Giant Step Newsletter December 2023

Reminder: The last day of public school this year is Dec 21st. Public school will resume on January 8th. <u>Giant Step will be closed for Christmas Day and New Year's Day.</u> Families may sign up for care at the front desk for the following dates: 12/26, 12/27, 12/28, 1/02, 1/03, 1/04. We need a minimum of <u>6 kids</u> per day to remain open on these dates. Please sign up at the front desk if you would like your child to attend Giant Step. The days we will remain open will be posted **no later than December 14th.**

Merry Christmas from our families to yours! We will be sharing information about our Christmas party soon.

In November, we enjoyed a visit from some of the students belonging to the RJSHS Student Council. We shared a special snack* with them and painted turkeys. After that, we played and read many books. We look forward to visits from "the big kids" in the future!

(*See the flipside of this page for the "Pumpkin Pie in a Cup**" recipe the children helped Miss KK make in our kitchen. It's an easy treat to get kids involved in the kitchen at home!)

Our dramatic play center has been focused on construction recently as we prepare to read lots of books about The Three Little Pigs! We will also be looking for ways to stay active when the weather outside is too cold. Last week, we enjoyed using our parachute together. This was a great chance to practice following instructions and working as a group while also burning energy!

Board Meeting will be held December 14th, 6 pm Everyone is welcome!

We have been busy updating and expanding our website to better serve families looking for information about Giant Step. So far we have added more information about our curriculum and assessments, community resources, information about universal preschool (UPK) and a couple of pages with Frequently Asked Questions. We hope to soon add a page detailing Staff Requirements and Qualifications. Copies of these newsletters will also be available. Take a look anytime at: https://giantstepcenter.com/ Have something you would like to see online? Let us know!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

^{** &}quot;Pumpkin Pie in a Cup comes from: https://www.pre-kpages.com/pumpkin-pie-in-a-cup/

Many families would like to work with their kids in the kitchen, but when they are young, the prospect (and the clean up!) can be overwhelming. Miss KK found a great activity from Pre-K pages so that the kids at Giant Step could help her prepare our snack in pairs. This recipe is also easy to do at home with your child/children.

Pumpkin Pie in a Cup**

You will need (per child):

- 1 vanilla pudding cup
- 2 graham crackers
- 2 tablespoons of pumpkin pie mix
- Whipped cream
- Cinnamon
- Clear plastic cup
- Spoon
- Sandwich bag

Steps:

- Give each child graham crackers in the plastic bag. Let them crush the crackers and sprinkle the crumbs at the bottom of the clear cup.
- 2. Have the child mix their pumpkin pie filling and vanilla pudding together and scoop it into the clear cup as well.
- Finally, have the child add some whipped cream and sprinkle cinnamon on top. Enjoy!

Kids feel so much pride helping in the kitchen, and they may be more willing to try new foods if they have a hand in their preparation!