



It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like...



Christmas!! It's the most wonderful time of the year! Cookies, reindeer, pretty lights...and it all started with an angel, a tiny baby, a stable, and a very bright star. Remember...Jesus is the reason for the season. *Merry Christmas!*

Winter Poem:

"Peppermint Stick"

I took a lick
Of a peppermint stick
And oh, it tasted
yummy!

It used to be
On the Christmas tree
But now it's in my
tummy!

Winter Song:

"Santa" (Tune: "Bingo")

There was a man
With a big, white, beard
And Santa was his name-o
S-A-N-T-A
S-A-N-T-A
S-A-N-T-A
And Santa was his name-o

Update your child's extra clothing! When dropping your children off in the mornings, please make sure they are fully dressed (in weather appropriate clothing) and are ready to learn; the teachers are prepared and ready to teach. Also, when sending your child to school with an extra set of clothes, please remember to send weather appropriate clothing. Many children come to us with no jacket or coat and we do not have a spare to give them. We go outside every day and the children should have warm clothing. **Please make sure that all clothing is labeled.**

Please remember... if your bus rider will NOT be riding to the center in the afternoon, call our office and let us know. We get concerned when our usual bus riders don't get off of the bus here.



The Candy Cane

White Candy: Stands for Jesus as the holy, sinless, Son of God. The letter "J": Is for the Name of Jesus, our Savior. **Cane:** Is like the staff used by the shepherds in caring for sheep. Jesus is our "Good Shepherd." **The Color Red:** Is for God's love that sent Jesus to give his life

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" ~ Isaiah 9:6



A Birthday Party for Jesus



On Thursday, December 5th, our toddlers, twos, threes, and fours classes will celebrate the birth of Christ, with a Birthday Party for Jesus. We will collect new baby items and monetary donations that will be donated to the Caring to Love Ministries (a crisis pregnancy center). This ministry provides a refuge of hope and healing for abortion vulnerable mothers who are lost, alone, and afraid of having their babies in circumstances that seem too difficult. Your child's class will share a birthday cake and place their gifts under the tree. Donations do not need to be wrapped and small, stocking-sized, gifts are much appreciated.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

Santa Claus will visit our class Christmas parties on Thursday, December 20, 2024. Each child will receive a gift provided by their parents. These gifts should be one piece toys in the **\$7 - \$12.00** price range. Please include batteries if needed. The gifts should be wrapped and clearly labeled with your child's name and class. They may be dropped off in the office beginning Monday, December 16th.

Please remember, it's a secret!



PARENTS ... CELC is a well center. If your child has had a fever within 24 hours, that child must not be checked into the center. All children must be fever free, symptom free, for a full 24 hours **without** medication. Your child must be well enough to participate in all activities, including going outside. If your child does not meet this criteria, he/she should be kept at home for that day.

You and your child are important to us.

Should you wish to share something good a teacher has done
or if you ever have a concern, please:

Call: **Gina Merckel** Telephone: **225-261-1743**

Season's Celebrations

- **December 5**, Thursday – Birthday Party for Jesus
- **December 20**, Friday – Santa Party
- **December 23, 24, & 25**, Monday, Tuesday, & Wednesday – we **WILL** be closed for the Christmas holiday
- **December 31**, Tuesday - we **WILL** close at 12:00 NOON for New Year's Eve
- **January 1**, Wednesday – we **WILL** be closed for the New Year holiday

Monthly Recipe

Peppermint Bark

Ingredients:

12 oz. semisweet chocolate, chopped
12 oz. white chocolate, chopped
1/2 tsp. peppermint extract
8 candy canes, crushed

Directions:

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Fill the bottom of a large pot with 3" water and bring to simmer over medium heat. Reduce heat to low, then place a large heatproof bowl on top. Add semi-sweet chocolate and stir occasionally until chocolate has melted. Stir in extract. Pour into prepared baking sheet and spread into an even layer with an offset spatula. Refrigerate until set, about 20 minutes. Over the same pot of barely simmering water, place another large heatproof bowl. Add white chocolate and stir until melted. Pour over set semi-sweet chocolate then top immediately with candy canes. Refrigerate until set, about 20 minutes.



