

# The Children's House News!

## December 2023

### Christmas White Gift Donations Through December 19th

Our Thanksgiving donations were a blessing to many people! This Christmas we will continue the tradition of giving "white gifts" to baby Jesus following our White Gift Assembly on December 19th. We will be accepting donations of the items listed below and ask that you wrap your donation in white paper or white tissue paper. The significance of the white gift is to focus on the giving and not the value of the gift. Donations will be given to the outreach program at Our Lady of Good Counsel which provided this list of most needed items. Teachers will collect white gift donations in their classrooms until Tuesday, December 13th.

- Shampoo & Conditioner - manageable-sized bottles either separate or as a combo (combo is preferred)
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors
- Shaving Cream
- Bars of Soap
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

### Tax ID Numbers

The Tax ID numbers for The Children's House are:

**Federal Tax ID:** 99-0340922

**State Tax ID:** GE-012-745-7280-01

### Important Dates:

**December 20** - Last day of school before Winter Break

**December 21 - January 7** Winter Break

**January 8** - Students return to school

**January 15** - Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School

### Christmas Programs

**Pod 3 - December 5th at 9:00am**

**Pod 2 - December 6th at 9:00am**

**Pod 1 - December 7th at 9:00am**

**Pod 4 - December 8th at 9:00am**

**K2 & K3 - December 12th at 9:00am**

**Grades 1-4 - December 13th at 9:00am**

### Words of the Week:

**Dec. 4-8** JOY

**Dec. 11-15** FAITH

**Dec. 18-20** LOVE

### Holiday Office Hours:

Our school office will have limited hours during the Winter Break from December 21st through January 5th, 2024. Please call or email if you need to contact us or need to come in. Normal office hours and school will resume on Monday, January 8, 2024.



## Christmas Cards and Special Snacks

Students are allowed to bring Christmas cards to pass out to classmates and staff. Please do not include stickers, candy, toys, or other items with the cards. Only special snack items designated by the teachers should be sent to school. **Please do not send in goodies or goodie bags to pass out to their friends for Christmas.** Each class will have its own celebration, with specified treats planned by the teachers.

## Gifts to Staff

While your thoughtfulness and generosity are appreciated, it is not necessary that gifts be given to our staff members during the holidays. However, if you feel the need to show your appreciation, we request that gifts be limited to flowers, cards, simple food items, or gift cards limited to \$10. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

## Friendship Camp

By our 4th Grade News Reporters

At the beginning of November, our third and fourth graders went to Friendship Camp! Here are some of their reflections:

Have you ever been to Camp Homelani? We left on Wednesday and came back on Friday. We all learned how to be good friends and how to spread love to others. The beach was really fun and we had a good time hanging out with each other. We know others will too!

**Keley:** My favorite part of camp was swimming at the beach with all my friends. The cabins were very spacious and had a lot of bunk beds. The sunset was beautiful from the beach.

**Jaeden:** My favorite part about camp was sitting by the campfire eating s'mores. We had a great time during crab hunting. Camp Homelani was amazing. It was definitely one of the best experiences.

**Zayvior:** My favorite thing about camp was eating the great food. Camp was really fun and we had a great time catching crabs. They were pretty big. My friends and I had a great time. I recommend to go to Friendship Camp!

**Denver:** My favorite part about camp was sitting at the campfire singing "WE LOVE GOD WE LOVE GOD!" There was a big playground, a baseball field, and a soccer field. There was also a volleyball court, but the one I loved the most was the Gaga ball pit. Gaga ball is a fun game to play with friends. I want to go back because it was so much fun.

**Kualii:** I learned life long lessons at camp, like "choosing the right friends." We also had time to play games and go swimming at the beach. At night, we got to make s'mores and go crab hunting.

**Summer:** My favorite part of camp was that we got to spend time with each other and swim in the ocean. The cabins were also so comfy and we could see the sunset and sunrise at the beach.



## Thank You!

Thank you for your generous donations of canned goods during Thanksgiving. All items collected were donated to Our Lady of Good Counsel Church here in Pearl City.

## LOOK HOW THE CHICKS HAVE GROWN!



# Advent 2023



As we have done the past few years, we are including a basic script for the lighting of Advent candles. If you choose to celebrate, the first Sunday to light a candle is Sunday, December 3rd. If you are counting down the days until Christmas on a daily calendar, you can also follow the script each week. We hope this tradition, whether old or new, helps your family feel the safety and security of God's love this season.

## **Sunday, December 3, 2023** **The Prophet's Candle, The Candle of Hope**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. It is the season each year for preparing our hearts and homes for the coming of Christmas, to celebrate Jesus' birth. Light the candle.

As we light our first Advent candle, the Prophets' candle, this candle reminds us of the prophets, those special people who spoke God's word to the Israelites during the hundreds of years before Jesus was born. The prophets told the people what God was going to do, and they instructed the people on how to get ready. The first candle reminds us to have Hope. (Reading: Isaiah 9:2,6)

## **Sunday, December 10, 2023** **The Bethlehem Candle, The Candle of Peace**

Relight the Prophet candle and light the second candle (purple).

As we light our second candle, the Bethlehem candle, let us remember that Joseph and Mary journeyed to Bethlehem and found a quiet, humble stable where they could spend the night, and where Our Savior would be born. In spite of the long journey, they were able to find rest. The second candle reminds us of Peace. (Reading: Luke 2:1-7)

## **Sunday, December 17, 2023** **The Shepherds' Candle, The Candle of Joy**

Relight the Prophet candle, Bethlehem candle, and the third candle (pink).

The third candle, the Shepherds' candle, reminds us of what happened in a far-off field. First, the angels appeared to the shepherds proclaiming news of great joy. The shepherds were afraid, but they listened to the angels and went to see the newborn king. Then they saw Jesus and believed. The most important reason why we remember the shepherds and give them a special candle is because of what they did next: they went around and told everyone they met what had happened to them. The third candle reminds us to share the news with Joy! (Reading: Luke 2:8-18)

## **Sunday, December 24, 2023** **The Wise Men's Candle, The Candle of Faith**

Relight all three candles and light the fourth candle (purple).

The fourth candle is the Wise Men's candle. Three scholarly men far away were studying the stars and saw one star that they knew was different. They didn't know where the star would lead them, but they followed it in faith. It led them to the newborn King. The Wise Men remind us to walk and live in faith. (Reading: Matthew 2:1-2)

## **Sunday, December 24, 2023** **The Christ Candle, The Candle of Love**

The first four candles are relit. Then, the tall Christ Candle in the center is lit.

The Christ Candle outshines all the others for it reminds us that Jesus is the Light of the world. Where his light shines, there is no darkness. It reminds us that Jesus came to show us his love, and then, that we might show that love to others. (Reading: John 1:4, 5, 14)