



# THE SUNNY SPROUT UPDATE

December 2021

For the little learners and their caregivers at Hope Ridge Preschool

## Looking Ahead:

**12/13 - 12/17 Christmas Choral Programs**

**12/20 - 12/31 Christmas Break**

**1/3 School Resumes**

**1/4 Young 3's Class Starts**



## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS...

I am ready for some holiday Joy! What about you? I truly love this time of year. All my senses seem to come alive. The sights, the sounds, the smells and let's not forget about the tastes of Christmas. Bring on the cookies! This month the children will be introduced to themes surrounding Christmas. I look forward to seeing and hearing how excited the kids get for Christmas to arrive and walking the hallways and classroom and seeing all the decorations that the students create. We have already had the pleasure of hearing some fun Christmas songs as they transition through the halls.

We are excited to be able to invite you to join us for some merriment and celebration as the students participate in our annual Christmas Choral Concert! Students will be performing the week of Dec. 13th - Dec. 17th. Please check the schedule below or check with your classroom teacher. The concert will last about 15 minutes, following there will be photo opportunities and our annual holiday basket raffle! Grandparents, siblings and babysitters are invited to attend. We will just ask that each family unit tries their best to socially distance themselves while in the chapel watching the performance and while waiting in line for photos. Masks will be required for all those in attendance. Masks may be removed for pictures and the children will not be required to wear them while singing. If you would like your child to have a mask on the entire time, please reach out privately to your teacher to let them know.

Here is the schedule for the upcoming programs:

Monday, December 13th AM: M-TH 4's (Ms. Golias)

Monday, December 13th PM: M-TH 5's (Ms. Golias)

Tuesday, December 14th AM: T/TH 3's (Mrs. Shaver)

Tuesday, December 14th: T/W/TH AM 4's (Mrs. Newby) \*Special time 10:45

Tuesday, December 14th PM: T/W/TH 3's (Mrs. Shaver)

Wednesday, December 15th AM: M/W/F 4's (Mrs. Blakeslee)

Thursday, December 16th AM: T/TH 3's (Mrs. Hildebrecht)

Thursday, December 16th PM : T/W/TH 4's (Mrs. Newby)

Friday, December 17th AM: M/W/F 3's (Mrs. Hildebrecht)

On behalf of the staff at Hope Ridge Preschool, I wish you a blessed Christmas with the ones you love, creating memories that will be treasured forever.

Best Wishes,  
Stacey Hartman, Preschool Director

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## Hope Ridge United Methodist Church Happenings

### "We Four Kings—A Christmas Whodunit", DEC. 10th & 11th

6PM - Hope Ridge Worship Center

Chicken Parm Dinner and Comedy "Whodunit" fundraiser for Project Hope for the Homeless, Hope Chest, and Hope Ridge ministries. Purchase tickets at [hoperidge.com](http://hoperidge.com) or call 440-352-2141.

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES, FRIDAY, DEC 24

4:30PM - Family Service in the Worship Center

7PM - Outdoor Service around a bonfire

8:30PM - Carols and Communion in the Worship Center

11PM - Carols and Communion in the Chapel

### FAMILY BREAKFAST & WORSHIP, SUNDAY, DEC 26

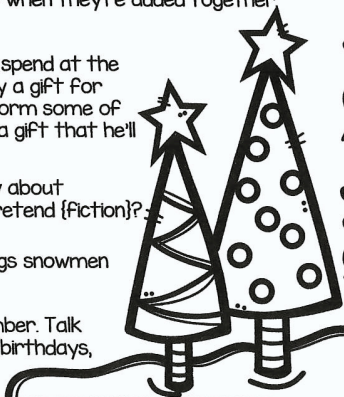
9:30AM - Worship Center

Interview with a special guest—the Grinch! Come as you are with the whole family and enjoy a warm breakfast and post-Christmas fun! Please RSVP at [hoperidge.com](http://hoperidge.com).

## December's PLAYFUL Learning Checklist

1. Help your child build fine motor skills that she'll use later when she's writing by giving her a mound of play dough, cookie cutters and a plastic kids' knife. Invite her to use the tools and play with the dough.
2. Show your child the front and back of a coin and explain that the front is called {heads} and the back is called {tails}. What does she notice on each side? Ask her to guess whether the coin will land on heads or tails when you flip it in the air. What side landed on top?
3. Encourage your child to learn about surface tension. Drop several drops of food coloring on a plate. Pour a small amount of milk on top. What happened to the colors? Now, add several drops of dish soap in the middle of the milk. What happened then? {The milk and food coloring are made of molecules. Those molecules stick together. Because the milk has a lot of fat, the food coloring does not mix into it. When the soap is added, however, it breaks down the milk fat and decreases its surface tension.}
4. Pour half a cup of vinegar into an empty soda bottle. Place 1 tablespoon of baking soda in a balloon. Stretch the balloon end over the opening of the bottle - making sure that it is secure. Then dump the baking soda that's sitting in the balloon into the vinegar. Hold onto the bottle and watch as the chemical reaction creates a gas that fills the balloon.
5. Explain that some words are made up of two separate words that stick together. These special words are called compound words. For example, {snowman} is made from the word {snow} and the word {man}. {Butterfly} comes from {butter} and {fly}. What other compound words can you think of together?
6. Give your child a handful of marshmallows. Ask her to count them. Then help her divide the marshmallows into two piles. How many marshmallows did she place in the first pile? How many in the second? Now, invite her to divide the marshmallows differently. How many are in each pile this time? Encourage her to continue finding different combinations that make the same number when they're added together. {This is a great way to begin teaching addition.}
7. Help your child learn about gift giving. Give her a dollar to spend at the dollar store. Explain that she may only use the dollar to buy a gift for someone else - a birthday gift, holiday present, etc. Brainstorm some of the recipient's favorite things and then help your child find a gift that he'll enjoy.
8. Read Jan Brett's classic "The Mitten". Is the story about something that really happened {nonfiction} or is it pretend {fiction}?
9. Read the book "Snowmen at Night" and discover silly things snowmen do while we're sleeping.
10. Count the number of days in the month of December. Talk about any exciting events you will be doing together {birthdays, holidays, trips, etc.}

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## P.O.P.S. News

### Annual Raffle Basket Fundraiser

Our biggest fundraiser of the year. Tickets will be sold before and after each choral concert. Please consider donating personally or if your business would be willing to donate (even if doesn't match your theme).

### Ticket Pricing-

\$1 for 1 ticket

\$5 for 6 tickets

\$10 for 15 tickets

(Cash only)

### Classroom Themes

Blakeslee - Date Night

Golias 4's- Coffee Lovers

Golias 5's- Legos

Hildebrecht MWF - Cleveland

Hildebrecht T/TH- Pet Lovers

Newby AM- Man Cave

Newby PM - Gift Card Tree

Shaver AM - Snow Day

Shaver PM- Pamper Me

Teachers - Lottery Tree

All items must be turned in to your room parent by DEC 9!!!

We will be sending home a special treat to the kids after the concerts. We could use help assembling the gifts. Be on the look out for a sign up coming soon.

Hope Ridge Preschool, Inc.

"Where Children Love to Learn and Learn with Love."

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