

### Highlights of the Week

We continued to talk about holidays around the world. The past week we spent more time talking about Christmas. The children loved to decorate a Christmas tree with little bells; they also decorated a Christmas wreath with pom poms following the pattern white/red. And of course we listened to Christmas carols and sang them, too! The children were learning “Jingle bells” and “We wish you a merry Christmas”.

On Friday the children had a blast! We made waffles from scratch...and again all the toddlers were very good helpers and great observers. They really love when we prepare food in the classroom. Then we watched the Christmas cartoons “Frosty the snowman” and “Rudolph the red nose reindeer” straight from the 60’.

Another holiday was introduced this week. The children were told that some people in the world celebrate Kwanzaa to give thanks for the good harvest; they light up candles of different colors; they share presents and food. Kwanzaa lasts for one week.

New Montessori works introduced this week:

**Math:** introduction to the concept of pattern.

**Language area:** rhyming basket.

**Sensorial area:** sound/no sound basket.

**Practical life:** decorate a Christmas tree; winter clothes dress up.

**Art:** Christmas ornaments with sand paper and cinnamon sticks; candy canes painted with peppermint scented paint.

**Food preparation:** waffles.

Have a joyful and restful break! See you in the New Year!

#### Dr. Maria Montessori Words:

*“We especially need imagination in science. It is not all mathematics, nor all logic, but it is somewhat beauty and poetry.” M. Montessori*

#### Reminder:

- Winter Recess December 22<sup>nd</sup> -January 2<sup>nd</sup>
- School Resumes January 3<sup>rd</sup>

#### Home/School Connection

Just a reminder that, per SMA Health Policy, a child can not come to school if he/she has one of the following conditions:

- Temperature of 100 degrees or higher.
- Severe coughing.
- Difficult or rapid breathing.
- Diarrhea (more than one abnormal loose stool within a 24 hour period)
- Pink eye.
- Untreated infected skin patches.
- Excessive yellow/green mucus.
- Vomiting.

Please, refer to the Parent Handbook for more details and information.