

# Westminster Family Connection



**January 2025**



Happy 2025!

## **The Solar System!**

Every January the entire school focuses on the solar system. The planets are hung in the downstairs hallway and stars students have painted are everywhere! While the 2 1/2s learn about the day and night sky, the 3's learn more about the sun and moon and touch on the planets, and the 4's delve deeper into the planets, the solar system, and outer space. The unit culminates in a visit from the Inflatable Planetarium Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>. Special thank you to those who planned and participated in the Parents Night Out fundraiser for making this program possible this year!

## **Registration for 2025-2026**

Registration for the upcoming school year opens to current families on Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>! Registration and opens to the public on January 21<sup>st</sup>. Our application and tuition information can be found on our website at [www.westminsternurseryschool.org](http://www.westminsternurseryschool.org). If you have any questions about your child's placement next year, please reach out to your child's teacher.

## **Conferences**

Parent Teacher conferences are Thursday January 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday January 31<sup>st</sup>. There are no morning classes on those days. Your child's teacher will reach out to you regarding the schedule. If you need childcare during your conference, staff will be available to watch your child in the playroom.

Afternoon programs are open as usual. If your child is enrolled in 3's Lunch and Learn or 4's Enrichment, you may bring your child with his/her packed lunch at 11:30am on those days.

### **Pajamas and Pancakes!**

Something cozy to look forward to at the end of January! Tuesday January 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup> are all about Pajamas and Pancakes! Mrs. Machin's class will wear pajamas on Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday the 3's and 4's will have their turn. Students love the pancakes and the chance to show their favorite pajamas to their friends, but don't worry if your child is hesitant or refuses to wear pajamas - they are encouraged, not required! They also get a kick out of seeing the staff wearing pajamas! Parents - feel free to wear pjs at drop off!

### **Exploring the Skies Beyond the Classroom**

If your child is looking for even more information on space, the Raritan Valley Community College Planetarium has programs designed for preschoolers as well as older children - check out their website [www.raritanval.edu/planetarium](http://www.raritanval.edu/planetarium) to see what they offer. Additionally, the William Sperry Observatory in Cranford is open to the public and free on Fridays 7:30pm - 10:30pm, [www.asterism.org](http://www.asterism.org). The public library has many books about space and the solar system for kids, your child is welcome to bring some in to share with the class! Download the Night Sky App in your phone and see where the planets, constellations and even the International Space Station are in our sky each night!

### **Google/Yelp**

Many of you had such nice things to say about Westminster in your holiday cards - thank you! Please consider writing a Google and or Yelp review, we would really appreciate it!

### **Snow Day and Delayed Opening Reminder**

January and February may bring some winter weather! Please be sure to check your email - Westminster Nursery School follows Berkeley Heights Public Schools when it comes to closings and delayed openings due to inclement weather. I will send an e-mail between 5:30 am and 6:00 am in the event of a closing or delayed opening. If there is a delayed opening, classes will be in session from 10:00am until 12:00pm with extended day in session 12:00pm to 2:30pm.

### **Upcoming Dates of Note**

Monday January 20<sup>th</sup> - School closed Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday January 28<sup>th</sup> - Pajama Day and pancakes for Mrs. Machin's class

Wednesday January 29<sup>th</sup> - Pajama Day and pancakes for Mrs. Bocian's and Mrs. Ripps's classes

Thursday January 30<sup>th</sup> - Morning classes **closed** for Conferences; *extended day open 11:30am*

Friday January 31<sup>st</sup> - Morning classes **closed** for Conferences; *extended day open 11:30am*