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Dear Parents,

November 30, 2018

It's hard to believe that November has come and gone so quickly! What a busy month it has been here at ECLC!

We are happy to report that we are now working with Creature Comfort Pet Therapy. They will be visiting on the 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of every month. They provide comfort and companionship through animal assisted activities and therapy.

Community Based Instruction trips this week included: Chipotle, Livingston Mall, Hanover Lanes, Shop Rite, Castle Ridge Plaza, CVS, County College of Morris Planetarium, Arminio's, Zio Gino Pizza, COSTCO, and TD Bank.

The week concluded with a visit from Washington Ave Elementary School to rooms 101, 104, and 110.

Reminders:

- **Saturday, December 1st: Lower School Karaoke with Santa-4:00-6:00pm**
- **Tuesday, December 4th: PTO Meeting at 7:30pm**
- **Thursday, December 6th: Parent Workshop-Fostering Independence 11:15-12:15**
- **Thursday, December 6th: 12:45 Early Dismissal – Parent/Teacher Conferences**
- **Friday, December 7th: Upper School Social -7:30pm**
- **Tuesday, December 11th: Awards Assembly**
- **Friday, December 14th: Holiday Concert**

Lower School Activities of Daily Living/SKIL:

101,104,110- In ADL class, students have been reading about and identifying kitchen tools we use for preparing food for meals and for measuring dry and liquid ingredients.

110- In SKIL, students collect paper from each homeroom and office for recycling.

104- In SKIL, jobs include washing lunch trays, copying and delivering lunch order forms, attainment, delivering tissue boxes to each homeroom and office, shredding and delivering Family magazines to each homeroom.

105- Jobs include washing lunch trays, delivering lunch envelopes to each homeroom, maintaining the teacher's room and "skill drills".

106- Jobs include attainment activities, magazine set-up for delivery, shredding and "skill drills".

CORE/SKIL:

This is a very busy time for SKIL. We completed making, serving and cleaning up after the Thanksgiving Luncheon that all the students love each year! In addition to keeping up with our regular jobs, we are busy making items for the retail sale at the Holiday Concert. We will have our wooden trees, wooden snowmen, gift bags, gift tags, candle centerpieces, cocktail napkins and more! Please remember all items are made by the students in SKIL and we hope you will support our sale!!!

ART:

Upper school completed the study of **Georgia O'Keefe's** "large flowers" and her "desert bones." The Author and Illustrator **Eric Carle** was the focus this month concentrating on his "painting with paper" art technique. The Holiday Concert scenery is under way; I can't believe another year has gone by and it's almost show time! A contemporary artist, **Roy Lichtenstein** and his Pop Art/Comic strip artwork style is being introduced.

Physical Education:

The PE staff and students worked on volleyball this unit to prepare for the annual Teacher vs. Students volleyball step reward the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Students worked hard leading up to this day working on serving rotation and teamwork. A beach ball was used in place of an official volleyball. The day went well and all classes that attended participated.

We had our tryouts for the ECLC basketball team. After 3 weeks of tryouts, we have selected the team for this upcoming season. All other students that tried out for the team are not just quite ready, however, we will certainly continue to work with these students in PE class. All ECLC students are eligible to participate in NJ Special Olympics and Play Unified opportunities. We will have two scrimmages in December. The first league game is scheduled for December 19, 2018. Thank you - PE staff

Music in November:

Our early snow day has put us in the mood to practice for our upcoming Winter Show. The Show will be on December 14th, starting promptly at 12:30PM. It will be led by the actors from Room 206 and I hope to see you all there! If you can't make it, the PTO has DVD's for sale. During the month of November, we sang popular hits and songs about Veterans Day. The Upper School sang and wrote what we are thankful for... come see our Thankful poster outside the Nurse's office. We also played snare drums to John Phillip Sousa marches, and acted out Haydn's 'Surprise Symphony'. This final week, we played Antonin Dvorak's 'New World Symphony' theme on Boomwhackers; most students said this song was so relaxing.

Upper School Health:

In November, the classes finished their practice with the Heimlich Heroes training dolls. We reviewed ways to decrease the risk of choking by taking smaller bites, chewing food thoroughly, and avoiding laughing and talking while eating. In class, we also discussed how to make a 911 emergency call. Different situations were presented to determine whether a medical problem is really an emergency or might need a doctor visit instead.

From the Health Office:

Cold Weather

An integral part of ECLC's program is experiential learning, and many of our community based instruction goals are met by using the resources available within walking distance in Chatham. This becomes more of a challenge as the weather gets colder! If the sun is out and the sidewalks are clear, we'd like the students to be able to go outside- even if the "real feel" temperatures are below freezing. **PLEASE be sure your student has long pants, a warm coat, gloves, and a hat at school** so our community based instruction can continue during the winter.

Extra Clothing

Please be sure your child has a full change of clothing at school- including shoes! Even older students may have a toileting accident, a fall on wet grass, or a spill in the kitchen or lunchroom that requires clean, dry clothing.

Students are better able to focus and participate if they are clean and dry, and they are more comfortable and confident in their own clothing.