

FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER . . .

An exciting month ahead as children anticipate the holidays. We have our annual Winter concert where your children are the stars of the show! We also have our annual Christmas parties with none other than Santa!

Mark Your Calendars

December 6 th	Preschool Board Meeting 6:30pm All welcome to attend
December 14 th	Rehearsal for all 3's 10am - 11:30am
December 15 th	Rehearsal for all 4's 10am – 11:30am
December 15 th	Winter concert 6:30pm
December 21 st and 22 nd	Christmas Parties – Details to follow
December 23 rd – January 7 th	Winter break
January 8 th	School resumes

Please note . . .

1. I am very excited to say that we have partnered with the EvenStart program to build a Christmas hamper for a family of 5. We are asking families of the preschool to consider donating an item(s) to our Christmas hamper to make the holiday season a little more special for this family. Please see more information on the bulletin board in the hallway. **ALL ITEMS MUST BE TO THE PRESCHOOL BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15TH. NO LATE ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

BACKGROUND ON EVENSTART:

We are a Charity that serves young children of ages 3 to 5 years who are 'at risk' from the vagaries of the extreme poverty they experience in their homes.

Some homes also tend to be dysfunctional wherein drug abuse has made for 'at-birth addiction' for many children or Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

This in turn causes severe developmental delays of up to 90% in areas of behaviour, gross and fine motor skills, speech and language, etc.

Many children suffer the effects of living in conditions of wanton neglect, trauma (death of one or both parents, foster home life, etc), or abuse (physical or sexual).

Some children might not be toilet trained nor know how to speak by their induction into our program at 3 or 4 years of age.

Our programs are early-intervention-focused with education and therapy as the pillars of treatment in the form of case-by-case approaches.

We have resident psychologists, social workers, special needs teachers, speech and language pathologists, and O/T specialists.

They are our management team in charge of bringing these kids back to within 5% developmental norms of their more fortunate peers.

We are highly successful at saving these little lives and helping build their resiliency and positive progress forward.

By Grade School entrance they can then attend a teacher in a classroom without being disruptive or damaging property; they can use shovels as play things and not weapons; they can socially engage with other children without hitting or fighting.

We are under the radar as a social action group but quite effective in our program delivery and the assistance given to the children and their families.

That is why we conduct the hamper program each year as it alleviates the conditions somewhat that precipitate the less-than-perfect home environments for these youngsters.

We appreciate any and all help for the children 'at risk' and in poverty that are enrolled in our educational/therapy programs!

Visit our site for more details about our ongoing Christmas

Campaign: www.evenstartfoundation.org/xmas <<http://www.evenstartfoundation.org/xmas>>

Brianna M Parkhill, Dip B.A.
Director of Evenstart Programs and Services
The Heartland Agency

2. I am looking for Santas for each of my classes to arrive at our Christmas parties on December 21st and 22nd. Santa can be parents, grandparents,

or family friends. The preschool has a Santa suit as well. If you or someone you know is interested, please let me know as soon as possible.

3. For our Christmas parties, we are asking that each family purchase a \$10 gift for his/her child that Santa can give to them at the Christmas party. All gifts need to be in the storage room in the appropriate bag by Tuesday, December 19th for the 3's and Wednesday, December 20th for the 4's.