

Playful Wonders After-School



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

January 2020 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:

- ◆ Children **Absent** from School or **Not Attending After-School**, Please let us know before 2 pm.
- ◆ **Sessions end at 6:00 pm**. If you will be late picking up, please call us & arrange for your emergency contact to pick up your child.
- ◆ Children must be dressed in appropriate winter attire to play outdoors.

PW Closed:

- ◆ Monday, January 20:
Dr. Martin Luther King Day

Looking Back:

Happy 2020!

We wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year!

In the month of December, our younger Playful Wonders children traveled to several countries in our unit: **"Holidays around the World."** The children explored four unique cultures and traditions and learned how different countries celebrate the holidays through stories, crafts and visual presentations led by our teachers: Danny (**Colombia**); Ms. Valencia (**Mexico**); Mrs. Glynn (**Italy**); Mrs. Burns (**Ireland**).

PW's independent **Artist in Residence**, Kathy Nesi, presented a colorful project with grades 2nd through 5th on Friday, 12/6. Children were introduced to Russian painter, **Wassily Kandinsky**, known to many as the pioneer of abstract art. The art lesson involved the children crafting their unique version of **'Concentric Circles'** using their own interpretation of abstract art.

During the week of **12/16 - 12/20**, we offered seasonal snacks either home baked or procured from a specialty market such as pears, apples, cheese, baguette, and cider. We played festive games in honor of the holiday season. Some activities were: **"Guess the Spice w/ your Nose"**, **"Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?"** **"Marco Polo"**, and a **Holiday Crossword Puzzle Competition**.

Looking Forward:

On Friday, January 3rd, Playful wonders **celebrated Mrs. O'Connell's Birthday!**

The children created unique birthday cards and enjoyed a special, family style, birthday cake snack.

In the month of January, our younger Playful Wonders children will explore the following topics: **Arctic Animals and their habitats**, **Winter Sports**, **Dr. Martin Luther King**, and **Winter Birds**. We will complement our lesson plans with books, hands-on activities, arts & crafts and introduce fun **science experiments!**

We are planning a range of activities for the older children that will include **Fitness**, discovering a new **Artist** with Kathy Nesi, **Seasonal Crafts**, and **Cooking Club**.

We will continue to source new baking recipes this month's for the children to taste and share their ratings with us.

See Pictures of the children having fun throughout the month of December on the next page...

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December special events: Artist, Kathy Nesi, presented a colorful abstract art project inspired by Russian painter, Wassily Kandinsky.



Children engaged in a variety of Holiday crafts and activities such as: “Create Your Own Ugly Holiday Sweater”: Holiday Masks and Gingerbread People: Children enjoyed Organic Home-Baked Holiday Treats.

