

# Playful Wonders After-School



Director: Mary O'Connell  
Operations Director: Hope O'Connell  
Program Administrator: Irma Valencia  
Site Supervisor: Regina Glynn

## December 2019 Newsletter

Playful Wonders  
After-School Enrichment  
Program

Siwanoy School  
489 Siwanoy Place  
Pelham, NY 10803

Center Phone:  
(914) 738-7650, Ext. 1622

E-mail:  
hope@playfulwonders.com

Website:  
www.playfulwonders.com

### Gentle Reminders:

- ◆ The weather has changed and children must be dressed appropriately to play outside.
- ◆ Please ensure that your child is dressed in proper winter weather attire.
- ◆ Please let us know if your child will be absent from PW or if you will be late

### PW Closed:

- ◆ Monday, December 23 - Wednesday January 1: **Holiday Recess**
- ◆ Thursday, January 2: Playful Wonders will Re-Open

### Looking Back:

We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving break!

In the month of November, our younger Playful Wonders children explored several literature pieces that triggered their imaginations allowing them to engage deeper into the following tales: *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin* by Joe Troiano, *Alphabet City* by Stephen T. Johnson, and *The Legend of the Bluebonnet* by Tomie DePaola.

PW's new independent **Artist in Residence**, Kathy Nesi, led a skilled autumn project with grades 2nd through 5th on Friday, 11/8. Children were exposed to new paint brush techniques.

Physical activity plays an important role in children's growth. Sports enthusiast & PW staff member, Danny Morales, led a series of athletic games in the gym such as: Grinch Ball, Obstacle Courses, Kick Ball, and Soccer drills.

We encourage **positive growth & social development** between all children. On Fridays we try to have smaller group conversations & family style snacks such as a home baked pound cake, recipe by French chef, Jacque Pépin.

### Looking Forward:

Playful Wonders will be celebrating **Hanukkah**, **Kwanzaa**, **Christmas** and the **New Year** with the children through books, art projects, tournaments, and food!

Playful Wonders strives to demonstrate unity and acceptance throughout the program. We especially enjoy the holiday season with the introduction of our new unit: **"Holidays Around the World,"** where we will travel to different countries and discuss unique cultures and traditions during this festive time. We will learn how **Colombia**, **Mexico**, **Italy** and **Ireland** celebrate the holidays.

This **Friday, 12/6**, Kathy Nesi, will introduce Russian painter, **Wassily Kandisky**, known to many as the pioneer of abstract art. The art lesson will involve the children crafting their version of **'Concentric Circles.'**

Wishing a joyous holiday season from the Playful Wonders family to yours. We hope this time is filled with peace and joy for all. Happy Holidays!

*See Pictures of the children involved in various activities on the next page...*

# Playful Wonders After-School

Children's expressions during free play using Magnet-tiles, Legos and Playdoh



Literature based art projects: The children were inspired to design their masterpieces after reading: *The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin*, *Alphabet City*, and *The Legend of the Bluebonnet*



November special events: Artist, Kathy Nesi, presented a "fall" leaf printing project. We acknowledged the meaning of friendship leading up to Thanksgiving.

