

# Creative Learning Center

## December 2017

Please visit our website at [www.clcalamo.com](http://www.clcalamo.com).

### Dates to Remember

**December 22 - January 5**  
Winter Break - NO SCHOOL

#### Monday, January 8

Classes Resume

#### Monday, January 15

Martin Luther King Day - NO SCHOOL

#### Thursday and Friday, February 1 and 2

Parent/Teacher Conferences - NO SCHOOL - Childcare for CLC students and siblings 2 years and over provided during conference time.

### Short on time for Holiday prep?

Gift yourself the "gift of time" by extending your child's engaging morning into the afternoon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Add Lunch and/or Rainbow Enrichment 11:30 or 12:30 to 3:30. Call or email the office to confirm availability and happy shopping!

### CLC Health Policy

A reminder...make sure your child is HEALTHY when coming to school. Our Health Policy is to keep your children home from school for 24 HOURS after Diarrhea, Fever, Flu Symptoms or Vomiting. Our complete Health Policy was distributed at the beginning of school. If you need an updated flyer, please see the office.

### Screen Time and Developing Brains

[Click Here](#) to view an article about cognitive development in children with extended exposure to electronic media from Child Care Exchange.

## December Theme

Theme: Home Sweet Home  
Family Celebrations, Traditions, Sharing  
Letters of the Week

Dec. 4-8                      G g

Dec. 11-15                    O o

Dec. 18-21                    S s

## Happy Holidays

As the calendar days wane, the tempo of our lives increases. There's excitement in the air at holiday time as the traditional sentiments of love and sharing rekindle themselves in each of us.

We at Creative Learning Center feel especially privileged to share all this with you and your children. As we reflect on a full year of warmth and friendship, our holiday spirits are high indeed!

Our monthly newsletter provides us with the opportunity to thank individuals for specific gifts or services but too infrequently do we extend our deep-felt thanks to all of our families in our school for the constant support and caring that you give throughout the year. We would also like to extend a huge "Thank You" to all of the faithful parent participants who have diligently given their time to add that special touch to our program. Your enthusiasm is greatly appreciated!

Have a Wonderful Holiday Season. We wish Health, Love, and Peace to all of you in the New Year!

## Junior Kindergarten

For our families with children turning 4 by September 1, 2018, we invite you to visit our JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN program to see if it is a good fit for your child next school year (2018-2019). A good time to visit is 9:00 am or 1:00 pm. Please call the office at (925) 837-4044 to set up a time to observe.

## What's Happening?

Thank you to CLC families for supporting the Pledge to Humanity Candy Drive after Halloween. Local middle school and high school students helped with sorting and packaging hundreds and hundreds of pounds of candy to be sent in care packages to our troops through Blue Star Moms.

Our annual Friendship Fruit Salad was the highlight of the month. All of the Together Time groups brought in different fruits to share in preparing the delicious fruit salad. Together Time areas were decorated with colorful place mats that the children created and designed.

## Together Time Highlights



### Science, Motor and Music

- Teacher Lynne and our SCIENTISTS continued to study our 5 senses by experimenting with different smells and listening to a tape of animal sounds.
- We spent the month in MOTOR with Teacher Courtney doing prop dancing with hula hoops, ribbon sticks and bean bags. We also learned to do barrel rolls and back somersaults on the tumbling mats!
- In MUSIC with Teacher Jan the children loved singing the "Five Little Turkeys" finger puppet chant and laughed when the turkeys "ate" the farmer. We also learned the song and dance "Any Turkey Can Tango". You can check out the song on YouTube. We took an imaginary "Fox Hunt" and rode our horses to the rhythms of the fox running and panting like hunting hounds while listening to Vivaldi's "Autumn Movement" from the "Four Seasons." Of course, we're always glad that the Fox isn't caught. This exercise in careful listening helps the children focus on the different musical themes in the piece.

#### Turkey Dinner

Sung to the tune of "Frere Jacques"

Turkey dinner, turkey dinner  
Gather round, gather round  
Who will get the drumstick  
The yummy yummy drumstick  
All sit down, all sit down.  
Cornbread muffins, chestnut stuffing  
Pumpkin pie, ten feet high!  
We were all much thinner  
Before we ate our dinner  
Me oh my, me oh my!



### Mary's Orange Tigers

- Sang about dinosaurs
- Painted turkeys and pumpkins
- Illustrated the song "Aikendrum"
- Constructed fire trucks

### Chieko's Red Rock Stars

- Tasted apples and voted on our favorites
- Created dinosaurs out of D's
- Read "How Much is That Doggie in the Window" and made our own doggies
- Discuss how to be a good friend

### Susan's Yellow Bees

- Made letter "A" alligators with big triangle teeth
- Folded paper airplanes and flew them in the backyard
- Dug for dinosaurs in the sand
- Talked about what makes us thankful--our families!

### Linda's Blue Birds

- Measured, mixed and enjoyed healthy baked donuts while we listened to "Detective Dog and the Disappearing Donuts"
- Practiced our scissor skills cutting out acorns in autumn
- Read "The Boy Who Loved Dumplings", tasted our own, and discovered that we love them too!
- Learned that ants have 6 legs and 3 body parts and created egg carton ants that we painted different colors



### Marie's Green Grapes

- Tasted 3 different kinds of apples and voted for our favorite
- Counted while singing "The Ants Go Marching"
- Acted out "Five Little Ducks" song with our duck puppet
- Sang "Fire Truck" and talked about fire safety

### Lindi's Purple Pandas

- Dissected apples to see the insides
- Made turkey hats
- Danced the "Turkey Pokey"
- Practiced manners at the dinner table

### Susan's PM Red Apples

- Tasted apples and added up the votes--red won!
- Talked about what it would be like to be astronauts
- Read about dinosaurs, then created our own
- Illustrated why we are thankful

### Lynne's PM Blue Butterflies

- Developed small motor skills by practicing writing our names
- Painted astronaut people and dreamed of where we would go as astronauts
- Learned the days of the week and month of the year songs
- Imagined what it was like being a dinosaur and made dinosaurs out of letter D

### Lindi's PM Green Gators

- Read and counted along with "10 Apples Up on Top"
- Used our 5 senses to touch, see, smell, taste and hear the crunch of apples
- Read "Monsters Have Table Manners" and practiced being polite at our Thanksgiving Dinner
- Practiced AB patterns using turkeys and feathers

### Lindi's PM Golden Bears

- Hunted for acorns and used them to paint acorn creations
- Read "The Thankful Book" and talked about what we are thankful for
- Created turkey hats using the letters in our names
- Talked about our families

## Staff Spotlight

This month our staff spotlight is shining bright on Teacher Lynne. "Lynnie" is our afternoon Blue Butterfly Teacher and Science Specialist. She brings a wealth of expertise as an ECE professional, including many years of local experience as a Preschool Teacher and Director. She received her ECE training at DVC. Teacher Lynnie enjoys gardening, cooking and working on her ongoing house remodel in her spare time. She has two grown children and lives with her husband Steve in Pleasant Hill.

*"It's my joy and pleasure to teach young children every day.  
Their energy, eagerness to learn and love keeps me going!  
I feel so honored to be on of your child's 1st teachers."*

## Baby News

Congratulations to Blue Bird Lucca and her family!  
Lucca's baby brother was born on November 28.  
CLC joins Lucca and her family in welcoming their new baby boy!

## It's My Birthday!

*December Birthdays - Let's Celebrate!*

Donald, Dylan, Eli, Genevieve F, Love, Wesley

[www.clcalamo.com](http://www.clcalamo.com) - 120 Hemme Avenue - Alamo, CA 94507