



ALL SAINTS'

EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Strong minds. Healthy hearts. Full spirits.

Volume 24, Number 5 • January 2019

Day School Mission Statement

The mission of All Saints' Episcopal Day School is to educate the minds and hearts of children by providing a developmentally appropriate curriculum that fosters a love of learning in a spiritually inclusive environment.

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HEADLINES...

In January 2008, I wrote the following article and wanted to share this story again.

This past Christmas was one of the best ones I remember in a long time. It was the first time in the ten years since my Mom's death that all of her children and grandchildren were home at the same time to celebrate Christmas with my Dad. There were 19 of us, with Dad at the head of the table. We had run out of chairs, so he graciously used the flip down seat on his walker for a chair. I honestly don't think he even needed a place to sit because he was so filled with joy that he was practically floating.

Dad's appearance had probably changed the most of all of us present. It wasn't because he had aged so much, but because he had long silver hair and a full beard. He was asked to play Santa Claus at his assisted living facility so he began preparing for the role in July by giving up haircuts and shaving. As he sat on the couch in his Santa hat passing out gifts to us, he truly looked the part. Of course he didn't have to change anything about himself for us to believe that he was Santa; he has spent his life giving us gifts of love, laughter, encouragement, comfort, knowledge and time. But unlike Santa, he has been there for us every day of our lives.

Such a presence in one's life isn't limited to those whose parents or grandparents are still living. Christmas is the celebration of an event that emotionally should always be present in our minds and hearts. It's the knowing every second, every minute, every hour that the baby who grew up to be the man we call Jesus is here with us and in us now and forever. And so my prayer this month is that we will resolve to open God's gift of love every day and allow it to fill our lives. I pray too, that like my Dad, we'll be a year round Santa to the young people in our own lives.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MLK Holiday

Monday, January 21st
School Closed

Scholastic Book Fair

February 11th-15th
on campus

Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 15th
School Closed

Presidents' Day Holiday

School Closed

Cindy LaPorte, Head

BOARD CORNER - JANUARY 2019

During my 50-year career as an educator I have come to understand what is so special and so rewarding about teaching. It is the very thing that also makes it so challenging. Namely, that learning occurs through human connection. If we each look back on our own education I am convinced we would each find people who had a profound impact on us. People who touched us, who made us feel special, who challenged us, who pushed us past our own self-defined limits, and people whose love of life, of learning, and, indeed, love of others set for us examples to emulate.

When I was in college in the early 60's and considering a career in education I was frequently confronted with the saying "Those who can't do, teach". I am convinced that was because men in professions that weren't really options for women then viewed teaching below the college level as women's work that wasn't suitable for a well educated, capable, aggressive man. Happily, as professional opportunities improved for women teaching became more of an option for men and that demeaning saying of the 60's has largely disappeared. However, teachers in this country still do not get the respect and income that they deserve. We still don't respect the profession to the degree that we should. The irony, of course, is that the product of good teaching is the growth and development of our most valued asset; namely our children. It is also ironic that most people, unfamiliar with teaching, have no appreciation for how difficult it is to teach; to keep a classroom full of children engaged and learning for an entire class period let alone an entire day.

During my time as a head of school I frequently interviewed candidates who were interested in changing careers but who had no real appreciation for the challenge before them until they were asked, as part of the interview process, to take over a classroom.

All of this is to say that those of us who have entrusted our children and, in my case grandchildren, to the teachers at All Saints' should be forever grateful that we have such a wonderful, capable, caring, nurturing, professional, and dedicated faculty.

Teaching at All Saints' does, indeed, take place through the human connection.

Chris Mabley,
Secretary, Board of Trustees



Making Snow Flakes and Snow People

ART

We are looking at art through a different lens this semester - literally. The students will be introduced to the art of photography. We will learn about photographers such as **Ansel Adams, Anne Geddes, Annie Leibovitz, Robert Capa** and many, many more. From adventure photography, food photography, black and white to so much more, your young artists will be dabbling with multiple kinds of photography.

Ms. **JAMIE** Fierro

HAND GYMNASTICS

High fives all around! Our little group is working hard on building strength and dexterity in their fingers and hands. So far we have dug through heavy dough to find tiny hidden treasures, used eye droppers to watercolor paper, poked holes in paper using jumbo tacks, and made funny faces on characters using magnetic fibers. The little hands are getting stronger by the day!

Ms. **MO** Kowalik

SCIENCE

Water vapor, rain, snow and ice! Our scientists began the semester by learning about the states of matter and how water can be a solid, liquid or gas. After discussing ice and snow as solids, we excavated animals out of ice, went "fishing" for ice, played with instant snow and made ice "grow." Next, we will explore water as a liquid and a gas. To learn more about the water cycle, we will collect and observe steam to see how the gas turns back into water droplets, and make our own models of the water cycle by putting cups with plastic bags in a sunny window, marking the changing water level, and making observations.

Ms. **GIGI** Khalsa



BOOKMARK

In honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we will be reading books that teach us about human similarities and differences. We will discuss our commonalities in terms of emotions and spirit, and focus on the importance of fairness and respect. These are complicated issues that can be hard for children to understand, so please take the time to talk about these ideas with your child and help them clear up any misunderstandings. Now that the busy holidays are over, come browse the Library. We have adult books on parenting, and activities to do with your child, as well as many wonderful children's books.

Ms. GIGI Khalsa



COOKING

Our young chefs are back in the kitchen and cookin' up some delicious dishes. We are continuing our alphabet adventure and beginning with the letter "N" this semester. Nachos seemed like a good idea for our first class. We will bake Oatmeal cookies for "O" and then make Pizza for "P" to end January. We may even try a white pizza to celebrate winter.

Ms. JAMIE Fierro



YOGA

Our yogis are working towards improving strength and flexibility, developing self-control, and becoming more respectful and compassionate. To begin, we went on a snowstorm adventure to learn how breathing calms our minds. Next, we went to the North Pole to meet polar bears, and learn about how to find joy in the little things. To end the month, we will go to the South Pole to meet penguins, and explore the ideas of being persistent and following our dreams. We are discovering that yoga is good for the body and the spirit!

Ms. GIGI Khalsa



RED ROOM Ms. BRENNA Randolph
red@allsaintseds.org

Brrrrr- it's cold out there! The Red Room children have been learning lots of new vocabulary words related to the chilly weather. We looked at weather, clothing, and winter animals. The children have enjoyed many snowball fights and ice play as a part of sensory and motor development. For more fun at home: try freezing a large water balloon and throwing the ball of ice in the bath the next day. We will spend the rest of the month exploring bears - polar bears, black bears, grizzly bears, teddy bears... the list goes on and on. Look out for a bear cave coming soon!



BLUE ROOM Ms. BESS Newman
blue@allsaintseds.org

Everyone in the Blue Room is back and ready to learn! We will be learning all about Winter and Winter Animals this month with a special look at Bears in a couple weeks. We will continue with our Zoo-phonics and will be having a "Texas snowball fight" with fabric snowballs instead of snow. We will also discuss the differences in winter where it snows and the winter we experience here in Texas.



GREEN ROOM Ms. GIGI Khalsa
green@allsaintseds.org

Snowflakes, soft snowflakes, gently are falling, magically making everything white. We are learning all about winter. To begin, we found out about how snow forms. We explored some pretend snow and real ice, and compared the properties of each. Next, to strengthen our fine motor skills we cut out snowflakes and made snow people, and to practice forming letters and numbers, we made "snow" play dough. Soon we will be celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday by reading about his life and why he was important. We will honor him by making medals, and sharing our dreams for a peaceful, loving world. To end the month, we will have fun with nursery rhymes and celebrate the 100th day of school.



ORANGE ROOM Ms. MO Kowalik
orange@allsaintseds.org

Snowball FIIIIIGHT!!! We started the new year with an Austin-style snowball fight (indoors) and a quick review of the skills we worked on last semester. Then we launched into learning about polar animals and the arctic environment. For the remainder of the month, we will focus on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his work to make our world a better place, followed by an all-time favorite and whimsical two week unit on fairy tales.

ASAP ALL SAINTS' ASSOCIATION of PARENTS

All Saints' Association of Parents (ASAP) is active throughout the school year. Through volunteering in the classroom and behind the scenes, the Parents' Association helps the Teachers and Staff with a multitude of tasks from party planning and fieldtrips to educational lecture series and fund-raising. Having a large pool of active parents will help create the loving, child-centered atmosphere of the Day School.

Welcome back, we hope you and your family had an enjoyable and happy holiday break. We thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to relax, recharge, unplug and catch up with loved ones. This season is such a great time to reflect and count our blessings, and we are very thankful to return to school this month with our All Saints' friends, families and faculty!

We have a lot to look forward to this year starting with the **Scholastic Book Fair February 11-15**. This is a great opportunity to update your home library and motivate your kids to learn to read for fun by letting them shop for and choose their own books. Stop by and preview the book selection February 8th.

Planning for the Spring Fundraiser is in full swing. Look for details to come soon. The next ASAP meetings will be focused on this event. We are looking for any volunteers who are interested in helping with the planning process, coordinating event details, gathering auction items, etc. If you would like to help, but cannot make the meetings please feel free to call or email one of us.

In the spirit of the clean slate a new year brings, we'll leave you with these words from C.S. Lewis "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2019!

Amy Wright & Paula Falat,
ASAP Co-Chairs

ASAP MEETINGS:

Monday at 9:05 a.m. in the
UT Episcopal Student Center

February 4th

March 4th

April 1st

May 6th

ASAP 2018-2019 Representatives

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ORANGE ROOM

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Indoor Snowball Fight!



Playground Parade!

All Saints' does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, religion, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its admissions and education policies, financial assistance programs, employment practices, and other school-administered programs.

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