

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!! Franny and I hope you had a great holiday. We hope your little ones are ready to come back to school. We are ready for them, and we have a very busy month ahead.

Our units this month are Winter Fun, Winter Animals, Weather, and Dinosaurs. On Thursday, January 11, we will be playing in our discovery table with ice! **Please send in a frozen ice shape** for us to be creative with. Any shape, size, or creation will do!! The kids love to build and play using ice!

On Tuesday, January 9, each child needs to **bring in a pair of gloves or mittens**. We will be comparing and sorting them!

**Wednesday, January 10** will be a VERY IMPORTANT PARENT **Kindergarten Readiness meeting**. You will receive information that, together with January conference information, will help you to decide the next step in your child's education.

Wednesday, January 17 is **Pajama Day!!!** The children may wear pajamas and slippers of their choice on that day, but please send running shoes to wear outside if the ground is wet that day. They may also bring a blanket and stuffed animal to school.

Make plans now to sign up your child in the office for the **Gesell Screening**. The screenings will take place *this month*. It is a very informative tool for you to have regarding your child's development. This screening is required to enroll in our transition and/or kindergarten classes. It is also very important for you to understand your child's developmental age versus their chronological age when considering their placement for next year. **Proper placement is key to success**. In order to be successful in kindergarten, a child must be developmentally ready in all four of the following areas: social/emotional, cognitive, language & motor skills. Please consider having your child screened. There is still time to register in the office.

I will be evaluating the children this month to prepare for **parent/teacher conferences**. We will meet on **Thursday, January 25**. I will send out a Sign Up Genius email so that you can select the time slot that works best for you. Please sign up promptly to get the best slot for you and so that I can set my schedule for the day.

Also on **Wednesday, January 31**, there will be another IMPORTANT PARENT MEETING – **Kindergarten “Year of Magic” meeting from 1:00-1:30 pm** – where you will learn about all of the wonderful things your child can learn in Kindergarten at Bear Creek.

Thank you once again for sharing your children with us. We adore them!

Sincerely,  
Lisa Granados

\*\*\* IMPORTANT \*\*\*

**School will be closed Thursday and Friday, February 1 & 2**  
for all staff to attend ECMC continuing education training conference.