

MISSION STATEMENT

As a community-based education program, Discovery Gardens pledges to provide a safe, diverse, enthusiastic and inclusive learning environment, where the number one focus is meeting the individual needs of each child, while providing support for our families.



Our Family Garden: Discover the News!

December 2020

Quick Reminders

- **DG parents, please make sure that you keep in contact with your center director, so you may get the most current information.**
- If at all possible, please bring your children before 10 AM. It helps to keep class disruptions to a minimum.
- **Please remember that cooler weather is here and your child(ren) will need to dress warm.**
- Friend us on Facebook so that we can get you added to the "Parents of Discovery Gardens" page where you can see daily pictures and updates on what your child is doing!
- Please remember to wash your child(ren)s hands, to keep infection to a minimum.
- **Please don't forget to follow the most current COVID-19 procedures, upon drop off and pick up of your child(ren).**



Tips For You!

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is an African American and pan-African holiday, which celebrates family, community and culture. It was created in 1966 by Dr. Maulana Karenga, a professor of Africana Studies. Kwanzaa, a seven-day cultural festival, begins December 26 and ends January 1st. It joins communitarian values and practices of Continental African and African American culture.

During the holiday, families and communities organize activities around the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles): *Umoja* (Unity), *Kujichagulia* (Self-Determination), *Ujima* (Collective Work and Responsibility), *Ujamaa* (Cooperative Economics), *Nia* (Purpose), *Kuumba* (Creativity) and *Imani* (Faith). Participants also celebrate with Feasts (karamu), music, dance, poetry, narratives and end the holiday with a day dedicated to reflection and recommitment to The Seven Principles and the other cultural values. Find more information at:

<https://www.officialkwanzaawebsite.org>

Celebrate the Date!

December

Happy Birthday to:
Kim J. (2nd),
Yesica (21st),
Emily (29th)
Ameritia (30th)!

Happy Anniversary to:
None this month!

January

Happy Birthday to:
Janelle (2nd),
Paula (4th),
Roberto (19th)
Marta (24th)
Eternity (28th)!

Happy Anniversary to:
None this month!

Save the Date!

Closures:

Training / Holidays:

December 23rd - 25th

January 1st & 15th

Discovery Gardens Kenton



From Kenton:

Hello families!

Due to current changes in regulations, by the state and the CDC, Discovery Gardens had to close our doors to parents dropping off their children, in order to comply with requirements by the Health and Safety Guidelines for Child Care and Early Education Operating During COVID-19. We thank you for your support and understanding!

Toddler/Wobbler Class

Wobblers are learning all about the Gingerbread Man, Posadas, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza. We are focusing on: Numbers 1-5, Colors; Green, Yellow, and Red, Letters; D, G, B, T, and A, Emotions; Sad/Glad, Happy/Angry, and continue with self-help skills.

Preschool A

For the holidays around the world, our preschoolers will be focusing on Christmas, Kwanza, and Hanukkah. They will practice sign language; Alphabet, first name. Also, practice the different times of the day; morning, before and after lunch, and afternoon. Please dress warm, we will be practicing how to zip our coats. We will also work on holding our pencils and scissors. Our gross motor skills will be enhanced by a lot of jumping, running and skipping. We will also focus on personal space and sharing.

Management Staff

Sheila Kilpatrick (Executive Director/Owner)

Roberto Soto (Director of Admin):

Roberto@discoverygardenschildcare.com

Sanita LaGrone (HR and Billing):

sanita@childcarediscovery.com

Kenton

Alake Patterson (Director):

alakepatterson@childcarediscovery.com

Infant Room: carebears2016@childcarediscovery.com

Wobbler Room: wildwobblers@childcarediscovery.com

Toddler Room: toddlerRus@childcarediscovery.com

Preschool Room: littlemepreschool@childcarediscovery.com

Happy Holidays!!!

What is Hanukkah?

In 2018, Hanukkah begins at sundown on Sunday, Dec 2nd and lasts until sundown on Monday, Dec 10th.

Hanukkah, which is Hebrew for “dedication,” is the Festival of Lights.

It commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrian Greek army, and the subsequent miracle of rededicating the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and restoring its menorah, or lamp.

The miracle of Hanukkah is that only one vial of oil was found with just enough oil to illuminate the Temple lamp for one day, and yet it lasted for eight full days.

Find more information at:

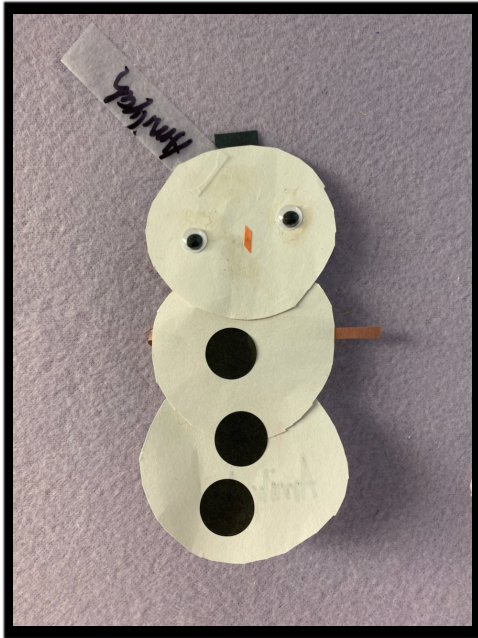
<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/hanukkah-2020-2/>

Infant Class

Infants are busy growing and learning new skills! We have been working on social and emotional skills. We have been learning how to say, “Hi” and being gentle with our friends and teachers. Puppets have been of great interest and assist us in the social and emotional lessons. We will be focusing on the holiday season and winter activities. We do sensory twice a week, on Monday and Thursday. We also do art Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.



Discovery Gardens Columbia Knoll



Winter Fun!

Columbia Knoll:

Sonya Noil (Director): Sonya@childcarediscovery.com

Infant Room: CKinfant@childcarediscovery.com

Wobbler Room: CKwobbler@childcarediscovery.com

Toddler Room: CKtoddler@childcarediscovery.com

Preschool Room: CKpreschool@childcarediscovery.com

Why is Christmas on December 25th?

Christmas is celebrated to remember the birth of Jesus Christ, who Christians believe is the Son of God.

The name 'Christmas' comes from the Mass of Christ (or Jesus). A Mass service (which is sometimes called Communion or Eucharist) is where Christians remember that Jesus died for us and then came back to life. The 'Christ-Mass' service was the only one that was allowed to take place after sunset (and before sunrise the next day), so people had it at Midnight! So we get the name Christ-Mass, shortened to Christmas. Christmas is now celebrated by people around the world, whether they are Christians or not. It's a time when family and friends come together and remember the good things they have. People, and especially children, also like Christmas, as it's a time when you give and receive presents!

<https://www.whychristmas.com/customs/25th.shtml>



PreK Room

From Columbia Knoll

Hello Families!

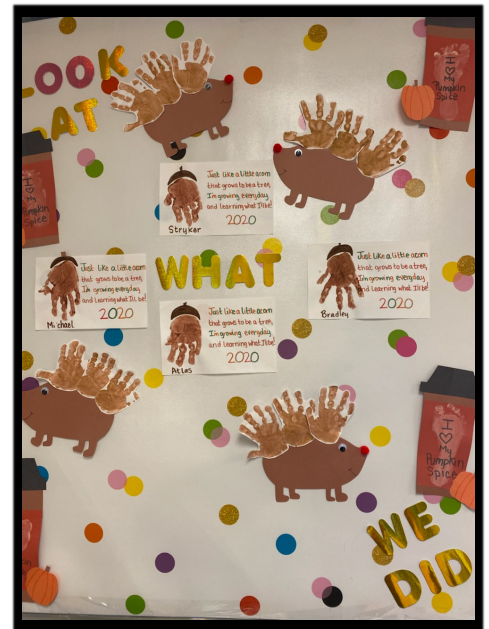
Reminder: Due to current CDC and state regulations, we can't allow parents in the facility. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Please maintain an extra change of clothes, at all times, and dress your child(ren) according to the weather.

ProCare: Please sign in and out.

Preschool: Winter Fun – Making Snowmen.
Colors – Blue and White.
Number – 3

Wobblers / Toddlers: Winter Wonderland.
Colors – Blue and White.
Numbers – 3 and 5.



Infant/Wobbler Room

Discovery Gardens Lombard



PreK Class

All of your children here, are doing a great job, working on sharing, cleaning up after themselves, and manners. During COVID –19, the children have quickly learned about germs and how they can help keep themselves and their friends safe. (We do have to use lots of reminders, but they do a good job) Some of the things we do in school is we have “dirty bins” in every room. If a child puts a toy in their mouth, sneezes or coughs on a toy, we ask them to put it in the dirty bin. With babies once they are done playing with the toy we place it in the dirty bin. With the older children, we remind them that our teeth are for our food, not our toys or our friends.



Toddler Class

We also have the children help clean up! Not just the toys off the floor but sometimes for fun. We give them a washcloth and let them “wash” the babies or the tables. The older children can help sweep the floors! They all do a great job and get elbow bumps and lots of praise! In a non – Covid world, these guys would have certain “jobs” each week. Right now, with Covid, we have to be very particular with what we can give them. We still want to instill that sense of responsibility and pride of a job well done, but safely.

Lombard:

Kim Kingsella (Director): kim@childcarediscovery.com

Infant Room: LInfant@childcarediscovery.com

Wobbler Room: LWobbler@childcarediscovery.com

Toddler Room: LToddler@childcarediscovery.com

Preschool Room: LPreschool@childcarediscovery.com

Happy Holidays!!!

Hello Families,

Letter from the Director:

Hello all! I hope you all were able to enjoy Thanksgiving. My husband, daughter and I, had a nice quiet one at home together. Here at school, this month, we have been talking to the children about “Thanksgiving” and asking what are they thankful for? We get all the normal answers, Mommy, Dada, sister, brother, dog, cat, dinosaurs, apples and so on. We are doing our best to teach them to be thankful for everything. Our families, our food, our school, our homes and such. I believe we have such a privilege as parents and teachers to be able to teach these amazing children to be kind, thankful and giving.

Reminders:

- Be sure your child has a jacket and warm hat everyday. We DO go outside. Rain or Shine!
- Please make sure your child has a change of warm clothes in his/her cubby
- 5 masks for all children 3yrs old and up
- Ready to eat meals for Preschool. NO WARM UP MEALS
- WE WILL BE CLOSED DEC 23RD, 24TH, AND 25TH

All families must wear a face mask, when dropping off and when picking up their child.

Warmly,

Mrs. Kim and the Lombard Team



Infant Class

Next month, we will be learning about Winter. We will also learn about all the holidays celebrated in December. We will decorate our building with all of our Art that we create and will be working on some homemade goodies for others as well.