



Chippy's Chatter

It's official — 2010 has arrived! We hope that your winter break was filled with fun times with family and friends! It's hard to believe that we are now in the second half of the school year!

January 2010

January Themes

- Winter Birds
- Winter Weather
- Snow
- Tracks
- Reptile Intro
- Turtles
- Snakes
- Alligators and Crocs
- Rainforest Layers
- Rainforest Animals
- Rainforest Products

pared to spend time outdoors and with an extra set of clothing in his/her backpack.

Many students choose to wear slippers inside the preschool during the winter months.



Winter Activities to do with your child:

- Take a winter walk to look for animal tracks or other clues
- Snow painting using a spray bottle and colored water (not a good idea on a windy day!)
- Make snowflakes using coffee filters

- Read a book such as:

Owl Moon by: Jane Yolan, Illustrated by: John Schoenherr

The Mitten: by Jan Brett

- Visit the library to look for winter books

January is going to be a full month with lots of opportunities for hands-on exploration and outdoor time!

Make sure your child is coming to school pre-

Student Evaluations And Conferences

We will sending home soon an evaluation on your child's progress.

This is a tool to asses where your child is developmentally at this point and time.

Conferences, primarily for the MWF students,

will take place on Friday, February 12th. There will be a sign-up sheet on top of the cubbies. If you are not able to come in, just call the school and we can arrange a time for you.

For Parents of children in the T/TH classes, if

you are interested in a conference, arrangements can be made for a convenient time for parents and teachers to meet. Please see the Pre-school Director if you would like to set up a time to meet regarding your student.

Inside This Issue

- January Themes
- Conferences
- Field Trip for MWF Classes
- Silent Auction, and Concert

Mark Your Calendars!

- MWF Classes **2/5/2010** — Planetary Field Trip
- **2/12/2010** CONFERENCES **NO SCHOOL**
- **2/20/2010**—Silent Auction and Foster Brown Concert at KNC
- **2/26/2010** Mid Winter Break, **NO SCHOOL**

Explore...
Learn....
Grow....
Nature's Way!

Snacks

Please remember the following:

- **Read all the labels**—we do have children with food allergies, a couple very severe!
- Please bring in the same thing for all the children, such as: fruit snacks, cheese, crackers, etc.
- If you are making something homemade for snack, please either provide a list of ingredients or bring in the box used.
- Please provide napkins and or plates
- **Thank you for keeping the snacks nutritious and for saving cookies and other sweets for birthdays!**

Nature's Way Silent Auction Fundraiser with special concerts by Foster Brown and Mark Szabo

Mark your calendars for **February 20, 2010!**

Nature's Way is holding a Silent Auction Fundraiser at the Kalamazoo Nature Center. In addition there will 2 concerts by Foster Brown and Mark Szabo.

The first one will be 1:00-2:00 and the second at 2:30-3:30.

Foster is a wonderful singer/songwriter of nature based children's songs.

This event is open to everyone and

will be a wonderful family event!

NW Families will receive further information re: ticket prices and items to be auctioned.

All monies collected during this auction will go towards the building of a new school.

We hope you all will be able to attend this fun event and if you have any questions, please feel free to ask!

Planetarium Field Trip for the MWF Classes

Friday, February 5, 2010 the MWF classes will be going on a field trip to the Planetarium in the Kalamazoo Valley Museum.

Morning Class time: 9:30-11:30 Afternoon Class time: 12:45-2:45

We will meet in their lobby and please be prompt! For the afternoon class, the show will begin promptly at 1:00.

Costs: NW Students—free, Adults—free, **Siblings older than an infant—\$3.00 Please bring to the school prior to the field trip.**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Space Intro	2 Space Intro *Open House 4-7	3 Planets	4 Earth	5 Planetarium Am Class—9:30-11:30 PM Class—12:45-2:45
8 Sun & Moon	9 Sun & Moon	10 Constellations *Pajama Day	11 Constellations *Pajama Day	12 NO SCHOOL CONFERENCES
15 MI Intro	16 MI Intro	17 MI Great Lakes	18 MI Great Lakes	19 MI Islands
22 Weather Intro	23 Weather Intro	24 Clouds/Water Cycle Al Nino	25 Clouds	26 Mid Winter Break NO SCHOOL