

THE MONTHLY BLOSSOM

GROWING TREE CHILDREN'S CENTER

January 1, 2021

Dear Families,

We thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Diwali, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and New Years. While our celebrations at home looked quite different this year, it was such a wonderful privilege to fully indulge in each celebration within our little bubble. Blossoms rolled gingerbread play dough, made Rosca de Reyes and latkes, spun dreidels, painted poinsettias, and carefully created rangoli patterns with sand. Throughout this unit Blossoms could regularly be heard saying, "I'm going to tell my family about this when I go home." We love this excitement! Thank you for eagerly supporting your child's learning at home, it makes explorations at school all the more exciting.

Questions to ask your winter celebration expert:

- *What is your favorite holiday tradition our family practices?*
- *What is the story of Hanukkah?*
- *In Germany what should you leave by the door for Kris Kringle to out a gift in?*
- *How do people celebrate light over darkness during Diwali?*
- *Do other winter holidays celebrate light over darkness?*
- *What was your favorite celebratory food the Blossoms prepared?*

Germs—downright disgusting, mean, no good, nasty, and far to relevant—the kind that make you sick that is. We can't see them with our eyes, but we know they are there. There are a few simple things we can do each day to keep them away. During a 2 week unit we'll find out why these routine hygiene practices have become so prevalent in our daily routines. We will draw germs, find out where we should sneeze and cough, and learn how germs are

passed along and what we can do to keep them at bay.

Following our germ exploration, we will begin a month long study of the human body. We will cover the skeletal, muscular, circulatory, and digestive systems. We are looking forward to the incredible learning and interest that our annual sheep heart dissection fosters. This Blossom unit consistently shows us year after year how capable your children are at applying their learning in everyday life. In past years we have loved welcoming scientists, nurses, and doctors into the classroom, while we are limited to digital communication if you or a family member is interested in sharing an expertise we would love to connect. As always, if you have any materials, artifacts, stories, or photographs to enrich our explorations please let us know!

We are now asking that Blossoms **keep nap stuffies at home**. We appreciate your support!

Thank you for kind and thoughtful wishes this holiday season! We are especially thankful this year to be a part of Growing Tree and its amazing community. We hope you know how dear your children are to us.

We are so grateful to you for sharing your creative, kind, curious, clever, capable, caring children with us this year. 2021, here we come!

We wish you well,
Emily, Gale, Kristine, Coyote, Kinderoo & Joey

HAPPY
New Year



January '21

Germ & Body Study

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1 New Year's Day
4 Germs & Hygiene	5 Germs & Hygiene	6 Germs & Hygiene	7 Germs & Hygiene	8 Germs & Hygiene
11 Germs & Hygiene	12 Germs & Hygiene	13 Germs & Hygiene	14 Germs & Hygiene	15 Germs & Hygiene
18 Skeletal System	19 Skeletal System	20 Skeletal System	21 Muscular System	22 Muscular System
25 Digestive System	26 Digestive System	27 Digestive System	28 Digestive System	29 Digestive System

Notes:

• Jan. 1st - No School

