



A New Year 2024

Special points of interest:

- **New Year Traditions**
- **Christmas Memories at Our Center**
- **Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**
- **Inclement Weather Policy**
- **Parent Reminders**
- **Parent Thank You's**

Closing Dates

January 1-Closed for New Years

January 2-Center Reopens

January 15-Center closed in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday

February 19-Center closed, President Day & Staff Training

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

January 2024 Newsletter

New Year Traditions

Civilizations around the world have been celebrating New Year's Day for over 4,000 years. Most New Year's Day celebrations will begin on December 31 into the first day of the 2024 New Year. Around the world, traditions will include attending parties, eating special New Year's dishes, making resolutions, going to church and watching fire works. Many countries have New Year's traditions that symbolize hope for the months ahead.



In Spain and Spanish-speaking countries, people eat a dozen of grapes right before midnight. This tradition symbolizes hope for tomorrow since grapes are an important part of their economy. In other parts of the world, people eat traditional New Year's legumes, lentils or black-eye peas. Eating these various forms of beans is thought to bring good luck or future financial success. In Cuba, Austria, Hungary, Portugal and other countries, they include eating pork as part of their festive meals because the pig represents progress and prosperity in those countries. In the Netherlands, Greece and Mexico, ring-shaped cakes and pastries are served and eaten as a symbol that the year has come full circle around. In Sweden and Norway, rice pudding with a hidden almond inside is served. It is said that whoever finds the almond will have months of good fortune. Despite the traditions around the world, hope for the New Year is the central theme. As wars around the world continue to jeopardize the peace and hope of our world, we must be watchful and diligent to pray for peace and one another.

Scholarship Parents Update

Please make sure you create a parent portal at www.money4childcare.com. The portal allows you to submit documents and approve attendance every two weeks.



Important Parent Reminder

It is very important that parents ensure they are signing their children in/out every day. Our sign in/out sheets serve as administrative documents for verification of attendance. Thank you for your cooperation.

The Grinch Came for Christmas



We have our eyes on The Grinch.



We're scared of the Grinch!



I'm not scared of the Grinch!



Ms. Kim dressed for the Christmas Grinch Day.

Santa Came to Developing Minds





“To make a change in the New Year, don’t add new things in your life as a New Year’s resolution. Instead, do more of what’s already working for you and stop doing things that are time-wasters or not working.”

Salil Jha

Tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



January 15, 2020 is the national holiday to remember and pay tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. for the contributions he has made to civil rights and freedom for all people. He was born on January 15, 1929. Dr. King was a Baptist minister, activist, and prominent leader in the African-

American Civil Rights Movement. He is known as a pioneer in advancing civil rights in the United States and around the world using non-violent methods. Dr. King led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in 1957. It was Dr. King’s efforts, commitment and leadership that led to the 1963 March on Washington. At the 1963 March, he gave the most inspiring historical speech called “I Have a Dream.” In 1964, Dr. King became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for his work to end racial segregation and racial discrimination through civil disobedience and other non-violent means. Prior to his death, he continued to work with the civil rights movement for blacks and minorities; and he began focusing his efforts on ending poverty and the Vietnam war. Throughout his career as a civil right’s activist, Martin Luther King, Jr. wrote and spoke frequently about his life and experiences. Due to Dr. King’s courage and commitment to the rights of minorities, the civil rights law was passed in 1964. Developing Minds will be closed on Monday, January 17, 2022 to observe the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.



Inclement Weather Policy

Parents are reminded to review the inclement weather policy as outlined in the parent handbook. If Baltimore County Public Schools opens 1 hour late or is closed 1 hour early, our center will open 1 hour late or close 1 hour early. If Baltimore County Public Schools opens 2 hours late or closes 2 hours early, our center will open 2 hours late or close 2 hours early. If Baltimore County Public Schools close for the entire day due to inclement weather, we will not open before 9 a.m. Parents are reminded that the center will open, unless Ms. Tia has sent out a message regarding the center closing. If the center has to close due to extreme inclement weather, parents will be notified by the one call message system. When inclement weather is predicted by the weather forecasters, please listen to the local TV and radio stations for updates and please listen to the full message sent to parents by Ms. Tia.

Parent Reminders

- *Please ensure your child has weather appropriate change of clothes since we are changing seasons.*
- Parents should ensure they have submitted their child’s Health Inventory Part II form and immunization form to the main office.
- The cut-off time for all children in both buildings is 9:30 am.
- Breakfast is served from 7:30 am to 8:00 am.
- Please label your child’s jackets, coats and hats. This will help prevent misplacement of belongings.
- Parents are asked not to double park in the parking lot or speed in the parking lot..
- Children are not allowed to use parent access codes because this is a breach of security if a child or unauthorized person uses a parent’s access code.
- It is extremely important that parents inform their child’s teacher of any allergies their child may have.
- If your child takes medication, the center must have a medication form completed by the doctor. The medication must be in its original box with directions from the doctor.
- *Children must be signed in and out by an authorized adult or person at least 16 years old per Maryland child care license regulations.*
- Parents are reminded to pick up their child on time at the end of the school day. Late pick-up fees are \$20 for the first 5 minutes (6:31 pm – 6:35 pm) and \$5 for each additional minute.
- As we approach winter, please review our inclement weather policy.



“January first is a blank page of a 365 page book of your new year. Make your 2024 book a best seller. Every day can be a new chapter.”

Attention!! Parents of PreK Graduates

Graduation activities for our PreK graduates is only five months away. Information will be coming soon regarding the date of the graduation, graduation fees, raffle tickets, and dates for Spirit Week activities. Please mark May 24, 2024 on your calendar for the graduation date. The graduation will be held at Martin’s West at 11 am.

Parent Thank You's



3102 Lord Baltimore Drive, Suite 114
Baltimore, MD 21244

410-944-5437 Telephone
410-944-1506, FAX



Please Note:

If you experience difficulty with our 410-944-5437 line, please use our other exchanges (1340, 1341, 1342) to contact the center.



- Developing Minds sends its gratitude to Mr. Brandon and Mrs. Tierra for being Mr. & Mrs. Santa.
- Developing Minds extend its gratitude to Mrs. Kitty B. for helping with the Santa Claus pictures.
- Thanks is extended to Ms. Keysha, Ms. Kabrea and Ms. Kim for coordinating and helping with the Christmas week activities.
- Ms. Kim in 3-2 extends her sincere gratitude to the administrative staff for their gifts and luncheons.
- Ms. Kim extends her thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Tariq's mom and dad, for the lovely Christmas gift.
- Building 3100 would like to give a big thank you to Ms. Tedsa, Josie's mom, for the holiday cups. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.
- Building 3100 and 3102 extend our thanks to all parents who donated goodies, supplies, etc. during the holidays.
- Ms. Kim wishes to thank Alaiyah's mom, Ms. Shayla, for the Christmas gift.



To You and Your Family
From Mrs. Latia & Family

January Birthdays

Children

Khan H.	1/4
Soleil O.	1/6
Ryleigh W.	1/11
Ella C.	1/11
Jacob H.	1/17
Jeremiah C.	1/19
Marlee B.	1/20
Wynter J.	1/21
Alaiyah G.	1/28
Collin W.	1/28

Teachers

Ms. Kim	1/6
Ms. Jayla	1/8
Ms. Belinda	1/29

