

THE MONTHLY BLOSSOM

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

December 1, 2019

"The wonder is that we can see these trees and not wonder more." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Families,

We are so proud of all your Blossom tree experts. Over the past month we have identified many different kinds of trees, investigated their characteristics, and explored their life cycles. We learned why trees are so important to us and our world. We are sending home two publications from *Oregon Forest Resources Institute*, with each child that we highly encourage you to explore with your children and allow them to share their excitement for trees. We hope your children will continue to seek more answers and ask more questions about trees.

Questions to ask your Tree Expert:

- *What is your favorite kind of tree?*
- *Why do deciduous trees' leaves change color?*
- *Why are trees important to arboreal animals? How do different animals use trees?*
- *What do trees give us?*
- *Why do Douglas Fir cones have little 'mouse tails' hanging out of them?*

Starting in December we will begin our study of Winter Celebrations Around the World. We will be learning about family traditions you might practice when celebrating Diwali, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. Many Blossoms have expressed interest in identifying countries on maps and globes. Following this interest, to explore various Christmas traditions, we will read stories, play games, and create art from four contrasting countries where Christmas is

celebrated. We are so excited to begin sharing and practicing traditions Blossoms observe in your homes this season!

As you bring in clothing items to keep your Blossom cozy through the coming months, please remember to **label all clothing** as best as possible. Please model, practice and encourage your child to be responsible with their items and return their items to their cubbies each day.

We are looking forward to celebrating with you at the **Unitarian Universalist Fellowship** on **Monday, December 9th**. We will begin at **6:30 pm** sharp. The Blossoms will be singing:

Tree, Tree, Tree

It's You I Like

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

We are so grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us this year.

We wish you well,

Emily, Rachel, Coyote, Kinderoo & Joey



December '19

Winter Celebrations Around the World

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	Diwali	Diwali	4	5	6
9	Christmas in Mexico	Christmas in Mexico	11	12	13
16	Hanukkah	Hanukkah	18	19	20
23	How do we celebrate?	How do we celebrate?	25	26	27
30	New Years	New Years	1	No School Happy New Year!	Kwanzaa

Notes:

- Dec. 6th - First Friday
- Dec. 9th - Holiday Sing-A-Long
- Dec. 24th - Growing Tree Closes @ 3pm
- Dec. 25th & 26th - Closed
- Jan. 1st - Closed

