

## Green Room News December 2011

Is it December already?? How did that happen???

Oh well... Onto whats going on this busy month of the year!

**Sing Along:**

This month we will be working hard fine-tuning our favorite songs to share with you on December 22nd. You and your family are invited to attend a small little gathering we call the So-long Singalong to celebrate our winter break at 2:30 on Thursday, December 22nd. This will be in the Fellowship Hall (downstairs) and we'll have a snack of cookies and cider or juice or water afterwards.

**Snow:**

The snow is here to stay. This means... SNOW GEAR!!! First rule of thumb: When in doubt, pack the snowpants. We will only be inside when the wind chill falls below zero and/or the air temp is below ten degrees. From here on out, your child should bring snowpants, warm winter coat, boots, shoes, mittens or gloves, and hat. And PLEASE label everything!!! When they get UNdressed when they arrive at school, it helps to put hat and gloves in the sleeve of their coat. Slip on shoes, like crocs, work well for getting redressed after we're outside. Laces make the process a bit longer when there are several kids in tie shoes. Please allow your child to bring shoes they can take off and put on themselves. Also, the kids will be putting their own winter gear on (with some help, of course) but allowing your child to practice at home REALLY helps speed this learning process up. Thanks!

**Classroom:**

We love sharing traditions this time of year. This is my approach to celebrating holidays versus distinguishing Christmas from Hanukkah, and Hanukkah from Kwanzaa, and Kwanzaa from the Festival of Lights and so on and so on. So... If you have a tradition you would like to share with our class, we would LOVE to have you! There is a volunteer sign-up on the board. Just let me know what your plan is and I'll plan around it!

We will be reading several different versions of The Gingerbread Man this month. You have no idea how many versions are out there! We will be comparing story lines, characters, scenery, illustrations, similarities, and differences. Please note that there ARE versions where the the Gingerbread Man gets eaten by the wolf. But I think it's a good way to compare how different writers use the story in different ways. And the kids enjoy seeing what happens at the end of each story because they're all different! We will also be making Gingerbread Men (any volunteers to help cook?) and decorating them. So, once again, we will be asking for some donations mid-month, this time for candies to decorate our Gingerbread Man with. I thank you all for all your generosity during the Sharing Feast and Pizza Day. You make the children's experiences in our classroom come to life. Thank you!

We will also be working hard on our holiday gift, starting this week. Shhhh!! We're not telling you what it is!!! :)

Stay Warm!!!!