



**Our Redeemer Child Care Center
Toddler Room – Group 2
January 2016**

Class Notes...

- **MOVEMENT & MUSIC WITH MISS SUE:** Wednesday, January 6th and Thursday, January 21st.
- **PIZZA DAYS:** January 8th, 14th, 22nd and 28th
- January 1st: **CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S DAY**
- January 18th: **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

Last month we... learned what animals do to get ready for the winter, pretended to be squirrels collecting food, birds flying south and bears sleeping in caves...worked on our fine-motor skills by stringing cheerios on pipe cleaners to create birdfeeders...began to recognize our names during an "ornament name game" at circle time: "*Who's name, who's name do you see? Let us put it on the tree!*"...enjoyed the story "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats...learned about all the clothing we will need to wear outdoors this winter...worked together to create a large polar bear collage for the wall...LOVED the book "Merry Christmas, Big Hungry Bear" by Don and Audrey Wood...jumped on the TRAMPOLINE...celebrated the holidays with songs, made music with jingle bells, packed up our toys in gift bags, set up a manger on our train table...pretended to be reindeer, did the "Hot Chocolate" dance from the Polar Express with Miss Sue...made streamers and "2016" party hats...created "firework" art with paint and glue...counted backwards and practiced saying "HAPPY NEW YEAR!" We were BUSY!!!

Weekly Themes

Dec. 28 – Dec.31: Happy New Year!
January 4 - 8: Nursery Rhymes
January 11 - 15: Space
January 18 - 22: Goodnight Moon
Jan. 25 - 29: Let it Snow

Learning with Nursery Rhymes:

Rhymes are an important part of childhood. Their rich language and their rhythms soothed us and inspired us as we were growing up. As a parent today, it is important to pass on this valuable resource to our children. Take the time to share your favorite rhymes with your children and watch the learning begin!

Language Skills – Rhymes help children learn word endings and their controlled meter aids children in their beginning reading efforts.

Thinking Skills – Rhymes help our brains recall words and facts, thus leading to early success.

Music Skills – Rhymes help children learn songs easier.

Literature – Nursery rhymes bring classic literature to children at an early age.

Creativity – Rhymes enable children to start making up their own rhymes when they are preschoolers.

Self-Esteem – Children gain pride and confidence in themselves when they learn how to anticipate the final word in a rhyme.

-Jean Warren

from www.preschoolexpress.com

Have you had a chance to visit your town's local library yet? It is a great experience for young children! For example, at the Boyden Library's Children's Room you can play with stuffed animals, puppets and puzzles – you can take part in free special events – and of course, you can search for your new favorite book together! This winter is the perfect time to snuggle up and read together.

Have fun!

Amanda, Amanda and Ana



January Songs and Fingerplays

“Jack Be Nimble!”

(Jack) be nimble,

(Jack) be quick,

(Jack) jump over the candlestick!

(You can use your child’s name with this nursery rhyme and practice jumping!)

Two Little Blackbirds

Two little blackbirds, sitting on a hill,

One named Jack and one named Jill,

Fly away Jack, fly away Jill,

Come back Jack, come back Jill.

“Climb Aboard the Spaceship” (“Itsy Bitsy Spider”)

Climb aboard the spaceship, we’re going to the moon.

Hurry and get ready, we’re going to blast off soon.

Put on your helmets and buckle up real tight.

Here comes the countdown, let’s count with all our might!

5-4-3-2-1-BLAST OFF!

“Bedtime Routine” (tune: All around the Mulberry Bush)

This is the way I brush my teeth, brush my teeth, brush my teeth,

This is the way I brush my teeth before I go to bed.

Talk with children about their bedtime routine and add/act out verses: take a bath, put on my pajamas, read books, give a hug, etc.

“Snowflakes, Snowflakes” (tune: Twinkle)

Snowflakes, snowflakes dancing round, (Dance fingers around.)

Gently falling to the ground. (Wiggle fingers downward.)

See them drifting to and fro. (Sway fingers back and forth)

See them twirling fast, then slow. (Wiggle fingers in fast and slow circles.)

Snowflakes, snowflakes dancing round. (Dance fingers around.)

Gently falling to the ground. (Wiggle fingers downward.)

“Winter Fingerplay”

Climb, climb, climb - up the hill of snow. (Let fingers walk up your arm or bent leg.)

Jump on our sleds - down we go. Wheee! (Let fingers slide down your arm or leg.)

