



Dear Parents,

This month you will have the opportunity to see your children perform a wonderful music concert showcasing what they have learned so far in weekly music class. We purposefully integrate music into our classrooms as a way to connect music with learning. We believe it is important to play music made for children. Many musicians write and sing about topics of interest to preschoolers. Their lyrics and melodies are easy to learn. The children's section at most libraries offers CDs or you can download free songs from Web sites (for example, freekidsmusic.com). Your children are developing **literacy skills** through rhymes. When children listen to, repeat, and create rhymes, they learn to match the sounds of language. Kristin and the classroom teachers also enjoy introducing music from around the world. They may play classical, salsa, jazz, or folk music and then ask what the children like about different types of music, "I really like the classical music-it helps me relax." Or ask questions like, "I hear horns. What instruments do you hear?" Asking questions and listening for details are **cognitive skills** and will help your child learn to be a good listener in school and at home.

Reminders:

- **December C.S.O.:** Hat and Mitten drive for children at Southside Early Childhood Center.
- **Christmas concert:**
 - Calvary, Tuesday, December 6 at 6 p.m.
 - Colonial, Thursday, December 8 at 6 p.m.
- **No Lunch Bunch or PM playmates:**
 - Friday, December 9...staff Christmas luncheon
 - Monday, December 12...staff meeting/mid-year cleaning
- **Afternoon Adventures:** Holiday Face Painting, Wednesday, Dec. 14 & Thursday, Dec. 15 1-3 p.m.
- **Parent Education:** Wednesday, Dec. 14 & Thursday, Dec. 15, 9:15-10:30 childcare provided...please call if needed.
- **Winter Break:** begins after school on Wednesday, Dec 21 (no lunch bunch or PM playmates) resumes Tuesday, January 3.
- **2012-2013 Registration:** begins Tuesday, January 3 for current families. Watch for registration forms before Christmas break.
- **Partnership with Science Museum:** details to come...registration for January/February class will come in cubbies soon.

Blessings,

Shannon Matson
Director

