



Scribes & Scribblers Newsletter

November /December 2023

The days are getting shorter, the weather is getting colder and our hallways that are so beautifully decorated for fall and Thanksgiving will soon be transformed into a magical winter wonderland! The rest of November will be spent spreading kindness and remembering what we are thankful for. Then, the festive fun kicks off when we return from Thanksgiving Break! (Remember, Scribes is CLOSED on THURSDAY, November 23rd & FRIDAY, November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving!) If this is your first Holiday Season with us at Scribes you are sure in for a surprise! Please keep this newsletter for reference as it contains lots of useful information!!

Audrey's Outreach Food Drive

Thank you SO MUCH to all of the families who have already contributed to our Food Drive for Audrey's Outreach. We will continue collecting items until 9:00 AM on MONDAY, November 20th. Please remember, items that are "Thanksgiving Dinner Related" such as boxed stuffing & potatoes, cornbread/muffin mix, canned veggies, fruits & pie filling and even disposable baking tins and cups are appreciated. We can also accept Personal Care items, including shampoo, conditioner, body wash, lotion, disposable razors and feminine care products. New, unopened packs of diapers, socks and underwear, as well as gloves and mittens are also needed. Families may make monetary donations as well. ALL donations will be delivered to Ms Margi at Audrey's Outreach on Monday, November 20th. As an incentive, the classroom who collects the most items will earn a PIZZA PARTY! Help us help others this holiday season!!!

Scribes Winter Wonderland Breakfast

When families walk into the building on Monday, November 27th, they will be transported to the most magical one-of-a-kind Winter Wonderland you have ever seen!!! Parents are invited to sign up for a time slot to sit with their kiddos in the gym and enjoy a light breakfast and Christmas Movie, and then walk down the hall to see our amazing display! An electronic sign-up link will be posted on our School Story on Class Dojo so families can choose a time that works best. We guarantee you will be blown away, it truly is a sight to see!

Christmas Door Decorating Contest

As you could tell during Halloween, we LOVE to see our teachers express their creativity by decorating their doors! We challenge them this month to a Christmas Door Decorating Contest!

Beginning Monday, December 4th, we invite families to check out all the doors from Babyland all the way down to School Age and then cast their vote for their FAVORITE door via the box in the office OR on Class Dojo! The classroom with the door that receives the most votes will earn DONUT HOLES & CHOCOLATE MILK for snack!!!!

Toys For Tots We will have a display table set up across from the School-Age Showcase where parents and staff can place new, unwrapped toys for Toys for Tots. As a thank you from Scribes, every family or staff member who donates a toy for Toys for Tots will be entered into a raffle to win an AMAZING SECRET PRIZE! We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys until the morning of Wednesday, December 20th. Mr. Steve will then drop off all the toys to the Marines to distribute to children before Christmas.





Scribes Holiday Break

Historically, Scribes has remained open around the holidays, only closing the days immediately before or after a major holiday, as we understand that parents need to work and rely on us for care. This year is different.

For those of you who don't know, Steve and I lost our beautiful 20 year old daughter Bailey tragically and unexpectedly on February 19th of this year. Bailey was such a talented, funny, colorful, kind-hearted person who literally lit up a room when she entered it. She loved people and animals and found beauty in everything, always spreading positivity and light wherever she went. Bailey was a Scribes kid at heart and was just starting to help out with the "family business," spending this past Valentine's Day blowing up all the balloons for our dance party and visiting classrooms to meet the kids. You may have even seen her picture on our facebook and dojo posts from that day! Words can't express how much I miss my girl and how much her loss has impacted everyone at Scribes. Steve and I were blessed with amazing support from our staff and families, from thoughtful cards and kind words to a very generous Meal Train so we didn't have to worry about food for a while. Scribes Family truly is Family and for that I am both grateful and proud.

As for the holidays this year, I honestly don't know how I'm going to get through it. I know I will, for our son Dillon and with the support of our families, but I am struggling just thinking about it. That being said, we have made the decision to close for a "Holiday Break" this year so that Steve and I can be with our family. We were already going to be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 25th & 26th; and again,

Monday and Tuesday, January 1st & 2nd in observance of the Christmas and New Years Holidays, respectively. We are now closing the 3 days of "Christmas Week," so our **LAST DAY** before the holidays will be **Friday, December 22nd** (Polar Express Day) and we will **RETURN** to Scribes on **Wednesday, January 3rd**. Typically, tuition is due regardless of attendance or holiday closure, as tuition is our only income and our staff deserves holiday pay. However, we understand the burden our closure may put on families who needed care those 3 days that we are now choosing to close. So, **ALL FAMILIES** will receive a **VACATION CREDIT** for 50% of your weekly tuition rate for the week of Christmas. Regular tuition is due for the week of New Years.

I know this is not what families expected and I appreciate your understanding in these special circumstances. This holiday season will be a challenge but I am very much looking forward to the fun events we have planned and seeing the joy and wonder that our holiday display brings to everyone.



New Year's Rockin' Steve Dance Party

Did you know that Mr. Steve's birthday is New Year's Eve?!?! This year's birthday is even more special, because he will be turning 50 years old!! (I know, I can't believe it either! Ha!) Every year we celebrate the New Year **AND** Mr. Steve's birthday with our very own "New Year's Rockin' Steve" Dance Party. This is typically held the afternoon of our last day at Scribes before the New Year Holiday. Because of our holiday closure, we will not be open for our annual dance party before the new year. But we still need to party! SO...we will be ringing in the New Year and celebrating Mr. Steve at our New Year's Rockin' Steve Dance Party on Friday, January 5th, 2024. **ALL** of our friends and teachers are invited to the gym at 4:30 to dance and sing to our favorite songs played by DJ Mr. Steve! We will still have a **BALLOON DROP** at 5pm, which is always a huge crowd pleaser!!!! Parents are welcome to come join us and ring in 2024 with their kids!!

November 23rd & 24th: Scribes Closed, Thanksgiving

November 27th: Family Holiday Breakfast 7-10am

November 27th: Toys for Tots collection begins

December 1st: Grinch Day

December 8th: Elf Day

December 15th: Rudolph's Reindeer Games (am)

December 15th: BMHS Show Choir Performance @ 3:30; Santa @ 4-6

December 19th: Holiday Show @4:30 (2,4,8,6)

December 20th: Holiday Show @4:30 (7,5,3)

December 20th-22nd: School Age Play Days

December 22nd: Polar Express Day

December 25th- January 2nd: **SCRIBES CLOSED**

December 31st: Mr. Steve's 50th Birthday!

January 5th: New Year's Rockin' Steve Party



Scribblers Wing Holiday Shows

In years past we have had our Pre-Kindergarten kids create and perform in a Holiday Show for their families. After the fabulous success of the Camp Scribblers Talent Show last summer, we decided to include ALL of our little friends from Pooh Corner through The Underdogs in the "show."! Because there is limited space in our gym, there are 2 show dates. Children in Pooh Corner, Candyland,

Bubble Guppies and Jungle Jammers will have their Holiday Show on **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19th** at 4:30pm; Children in The Backyard Bunch, The Explorers and The Underdogs will perform their Holiday Show on

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20th at 4:30pm. We will have enough chairs to accommodate up to 4 people per family.

There will be some "standing room" in the back of the gym for overflow. Children will stay with their class before, during and after the show, returning to classrooms for pick up. Teachers will post specifics on individual class dojo stories pertaining to their specific class closer to show dates.

Polar Express Day

Another super fun day we celebrate every year is Polar Express Day!! On **Friday, December 22nd** we will immerse ourselves in ALL things Polar Express, starting with another **PATAM DAY!** Each child will receive a train ticket which will be punched to ride The Scribbs Polar Express! They will all board our train, driven by **ELVES** and arrive at our train depot, the gym. Once in the gym, children will get to watch a portion of the movie The Polar Express and receive "the first gift of Christmas." Everyone will also get to enjoy a special snack and chocolate milk! Don't worry, our Schoolagers won't miss out...they will get their own viewing of the movie and special snack in the afternoon! This has become one of our most favorite days of the year and we always look forward to it!! This will also be our last day at Scribbs until after the new year!



School-Age Play Days

Scribbs will have "Play Days" during winter break on the following days:

- Wednesday, December 20th thru Friday, December 22nd, 2023
- Wednesday, January 3rd thru Friday, January 5th, 2024

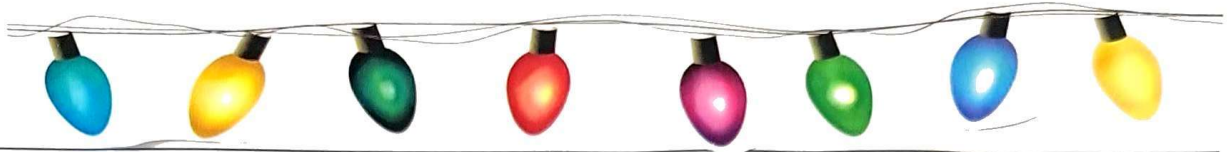
Our School Age Counselors will have sign-up sheets on the parent table in the school-age wing as well as post on class dojo so that we can get an accurate head count for staffing and planning purposes. Ms. Tori, Ms. Nina and Ms. Marissa have planned some really awesome activities to keep our big kids busy while they are here at Scribbs! Please remember that we have a **NO-CELLPHONE POLICY** for children at Scribbs and phones should **NOT** be brought to Scribbs at any time. **EVER.** Tablets and personal gaming devices are allowed at specified times but cannot be shared amongst children. All electronic devices **MUST** be on airplane mode, with **NO DATA ENABLED** while at Scribbs. Social Media of any kind is not permitted and any games must be age-appropriate. Children who do not follow this policy will have electronics taken away and put in a safe location until pick-up time. Continued violations of our electronic policy could result in a ban on all electronic devices or disenrollment. We appreciate families adhering to this policy so that we do not have to take disciplinary actions. As with all items brought in from home, we are not responsible for lost or damaged electronic devices.



Reminders:

- Tuition is billed and due every Monday. Tuition is the same regardless of attendance
- Be sure to check your child's cubby/locker for any papers, artwork, dirty clothes, etc, and take them home daily. **Also, please check for weather-appropriate extra clothes and shoes that fit**
- Every child in Room 2 and above should bring in a clean, filled, labeled water bottle daily. (Please be sure names are legible on water bottles as many have faded)
- If a child is experiencing signs of illness please monitor them and keep them home if their symptoms are constant, even if a fever is not present. Help us keep our staff and families as healthy as possible!





Scribes 6th Annual Grinch Day

Every Friday in December is a "Festive Friday," which kicks off on **December 1st** with our 6th Annual GRINCH DAY! Everyone in the whole school is invited to wear PJAMAS and go to the gym to watch the original cartoon version of THE GRINCH WHO STOLE CHRISTMAS all together! Then, in the afternoon, we will have a special GRINCH-THEMED SNACK!! In keeping with the spirit of THE GRINCH, we would like to make ALL of our hearts grow 3 sizes that day, so that is when our friends will write their letters to Santa for the Macy's "Believe" Make-A-Wish Program! Details for that are below! Grinch Day is always a blast and it is our FAVORITE way to start the Christmas season!



Macy's "Believe" Make-A-Wish Foundation Program

For the past 8 years Scribes & Scribblers has participated in the Macy's "Believe" campaign which benefits children in the Make-A-Wish Foundation. For every letter to Santa that Macy's receives, \$1 is donated, up to \$1 million! On GRINCH DAY, each child at Scribes will write or color a letter to Santa and mail it in our special **SANTA MAILBOX** located in the Main Hallway. Mr. Steve & Mrs. Melissa will then deliver the letters to Macy's! **We ask that each child brings in 1 STAMP by Friday, December 1st** so that the letters can be mailed as soon as possible! This is a great way to discuss showing kindness to others during the holiday season!



Scribes & Scribblers First Ever ELF DAY!

This year we will be celebrating our first **ELF DAY** at Scribes! On **Friday, December 8th**, ALL of our friends are invited to dress in their favorite **ELF INSPIRED** outfits and will participate in all kinds of fun **ELF** shenanigans! We will pass through the seven levels of the candy cane forest, through the sea of swirly-twirly gum drops and make sure to **SMILE**, because smiling is our favorite!!! We will also be practicing our songs for our **HOLIDAY SHOW** because we know that the **BEST** way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear!! Our day wouldn't be complete without a special movie in the gym, so **EVERYONE** will join our friend Buddy The Elf to watch **Prep & Landing**, a fun cartoon about Santa's most special elves!



Rudolph's Reindeer Games & SANTA! (WE KNOW HIM!)

Friday, December 15th will be FULL of Christmas fun! Everyone is once again invited to wear PJAMAS and head to the gym in the morning to play some super fun **REINDEER GAMES** while watching the Classic movie, **RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER!** Then, at **3:30pm** the show choir from Berea-Midpark High School will be here to put on their holiday performance for our kids in the gym **AND** help us welcome a **VERY** special visitor who will be arriving at **4pm.....SANTA!!!!** He will say hi to all of our friends and then settle into his comfy chair in front of his house on the stage until **6:00pm**. Parents are invited to bring their children to the gym at pick-up time for a brief visit with Santa. Make sure you have your cameras and take as many pictures as you want for **FREE!!!**



Kids Say the Funniest Things

"How do you make your hair grow? You make good choices and it just grows and grows- grows?!" – Evelyn S, age 4

From Ms. Alison: During morning free play the kids were jokingly talking about who is the silliest. Izzy said "I'm the silliest because I am a genius!"