

Happy New Year Everyone!

We hope you all enjoyed the holiday break with lots of good family time. It's good to be back in school, and the kids seemed excited to reconnect with their friends. Thank you all for the generous gifts that were presented to us on the last day of school. The flowers were beautiful and lasted a long time at our homes. We are each now looking forward to a delicious meal at Past Cosi with family or friends.

We enjoyed a couple of parent visits this week. Jimmy D'Addio brought his drum set to school on Tuesday morning. The kids loved listening to Jimmy play while clapping along to the beat, and were very excited when they each had an opportunity to play the big drums. Our kindergarten readiness class talked about the tradition of Three Kings Day with Alana Abbott on January 6 and enjoyed dancing and singing. Thanks very much to both Jimmy and Alana! We love parent participation in our classroom.

We have begun our unit on *Our Five Senses* and will be doing experiments and activities using our senses during the next week. We are beginning with listening games using our sense of hearing. After listening to a CD with animal sounds Thursday morning, the children made their own animal sounds while singing *Old MacDonald*. The kindergarten readiness class played listening bingo and practiced sign language with Mrs. Shanley.

On Wednesday the kindergarten readiness children were excited to receive their own journals and pencil boxes containing pencils and crayons. Children will be writing in their journals throughout the rest of the year. Our letter this week was *li* and the children made paper ice cream cones for their alphabet books.

With this frigid weather we have been spending more time inside, but we do plan to go out during the winter months. Please remember to send your child with warm outdoor clothing and with boots and snow pants when we have snow. Please label these items with your child's name.

Winter weather reminder: school closings and delays will be posted on WTNH TV and WTNH.com. PONS will be closed if Branford Public Schools close due to weather conditions. If Branford Public Schools have a delayed opening, PONS will have a **one hour** delay, opening at 10:00. For more details, see page 5 of our parent handbook.



January 9, 2015