**. The children will have many opportunities to sing, sort, draw, create and dramatize their way to a better understanding of the various types of bears. Factual information will be shared during story time, as well as some classics of children’s literature, such as: *Blueberries for Sal*, *Corduroy*, *Bear Snores On*, and *The Three Snow Bears*.. As whole language extensions to these books, our activities will include gluing and counting blueberries in pails, sewing pockets with yarn for Corduroy, and creating caves for bears to hibernate in.. Also, beginning midmonth, January 16 through February 1, a **medium size Teddy Bear** should accompany your child to school each day. They will be important participants in our daily activities, especially at music time!

White will be the featured color in January as we finger-paint with shaving cream, easel paint with white tempera, decorate snow people collage style, make snowflake cuttings, and create beautiful Styrofoam snowflakes to decorate our classroom.

When cold weather keeps us indoors, we will dance with Jack Frost streamers; pantomime favorite winter activities; “ice skate” on paper plate skates; throw plush “snowballs” into containers; scoop, pour, and play with rice in our sensory tub; and use the wooden climber with safety mats.

Music time will find us being “five little snowmen” and singing about what happens to them on a sunny day! We will also pantomime favorite winter activities, and sing about dressing to go outside on a cold January day.

We eagerly look forward to our annual **pajama days** on January 26 & 27. The children are invited to come to school dressed in their pajamas, robes, and slippers; and we will prepare pancakes and juice to enjoy together for our “brunch” snack. Be sure to bring Teddy Bears, too!

Our **Christmas sock-tree** sharing project to benefit needy children in our area was well supported and much appreciated. We delivered a large box packed with colorful and festive holiday socks for boys and girls; along with several grocery bags of snack items to Keystone Opportunity Center for distribution just before Christmas. The volunteers there were so thrilled with all you shared! Thank you to each family who helped spread a little extra Christmas warmth to those in our midst who are less fortunate.

NOW is time when we will begin enrolling students for the **2023-2024 school year**. Returning students and their siblings will receive priority if parents respond in a timely way, by January 27, 2023. Please see me to request a registration form, and return it within two weeks with the \$75.00 registration fee. Class rosters will be filled in the order that the forms are returned, with a maximum of 15 (T-Th) and 16 (M-W-F) students per class. If you have a neighbor or know of someone who is interested in enrolling their child, please have them call to arrange a visit with us this month!

Mark Your Calendar

- January 3: **Registration begins for 2023-2024 school year**
- January 4, 11, 18, 25: **Alphabet Adventures** – Letters K, L, M, & N
Lunch bunch followed by alphabet activities: 11:30 – 2:00 PM
\$20 per session
- January 9: **Snow Globe Day** for M-W-F Class
Bring your favorite snow globe to show-and-tell us about!
- January 10: **Mitten Day** for T-Th Class
Wear your favorite pair of mittens to school today!
- January 14 – February 1: Teddy Bears come to school days!
- January 16: Martin Luther King, Jr. HOLIDAY
Conference Day for those turning 5 in June, July or August 2023
- January 26 & 27: **Pajama Days!**

You will be notified of CANCELATIONS and DELAYS due to weather via e-mails!

