

## What's Been Going on?

During the month of December we have been busy having a blast, with guest speakers, saying hello to new teachers, decorating the center, and donating to Families in need. We had a visit from a local therapy dog named Bentley and he entertained the students by showing them his tricks. We had a very successful angel tree this year for the Salvation Army. We had a huge stack of presents underneath our tree waiting to go to those that needed them. We even had a visit from Author Holly Mishler who shared her first



*Pre-k student sitting on Bentley the therapy dog*

## New to the Classrooms

Welcome to all of our new Infant, Toddler, and Early Preschool students.

We have a big group that are new to center in January so watch for new students in your child's class.

### Infant 1

Ronit Sarkar  
Timothy Huang

### Infant 2

Iris Miller  
Ryan Miller  
Aadhya Cegireddy

### Infant 3

Alex Cortes  
Sanvika Singh

### Toddler 2

Chris Suo

### Toddler 4

Mahi Shee Nimmagadda  
Aditya Singhania

### Early Preschool 1

Adler Shiplov

### Early Preschool 2

Mason Snyder



## Graduating!

**Congratulations to all of those students that are moving up to the next level. We have a big list this month.**

### Infants to Toddlers

Kai Calas (T1)  
Ayaan Rallapalli (T1)  
Jacob Jing (T2)  
Logan Barringer (T3)  
Omar Abon Rayan (T4)

### Toddlers to Early Preschool

Parker Jones (EPS1)  
Arya Kallurwar (EPS1)  
Brandon Whitacre (EPS1)  
Alan Smith (EPS2)  
Ameya Singh (EPS3)  
Vivien Barnes (EPS3)

children's book *Grandma's Garden* which help introduce the letter G at the center. We said hello to new teachers: Tyra McGrady (EPS2), Ashley Nickel (EPS1), Megan Tatlock (I1), Paige Pollert (Tod 1) and Holly Woods (support). It was a great end to the year 2012. Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to all of the Families here at the Center.

## Spotlight on New Staff

Our spotlight on staff this month features a new hire Nicole Hasert. She recently relocated from Southern California to Indiana with her family in June of 2012. She has been with her husband Jeff for 11 years. She and Jeff have beautiful 8 year old daughter named Kaylee. Nicole likes to say that her daughter and her husband are the best things that has ever happened to her.

She loves spending time with her family. They enjoy doing things like going to amusement parks, movies, and out to dinner. Her life mostly revolves around her daughter. She volunteers as a Brownie Girl Scout leader for her daughter's troop. If she gets spare time she loves shopping, taking pictures and scrapbooking.

As she becomes more comfortable in the center she is looking forward to getting to know more children and their families. She has been eager to continue working with and teaching children, and it has always been a passion of hers. She is dedicated to providing the best education and care to children. Children inspire her to always work her hardest and at her highest potential.

### Early Preschool to Preschool

Alexander Wilson (PS1)  
Addyson Williams (PS1)  
Adithi Kolli (PS1)  
Andrew Huang (PS1)  
Reid Perry (PS2)  
Sidhanth Kashyap (PS2)  
Preschool to Prekindergarten  
Brian Wei (PK1)  
Michaela Aker (PK2)

*Ms. Nicole reading and playing with her infants*



## Infants Inch by Inch



*Infant 4 student finger painting a flower*

This month the babies in infant four are hitting a certain age where they are becoming more aware of their environment and their surroundings. This month they focused more on music, movement, and communication by singing and dancing more often

throughout the day. The little ones have been enjoying this by swaying, clapping, and making sounds to the music. Their teachers have also focused on reading to them more. They have started paying more attention to the stories and the colors and textures of the books. They have done multiple art activities that let the little ones have more hands on experience. The majority of the kids are



really enjoying it. Next month they would like to focus on more science. By letting the infants feel their winter environment by touching ice and snow, which we can get in the month of January.

*Infant 4 student dancing to the beat of their favorite songs*

## Toddling Tots



*Toddler one students posing in front of the center Christmas tree*

During the month of December Toddler One has been very busy working on crafts and learning new skills. They have been creating gifts for friends as well as their families. The holidays are upon us, so they have decided that they are going to make gifts for everyone in the classroom so our class can learn to be gen-

erous. Toddler one focused on the letter G during the month of December and they had many activities to do with the letter G. The children went around the room collecting all the things that were green. They also got to explore green beans with their feet! Glitter crafts were done as well as gifts from the children.

We also got to study the letter h during the month of December. The class has also been working very hard on

learning Their numbers, shapes, and colors. They have a great group of children who are very willing to participate and learn new things.



*Toddler one students make snow flakes using popsicle sticks*

## Keeping Busy in Early Preschool

In Early Preschool One they have been busy learning about the letter G. As a class they have been making green goop, Gingerbread Christmas Ornaments, glitter G's. The kids loved playing with the green goop. They couldn't understand why it was solid on the table but slime when you picked it up! They also played golf... the boys loved it, Ms. Ashley Nickel helped



show the kids how to putt the golf ball onto the green. Ms. Nickel has done her first two weeks of lesson planning with the letter H. The class learned about Hawaii and all the different things that go with Ha-

*Early Preschool 1 student making a glitter G*



*Early Preschool 1 students making and playing with green goop*

waii... making leis, grass skirts, and hula dancing. They also got to hula hoop, make wizard hats, and horses out of the toilet paper rolls.

## Staff Birthdays

Staff Birthdays for the month of January:

**January 1:** Laurie Shelton  
**January 2:** Emily Jessup  
**January 4:** Karen May  
**January 23:** Nicole Hasert

## What's New in Preschool?

Preschool 1 has had an exciting and activity filled month. Ms. Jenni Gramse is now teaching with Ms. Cheryl because a few students from Early Preschool have moved up to their class. The students got to finger paint a Christmas tree and sprinkled gold glitter on stars. They also painted candy canes using marbles. As a class they studied the book "The Giving Tree." They learned about giving and sharing with their friends. Each student got to add a leaf to the class tree that said what they were willing to give and share with their friends. Their tree is on display in their classroom if you would like to stop by and see it.



Preschool 1 student marble painting a candy cane



Preschool 1 students making a bear for b week

Gummy bears were a yummy snack for g week for the students to try. The class had a blast practicing and performing carols for their parents during their Christmas party. The students did a great job and were all smiles.

## Busy Pre-Kindergartners

Prekindergarten 2 has had a fun and adventurous month. They made new friends from outside of the center like Bentley the Dog and Ms. Holly the author. This month the class focused on the Holidays and had a blast decorating their room to get ready. The McIntier family was gracious enough to let the class borrow a six foot tree and lights as well. The students loved making candy canes, snowmen, paper chains, and they even had one student make a star to put on the top. All of the students in the class participated in



Prekindergarten students interacting with author Ms. Holly



Prekindergarten 2 students posing in front of the tree they decorated

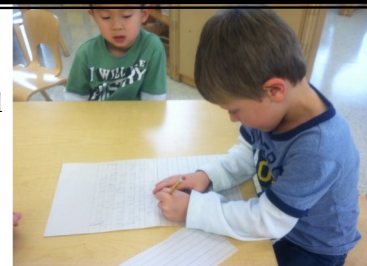
a secret gift exchange but when you teach pre-kindergartners secrets are not always kept. So in a few days most of the students knew who their secret Santa was. The class said goodbye to a friend who moved. The class completed a science experiment to see if they could blow up a balloon with out touching it. The class was successful in achieving this by using a bottle of vinegar and a balloon with baking soda in it.

## The Kindergarten World Of

In the month of December Kindergartners were very busy at CCDC. Not only did they start working on first grade math skills, learn 107 sight words, but they also wrote letters to Santa Claus and have made gingerbread men and Christmas trees with glitter.

Each day of December they discussed how important it was to listen and follow directions because Santa Claus was watching. To incorporate their excitement into a writing exercise, they asked to write letters to Santa explaining to him how well they have behaved this year and also a list of things that they would like for Christmas. They then read The Polar Express which helped them capture the magic of this special holiday.

In December the kindergartners also listened to the story, The Gingerbread Man. The naughty Gingerbread Man runs away from the old woman and man who want to eat him and runs into other animals along the way who would like to have him for a snack as well. In the end he gets out-foxed by a sly fox. The children loved the idea of gingerbread, but didn't really like the taste so they decorated a construction paper gingerbread man and decorated him with glue and glitter.



Kindergartners writing a letter to Santa using his sight words

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

The month of January is national soup month and each classroom will be collecting cans for Love Chapel. The drive will be going all month long and the class with the most cans collected will receive a pizza party.

**January 26:** Bookmobile

**January TBD:** Parent workshop Mental Health in Children