



BIG BEARS NEWS



Walking field trip...

On Monday, December 15th, accompanied by several parent volunteers and carrying

a vast array of donations from Washington University Nursery School Families, the Big Bear class walked to Trinity Presbyterian Food Pantry in our University City neighborhood. We were greeted by two of the churches volunteers, who spoke to us about the how the food pantry is able to help members of our community who are in need of food and self-care items on a daily and weekly basis. The volunteers asked our group if they had ever been hungry, and then asked if we had ever experienced hunger for three days. The last question helped to indicate the needs of some of the local families. The children helped to move our donated items onto a metal cart for volunteers to sort and bag for visitors to the pantry.

We continued our focus on learning about December and winter holidays from different religions and from different regions around the world...

Hanukkah, Christmas, and Chinese New Year. We will focus our learning on the Kwanzaa Holiday after our return from the holiday break.

Chien and Sabrina's families visited our classroom to share a few of their Chinese traditions. Chien's Father shared a video presentation about Taiwan with the children, which included the geographical location, local transportation, and foods that are typical of Tawainnese culture. The group then had the opportunity to roll colorful, rice balls with Sabrina and Chien's Mothers. The balls were then cooked in the hot water and served with a sweet, brown sugar broth. The children were also given the opportunity to learn some paper cutting techniques from Chien's Father and a friend of their family. The group had a terrific and engaging time with the visitors!

In our Art and Writing Areas we worked on our holiday presents for our families...

drawing, watercoloring, writing, laminating, stapling, and stamping our way to a memorable calendar. We also created Menorahs from collage materials and holiday shapes for pipe cleaners and straws. We sure hope you enjoy!

We enjoyed Spanish with Ms. Colleen & signing Holiday Music with Ms. Laura before the break.

Thank you to all of our volunteers this month, your generous donations, and your thoughtful holiday gifts to Betsy and myself. We are incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work with, teach and learn from you children each and every day of the school year. We will see you in 2015 for our second Big Bear Semester.

~Ms. Suzy and Ms. Betsy:)

Reminders:

Monday, January
5th

Return to School



