

YMCA Global Kindergarten Newsletter DECEMBER 2020



Hello YGK friends,

Time flies. It's already December. They say that the third wave of COVID-19 is hitting Japan and the infection numbers are increasing. We are facing this tough situation. But let's overcome it and stay healthy by taking basic infection prevention measures like washing hands, using hand-sanitizers, etc. regularly. Although we need to stay away from crowded places, we would like you to go out and play outdoors as much as possible to gain stamina. Getting nutrients and enough sleep is also important. Let's eat nutritiously and sleep well.

Christmas is still coming however hard this year has been. No one has ever experienced a year like this before. That makes us want to bring in the Christmas season even more. You must be looking for a gift from Santa. Do you know why we receive gifts on Christmas? Christmas is the day that Jesus Christ was sent to the earth from God as a gift. People at the time when Jesus was born were living in tough times. God sent Jesus Christ to be our savior. However, Jesus was born as a baby. Although God sent Jesus as a savior, if he was born as a baby, he was not able to do anything at first. Without help from someone, a baby cannot even survive. God taught us that even though a baby cannot do anything, he is still precious and has a meaning in life. We have had a really tough time this year due to COVID-19. It must have been as tough as during the time of Jesus Christ. Through this hard time, God has taught us that each and every one of us is precious and has a meaning in life. We may feel like comparing ourselves to others or don't want to accept someone who is different from us. However, God has shown us that each and everyone one of us has meaning and we are okay to be here. Let's keep it in mind, respect not only ourselves but also people around us in welcoming the Christmas season.

At YMCA, we have started a fundraising campaign for domestic and International support. We can support our friends in need by donating whatever we can do. Then, not only us but also our friends in our neighborhood or friends living afar would be able to live happily and safely. When you wish for a Christmas gift from Santa, let's wish for joy for our friends from all over the world as well.

Dear parents,

We appreciate all your support and understanding toward YGK. Although we have had to change various things due to this Covid situation, your continued support has been overwhelming. We truly appreciate it. We would like to keep paying close attention to hygiene and safety so that children can spend a fruitful time this month as well. We would like to ask for your cooperation in taking infection prevention measures at home as well. Thank you for your continued support.

YGKのみなさんこんにちは。あっという間に12月ですね。新型コロナウイルスの第三波となり、感染者が増えているという情報があります。大変な状況ではありますが、手洗い、消毒などの基本的な感染予防をしっかりと行い、正しく恐れて、正しく予防をして、今年の冬を乗り越えましょう。人込みは避けなければなりません、外に出られるときは、外でたくさん遊び、体力を付けましょう。また、栄養と睡眠も大切です。しっかりと栄養のあるご飯を食べて、しっかりと寝る時間をとるようにしましょう。

今年もクリスマスがやってきます。今年子どもも大人も体験したことのない、大変な年でした。大変な中でもクリスマスがやってきます。楽しみですね。サンタさんからもらうプレゼントも楽しみですね。クリスマスには何でプレゼントをもらうのでしょうか？クリスマスは、神様が私たちにイエス・キリストというプレゼントを与えてくれた日です。イエスが生まれた時代は、生活する人たちが色々なことで困っている大変な時代でした。神様はそんな人々を助けるためにイエスをプレゼントしてくれました。しかし、神様が贈ってくれたイエスは、赤ちゃんでした。困った人を助けるために贈ってくれたのですが、赤ちゃんにはまだ何もできませんし、みんなが助けてあげなければ生きていくこともできません。神様は、何もできない赤ちゃんでも、大切なプレゼントでそこに生きている意味があることを私たちに教えてくれました。今年も新型コロナウイルスで大変な年でした。イエスが生まれた時代のような感じです。大変な時ですが、神様は一人一人がかげがえのない存在で、生きている意味があることを教えてくれています。私たちは時々、他人と比べてかたたり、自分と違う人を認めたく無い時などがあるかもしれませんが、しかし、一人ひとり、生きている意味があり、そこにいていいんだよと神様は教えてくれています。神様が教えてくれていることを大切に、自分と隣の人を大切にクリスマスを迎えましょう。

YMCAでは、国際・地域協力募金が始まりました。自分だけではなく、近くのお友だちも、海外の遠くのお友だちも楽しく安心した生活ができるように、みんなで少しずつお金を集めてお友だちのために送ります。きっと皆さんは、サンタさんにプレゼントをもらえるようお願いしていると思います。自分がプレゼントをもらうだけでなく、世界中の他のお友だちにも同じような喜びがあふれるようにぜひお願いをしてください。

保護者の皆様。日ごろから YGK の様々な活動にご理解いただき、感謝申し上げます。今年は新型コロナウイルスの影響で様々な変更などが生じ、そのたびにご協力をいただき感謝いたします。感染予防を行い、12月も安全と健康に留意し、日々の充実した活動を行っていきたく考えております。ご家庭でも手洗い消毒など感染予防の徹底をお願いいたします。今後も様々なご理解をいただきながら YGK の運営を行ってまいります。教職員一同、どうぞよろしくお願いいたします。

And the angel said, Have no fear; for truly, I give you good news of great joy which will be for all the people: For on this day, in the town of David, a Saviour has come to birth, who is Christ the Lord. And this is the sign to you: you will see a young child folded in Linen, in the place where the cattle have their food. (Luke 2:10-12)

天使は言った。「恐れるな。わたしは、民全体に与えられる大きな喜びを告げる。今日ダビデの町で、あなたがたのために救い主がお生まれになった。この方こそ主メシアである。あなたがたは、布にくるまって飼葉桶の中に寝ている乳飲み子を見つけるであろう。これがあなたがたへのしるしである。」（ルカによる福音書 2 章 10-12 節）

YMCA Global Kindergarten
Hidehiko Otsuka
Principal

PUPPY CLASS

The students of the puppy class are having a nice time as they are enjoying the autumn season. We are going to the park regularly and they are playing with colorful leaves and acorns. They are also collecting and using them for arts and crafts. We plan to go on walks to view the autumn color after a few days.

For our literacy beginning, we practiced interactive reading and the students also practiced narrating their own stories through their drawings. We are now doing our alphabet book, where we are practicing to write and also understand the sounds the alphabets make and find words starting with them. Everyone in the class is very enthusiastic about finding words starting with the alphabet sounds.

For this month, our theme will be Christmas and Winter; we will learn about these themes through our stories, arts and exploring outside. We will have our Christmas concert on December 17th for which we already started practicing in our music class. The children love singing the Christmas songs.

パピーのお友だちは秋を存分に楽しんでます。公園に出かけ、色づいた落ち葉やドングリを拾って遊んだり、それをアートの時間に使ったりとしています。近々、秋色探しのお散歩にも出かけたいと思っています。

リテラシービギニングでは、インタラクティブリーディングに取り組み、自分で物語を作り、挿絵をつけて、お話のあらすじを話したりしました。今はアルファベットブックに取り組んでいます。文字の書き方や音、その文字で始まる単語を見つけたりする活動をしています。皆とても楽しみながら取り組んでいます。

12月といえば冬本番、そしてクリスマスですね。物語やアート、外遊びでこの季節を存分に楽しみたいと思います。17日のクリスマスコンサートに向けて練習を始めています。パピーのお友だちはクリスマスソングを歌うのが大好きです。

KITTEN CLASS

Hello everyone! It's time for updating once again the WHAT ABOUT of your children at YGK!

This is about the Kitten Class!

Time flies swiftly that we are now in the beautiful Autumn days. We're glad to let you know about the fun and the joyful learning experiences of your kids at YGK.

Let us just sum up all of their productive performances in what we call CHOICE TIME. It is here we observed the potential talents and abilities of each one. Their active participation revealed to us how creative and resourceful they are. Just making use of some recycled materials, like empty milk boxes, egg trays, tissue rolls, etc., they were able to make bags, boats, robots, telescopes and other toys to play with. Everybody seemed enthusiastic in their sharing, getting along with others and tried communicating with one another how to do things. When slight conflicts arise (children as they are,) they can easily resolve problems and enjoy themselves again.

The fun they have in the park picking fallen Autumn leaves are carried over in their Art activities. They make Autumn wreaths cutting traced leaves on paper and pasted on paper plates. They drew the nice leaves they took from the park on their drawing book to plan the leaf face design that they wanted. They then pasted the pom poms, cottons, beads, yarn, glittery items to make eyes, nose, mouth, mustache and hair on each leaf.

For Phonics, children learned different Nursery Rhymes and were able to identify words that rhyme. They also learned to syllabicate words by clapping their hands like for example: vol/ca/no (3 claps).

For ORT, they just finished the story about “The Library”, and started “The Swing Ball”.

On Music time, oh everyone’s busy in practices of Christmas songs, actions and some lines for the Christmas Concert and Talent Show. This is the much awaited time because soon will be 18th December - the start for Christmas vacation and being with family to enjoy the Holiday!

皆さん、こんにちは。

11月は存分に秋を満喫しました。

チョイスタイムでは、どの子もうちに秘めた独創性、創造性を存分に発揮していました。牛乳パックや卵パック、トイレト紙の芯等のリサイクル素材を使って、バッグやボート、ロボット、望遠鏡、おもちゃ等、たくさんの作品が出来上がりました。分かち合い、協力し合い、話し合いながら、一所懸命に取り組む姿が見られました。小さな行き違いが起こっても、自分たちで解決し、また仲良く遊び始めることが出来ました。

パピーのお友だちは、公園で落ち葉を拾うのが大好き。拾った落ち葉は持ち帰ってアート作品に変身！落ち葉をなぞって、紙に書き写し、それを切り取って紙皿で作った枠に貼り付けて、秋のリースを作りました。公園で拾ったお気に入りの葉っぱをモチーフに葉っぱの顔をデザインしてみたりもしました。それから、その上にポンポン、コットン、ビーズ、毛糸、きらきらをつけて、目や鼻、口、ひげ、髪の毛にしました。

フォニックスでは、新しい童謡（ナーサリーライム）を使って、出てくる単語を識別しました。音節（シラブル）の学習では、単語をシラブルに分けてみました。例えば、vol/ca/no は3音節、というように。

ORTでは、“The Library（図書館）”を読み終わり、“The Swing Ball（スイングボール）”の学習に入りました。

ミュージックでは、クリスマスコンサートの練習が始まり、歌、振り付け、台詞を覚えるのに忙しくしています。12月17日（木）は、クリスマスコンサート本番、そして家族が集うクリスマス休暇の始まりですね。その日が待ち遠しいですね。

CUB CLASS

This year has been a rollercoaster ride for all of us. Autumn has already passed and we could feel the cold breeze as winter has come. December is the last month of the year and so many festive activities are happening before 2020 ends!

For the month of November, we had some fun school activities such as the Cubs went for Nature Exploration in Negishi Park, Zoom Welcome Festa and Online Charity Run.

Moreover, we also introduced to the Cub class about “Story Book Making” for Choice Time. Sachiko sensei first made a book titled “Burp” followed by the Cub’s class book titled “Yo-chan Meets 10,000 Yo-chan”. Then they also made their own books and brought it here and we read it almost every day during afternoon meeting. These are the books they made “The Unicorn and Cat”, “The Monster Story”, “Owl Finds the Treasure” and “The Cat Birthday”. We also had a special art activity about Peace. In preparation for the Christmas concert, we already started to practice the songs and dances.

We would also like to thank the parents for your time doing the conference with us, thank you very much.

For December, we will be having the year-ender event which is the Christmas Concert and Talent Show. The Cubs will be presenting the famous musical play, The Nutcracker.

Happy holidays and may we all have a prosperous New Year!

