



Dear Bright Beginnings NYC Parents,

It's been another busy month here at Bright Beginnings. Both the preschool and the After-school had a wonderful time preparing for the holiday season and have ended 2021 on a high note. Before we head into 2022, let's reflect on some of our favorite December moments.

Preschool

The Friends have had a blast exploring everything baby animals! Both classes loved cracking open eggs and studying the lifecycles of our favorite animal pals. The Big Friends kicked off December by taking a trip to the farm and learning more about baby chickens by sorting and counting colorful chick eggs. The Friends then discussed our classroom pet Boscoe and how he looked as a baby by playing with water bead "fish eggs" in a sensory bin. The Friends ended December on a brilliant note by learning about arctic animals with our letter penguin waddling game. In addition to our animal studies, the Big Friends also reviewed the letters A-L! Some highlights from our alphabet studies included our B dot marker match, the A is for Apple letter toss game, and digging



through ice to find the letters of their name. Eggcellent work Big Friends!



The Little Friends also had a roaring good time learning about animal babies this month! For the first week, the Little Friends explored what our favorite pets looked like as babies by feeding a puppy letter bones. The Friends then studied various baby reptiles by creating their own Play-Doh snake eggs and uncovering turtle eggs in a sand sensory bin. To wrap up the month, the Friends learned all about unique animal transformers by tossing ladybug eggs onto a leaf and sequencing the different stages of a butterfly's lifecycle. Adding to all our wild learning, the Little Friends continued to blaze through the alphabet with the letters F and G! A few of our favorite activities included our F is for color changing flower experiment, painting with frogs, and creating cotton ball ghosts for letter G. Great work Little Friends!



We are excited to introduce our new theme for January: **Movies!**

All the Friends have been very curious as to how their favorite movies are made, especially the new Paw Patrol flick!

Throughout January, the kiddos will explore what a movie is, what we do when we go to the theater, and what our favorite movie snacks are! Get your 3D glasses ready!



Afterschool

Our After-school program kept just as busy throughout December! A few highlights from this month were decorating our very own holiday trees, making a snowstorm in a jar, crafting fancy New Years hats, and jamming out during our holiday musical chairs game. Wonderful work After-school!





Housekeeping

We have lots of exciting announcements for January! Firstly, we are amending our current covid/sick policy to happily reflect all of your newly added parent suggestions. You will have already received an email with these items this past December prior to the winter break as well as this past week. Please find them on the homepage of our website under Covid-19 documents. Please note that all items such as this, the school calendar, the full-time lunch menu, etc. can always be found on our website :).

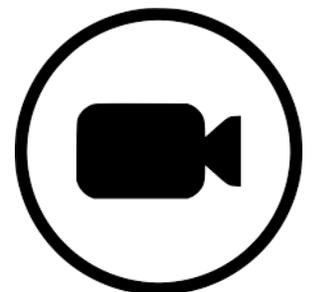


Secondly, Bright Beginnings NYC will be closed on Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. This is a non-attendance day for both the preschool and after-school program. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 18th with a regular schedule.

Next, we are so happy with how our parent workshops have been going! The parent support and community is strong at Bright Beginnings and we're so thrilled with how many parents have taken part. For the time being however, we will be pausing our parent workshops (including dad groups) just for the current moment (cold/flu season). As these months tend to incur a bit more of the sniffles, etc., we will work to limit possible contact as needed. We are looking to resume in March post the standard cold/flu season. We can't wait to have all of you back!!



In the interim however, myself and the teachers have some exciting news!! We will be working to launch our first ever videos for our parents! This will delve into all of your parent questions + struggles, teaching strategies we use in the classroom, how to manage your kids



behaviors at home, the works! We have had ongoing interest from our moms and dads who have not been able to make it to the parent workshops, to possibly provide a virtual option. And though the parent workshops are meant to be in person not only to have a more interactive discussion but also to bring the sense of community back to the preschool, we do want to expand our virtual teaching footprint as well. With all that in mind, myself and the teachers will be working hard to bring this to fruition. We are still currently in the planning and strategy phase but will keep you updated with its progress. You will also be able to find the *Teacher Talk* videos on our preschool website once ready.



Important Dates:

Monday, 17th, 2022: MLK Jr. Day, School Closed.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during the first half of this school year and our culmination of 2021. Of course, if you have any ideas or suggestions in the meantime, feel free to share them via e-mail or in person! We love hearing from all of you! We'll see you in 2022!



Sincerely,
Bright Beginnings NYC Staff