

# CHILDREN'S HOUSE CHATTER

Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY** The school will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27. There will be no classes and no child care on these two days. We wish everyone a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

**ANNUAL FUND-RAISER** it's time to order poinsettias for our annual fund-raiser. Order forms will be placed in the children's files by the end of this week. These are beautiful plants and are very easy to sell. Each family is asked to sell **TEN** plants **OR** you may make a \$50.00 donation instead – the choice is yours. The plants will be delivered to the school on Thursday, December 3.

**THE NATIONAL REYE'S SYNDROME FOUNDATION** is asking schools to remind parents that aspirin products should not be administered to children with flu symptoms, or with fever or viral infections. Please go to [www.reyessyndrome.org](http://www.reyessyndrome.org) for more information.

**JUNIOR ELEMENTARY CLASS** The Juniors have been making some wonderful decorations for the Buddy Lunch this Friday November 20. Thanks to everyone for donating so many items for our Silent Auction Christmas Tree. It will be beautiful. Parent/Teacher Conferences will be December 1, 2 & 3. There is a schedule posted on our big bulletin board – please come upstairs and sign up! The Juniors have voted to send money donations to St. Bonaventure School & Mission. It is on an Eastern Navajo Reservation in Thoreau, NM. Donations are due on or before Tuesday, December 1. Yesterday we went to the Fletcher Library and today we are making pine-cone bird feeders.

**DOWNSTAIRS TODDLERS** Parents, please send your child to school wearing appropriate outerwear. We have outside play each and every day unless the temperature drops below freezing. Your child needs a warm jacket, hat & gloves, and warm footwear. Thank you.

**DOWNSTAIRS CLASS** This week we welcome Weldon Woods to our classroom community. We

are happy to have him here with us. We have been enjoying our books that we received from the Book Fair. Thank you to all the parents who participated! We continue practicing good table manners at group time. We have also begun to sing Thanksgiving and winter songs. Today we made muffins for snack; the children all helped stir the batter. They were delicious! Parents – please label all jackets, gloves & hats with your child's name or initials so that we may make sure the right jackets etc. go home with their owners! Thanks!

**OUTSIDE CLASSROOM** The children have been enjoying making art Thanksgiving. They've been working on making booklets on the life cycle of the frog and bird. The older children are working on multiplication using the stamp game. Parents, please, please, label all coats, hats & gloves. We do our best to keep up with these items, but if they are not labeled it makes it very difficult.

**CONTROL OF ERROR contd.** Another form of control of error requires an awareness on the part of the child. This can be seen in the materials chosen for Practical Life. For example, glass pitchers & bowls are used (in the 3+yrs classroom) for pouring and other transferring activities precisely because they will break if dropped. If a child is only exposed to non-breakable items, there is no direct feedback for careless handling. Removing breakable and potentially dangerous items from an environment may create a safer place in the short term, but it will leave children ill-prepared to identify and safely negotiate potential dangers in less controlled spaces. Some other examples are the types of furniture used in a well-planned Montessori classroom. Chairs & tables are wooden and should not have rubber tips on the legs, precisely so that they will make a noise if bumped.