

Neighborhood News

The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter

Merry Christmas, and a Healthy New Year!

The pictures we are sharing this week on our "Neighborhood News" cover don't show smiling children during heartwarming Christmas activities as we normally do in December, but we believe these pictures do show a little bit of the love and care we take for the health of the children and staff. Because parents cannot currently enter the building, you do not get to see our cleaning and sanitizing center in Fellowship Hall, or some of the other efforts we are making for health—here is just a glimpse!

Toys and manipulative in your child's classroom are washed and sanitized on a regular basis. Our amazing staff does loads and loads of laundry every day including crib and cot sheets, towels, bibs, and scrubs our staff may wear—thank you to St. Andrew for providing the new and more efficient washer and dryer! Commonly touched surfaces are cleaned and sanitized on a regular schedule throughout the day. Fresh bottles of sanitizing solution are delivered to each classroom daily, as are fresh disinfecting cloths.

We are excited to announce that AllTech has installed air scrubbers on the NLC's HVAC units which use light waves and a catalytic process to destroy contaminants on both surfaces and in the air. The air scrubbers are proven effective against bacteria, viruses, mold, and fungi contaminants. We are very happy with this latest investment in helping to keep our children and staff safer as we spend more time indoors during the colder weather.

We know it is difficult not being able to come into the building to see your child's classroom, chat face-to-face with their teacher, and drop them off at the door. We hope this glimpse into some of the steps we are taking to keep everyone safer helps provide a snapshot of some of our current infection control and mitigation efforts. But always remember that our BIGGEST control method is YOU, keeping your child home when they're unwell, taking them to the doctor, and making wise decisions out in the world. These are the gifts you give us every day.

Merry Christmas!



This Month's Highlights

Through December 4
Online Book Fair! See page 2 for details

December 9
Dress Like an Elf Day!

December 14
Polar Express Day—Send them in PJs for their journey to the North Pole!

December 18
Ugly Sweater Day

December 23
Class Cookie Decorating
LCPS Closed

December 24 & 25
NLC CLOSED—Merry Christmas!

December 28—31
School's Out Winter Break Camp for School Ageders

December 31
New Year's Eve Party All Day

January 1
NLC CLOSED—Happy New Year!

December Staff Birthdays

- 7 Jennifer Guzman (Bird Nest)
- 16 Danya Streichert (Frog Hollow)
- 29 Jasmine Williams (School Age)

This Month at School

December is full of favorite traditions, and it sure can be nice during this time of upheaval to have some familiar traditions to fall back on! The themes for the month are: Gingerbread, Traditions/Meaning of Christmas, Evergreen Trees, Stars, and Jesus' Birthday!

- We are very happy to offer an **online book fair** this winter—please see the article below for details!
- Our first fun day of the month....**Dress Like an Elf Day!** Wednesday the 9th, we look forward to jingle bells, silly hats, and lots of Christmas cheer!
- **Polar Express Day** is a favored tradition during December and this year will be held on Monday the 14th. Make sure you send them in PJs so they'll be ready for their trip to the North Pole!
- Everyone needs a little ugly sweater in their lives! There's no need to run out and buy one, though—homemade is the best! A little tinsel here, a few bows there and, voila! **Ugly Sweater Day** is born! Friday the 18th.
- Each class will **decorate Christmas cookies** as their class celebration on Wednesday the 23rd.
- The NLC will be **CLOSED December 24 and 25**. Merry Christmas!
- The week of December 28—31 is **School's Out Winter Break Camp for School Ageds**. Email your student's teacher to sign up.
- Thursday the 31st we will have a **New Year's Eve Party** all day long!
- The NLC will be **CLOSED January 1**. Happy New Year!

Online Book Fair

Parents have been asking us about our semi-annual book fair, and we are very happy to offer an online fair this winter, just in time for Christmas! The NLC will receive 50% of sales in books for the classrooms to enjoy!

The Book Fair will run through December 4th and is ONLINE ONLY. You can order by visiting the shopping site by [clicking here](#) or visiting <https://e11789.myubam.com/1910078>. Books will be shipped directly to your home.

Last week a flyer was emailed to you containing links to both teacher wish lists for each classroom in case you would like to gift your child's room with a book, and links to recommended books for each age group if you need some ideas for your own child. Let Ms. Bri (contact info at the end of this article) know if you need another copy.

There is also a [Facebook Party](#) which will be on December 1st at 8 pm. Join this fun group and check in regularly before the party for opportunities to earn raffle tickets, play games, receive recommendations, and more! You can earn points through the Facebook Party for prize points. The class with the most points will earn an extra \$30 in free books!

Our Ms. Bri in the Busy Bees classroom is our Book Lady and can be contacted directly with any questions. You can message her at m.me/Br33zy16 or email her at storytimesillies@gmail.com.

Reading is a Gift! Shop for the readers in your life while supporting the Neighborhood Learning Center!



This year's Thanksgiving Feast was delicious! Thank you, Ms. Nicole!



COVID-19 Illness Policy – Updated 10/6/2020

As we approach the season of allergies, colds, and flu, we find children are exhibiting symptoms that may or may not be related to COVID-19. While our priority is to protect the health and safety of our children and staff, we understand the difficulties imposed on our families when stringent health and safety policies are unilaterally applied across all children presenting symptoms.

To help us navigate this challenging time, we have consulted the Loudoun County Health Department to provide additional guidance. Based on their recommendations our COVID-19 illness policy has been updated as follows:

If your child shows any of the [COVID-19-like symptoms listed below](#), your child will remain at home.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the COVID-19 virus and include:

- Fever of 100.4 and above
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Congestion or runny nose
- Chills
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Muscle or body aches
- Excessive fatigue
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache

While the NLC understands many of these symptoms may also be a result of non-COVID-19 related issues, the Center must proceed with an abundance of caution during this time of pandemic. If your child shows any of the above symptoms while at the NLC, they will be separated from others, and you will be contacted immediately to collect them within 60 minutes.

When may your child return to the NLC?

With documentation from a healthcare provider – If your child is experiencing symptoms related to a non-COVID-19 diagnosis, your child may return to the NLC:

- Once a healthcare provider has determined that your child has a specific diagnosis (influenza, strep throat, common cold, etc.), or symptoms are related to a pre-existing condition (ex// allergies).
- This documentation from the health provider must state that your child may return to daycare and must identify any other criteria to be met prior to your child returning to the NLC (e.g., fever free for 24 hours).

If your child or other household member has a COVID-19 test pending, the results must be received before your child can return to the NLC. Based on those results, your child may return to the NLC:

- If the test result is negative, and, if applicable, your child is fever free for at least 24 hours without medication, and other symptoms have improved.
- If the test result is positive, you must wait until ten (10) days have passed since the onset of symptoms (if asymptomatic, 10 days from positive test), your child is fever free for at least 24 hours without medication, and other symptoms have improved. (For more Info, please speak with your healthcare provider or the [Loudoun County Health Department](#), or [the CDC](#).)

Without documentation from a healthcare provider – Without documentation from a health care provider, the NLC must treat the illness as COVID-19 and your child may return to the NLC after these criteria are met: Ten (10) days have passed since the onset of symptoms, your child is fever free for least 24 hours without medication, and other symptoms have improved.

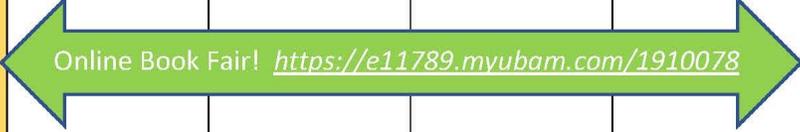
The Neighborhood Learning Center ~ Menu for December 2020

Whole milk is served to children under 2 and 2% milk is served to all others. Menus are subject to change.

*May contain eggs ^May contain milk (T) = Toddler WG = Whole Grain

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nov 30 – Dec 4	Morning Snack	WG Cereal* Fruit Water	Turkey Sausage* Croissant** Water	WG Cereal* Milk	Pancakes Berries Water	WG Cereal* Fruit Water
	Lunch	Mac & Cheese** Sliced Carrots Pears Milk	WG Chicken Patty** Salad w/ Ranch Dressing^ Mandarin Oranges Milk	Chicken Noodle Soup* Crackers* Bananas Milk	WG Fish Nuggets* Peas Peaches Milk	Lasagna** Salad w/Dressing^ Roll** Pineapple Milk
	Snack	Animal Crackers* Applesauce Water	Pretzels* Cheese Stick^ Water	WG Goldfish* Pears Water	Sliced Cheese^ Townhouse Crackers* Water	Nacho Chips* Salsa* 100% Apple Juice
Dec 7 – Dec 11	Morning Snack	WG Cereal* Fruit Water	Sausage Biscuit** Water	WG Cereal* Milk	French Toast Sticks* Berries Water	WG Cereal* Fruit Water
	Lunch	WG Chicken Nuggets* Sliced Carrots Applesauce Milk	Taco Salad** Corn Roll** Peaches Milk	Goulash** Salad w/Dressing^ Pineapple Milk	Grilled Cheese Sandwich on WG Bread** Tomato Soup* Pears Milk	Turkey Breast Sliders* Green Beans Mandarin Oranges Milk
	Snack	Sliced Cheese^ Townhouse Crackers Water	Veggie Straws Raisins Water	Yogurt^ Keebler Elf Cookies** Water ELF DAY!	Mandarin Oranges Cheese Itz* Water	Goldfish Crackers Strawberries Water
Dec 14 – Dec 18	Morning Snack	WG Cereal* Fruit Water	Waffles** Berries Water	WG Cereal* Milk	Pancake Wrapped Sausage** Water	WG Cereal* Fruit Water
	Lunch	Hamburger on a WG Bun* Sliced Carrots Peaches Milk	Vegetable Beef Soup* Crackers Pears Milk	Chicken Bake** Roll** Mandarin Oranges Milk	WG Chicken Patty on a Bun** Corn Bananas Milk	Chili Mac* Cornbread** Pineapple Milk
	Snack	Polar Express Train Snack** Water Polar Express Day!	WG Bagel* Cream Cheese^ Water	WG Wheat Thins* Applesauce Water	Pepperoni* Cheese Cubes^ Crackers* Water	Breakfast Bar* 100% Apple Juice
Dec 21 – Dec 25	Morning Snack	WG Cereal * Fruit Water	Pancakes * Berries Water	WG Cereal * Milk	NLC CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS!	
	Lunch	Turkey Burger* Sliced Carrots Peaches Milk	WG Fish Nuggets** Peas Pears Milk	Turkey Breast* Mashed Potatoes^ Applesauce Milk		
	Snack	Graham Crackers* Bananas Water	Veggie Straws* Raisins* Water	Decorate Christmas Cookies* Milk		
Dec 28 – Jan 1	Morning Snack	WG Cereal* Fruit Water	Mini Muffins** Bananas Water	WG Cereal* Milk	WG Bagel* Cream Cheese^ Water	NLC CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S!
	Lunch	Chicken Nuggets* Corn Pears Milk	WW Ham & Cheese Sandwich** Fresh Carrots w/ Dip (T) Sliced Carrots Peaches Milk	Meatballs w/ Red Sauce* Green Beans Pineapple Milk	Pizza Day! Salad w/ Dressing^ Applesauce Milk	
	Snack	Pepperoni* Sliced Cheese^ Crackers* Water	Breakfast Bar* 100% Apple Juice	Pretzels* Cheese Sticks^ Water	Yogurt^ Graham Crackers* 100% Apple Juice	

December 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Themes for the month: Gingerbread Traditions/Meaning of Christmas Evergreen Trees Stars * Jesus' Birthday		1	2	3	4	5
 Online Book Fair! https://e11789.myubam.com/1910078						
6 Online Worship 10 am In-Person Worship 11:30 am	7	8	9 Dress Like an Elf Day!	10	11	12
13 Online Worship 10 am In-Person	14 Polar Express Day! Send them in PJs	15	16	17	18 Ugly Sweater Day	19
20 Online Worship 10 am In-Person Worship 11:30 am	21	22	23 Christmas Cookie Decorating LCPS Closed	24 & 25  NLC CLOSED		26
27 Online Worship 10 am In-Person Worship 11:30 am	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Party All Day!	1 NLC CLOSED for New Year's Day	
 School's Out Winter Break Camp!						

- Online Book Fair** – Books make great gifts! Visit our online book fair to shop for the holidays and give your child the gift of reading. 50% of sales will be donated to the NLC in the form of books!
- School's Out Winter Break Camp** – The week between Christmas and New Year's is one of our favorites at the NLC! School Agers can enjoy movies, crafts, games, and lots of down time to spend time with their friends. Normal tuition rates apply this week, with School Agers able to attend on their normally scheduled day(s). If you would like to add attendance days, please let Ms. Jo Anna know at joanna@theneighborhoodlearningcenter.com.
- St. Andrew's Worship** – Join St. Andrew for online Facebook Live worship every Sunday morning at 10 am! Visit www.standrew-pres.org or join them streaming live on their Facebook page. There will also be in-person services at 11:30 am on the Sundays of Advent.
- Christmas Eve Worship** – St. Andrew will host 20-minute services at 5:00, 6:30, and 8:00 pm, outside and on the church steps. Join us for a family friendly Christmas celebration!