

Happy Children! Happy Parents! Happy Teachers! December 2016

## PARENT REMINDERS

### Emergency Alert & Snow Day Policies

As we enter the winter season, we would like to take the time to remind all families of our emergency closure policies. Upon the rare decision to close, we will send notifications through our social media platforms (@DoodleBugsUSA on Facebook and Twitter) and the following stations, as appropriate:

#### Buffalo-Area Centers

WGRZ - Channel 2 News  
WBEN 930 AM

#### Rochester-Area Centers

WHEC News 10  
WHAM 1180 AM

#### Pennsylvania

WPXI Channel 11-TV  
Pittsburgh KDKA News Radio 1020

### Parent-Teacher Conferences Coming Soon

In response to recent feedback, we will be holding parent-teacher conferences in January. We understand that fall, back-to-school schedules can be hectic for families and it seems this change has been helpful. More information, including conference sign-up sheets, will be available at your center this month.

Remember, parents can request a conference and are welcome to review their child's assessment portfolio at any time throughout the year. Any questions regarding curriculum or your child's assessment, please see your director.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Milk & Cookies Holiday Sing-Along

**Wednesday, December 14**

Join us for a sweet family event sure to put you in the holiday spirit! We'll spend the evening decorating (and eating!) cookies and enjoying songs of the season. Each preschool and pre-kindergarten classroom will perform two songs. Look for a performance schedule at your center this month.

### Holiday Party

**Thursday, December 22**

All are invited to join our daytime celebration of the holiday season! We'll enjoy games, songs and festive activities throughout the day.

### Night Before Christmas Read Aloud

**Friday, December 23, 10am**

Our center will come together to enjoy a festive reading of "The Night Before Christmas". Storytime will be followed by festive classroom activities.

### Kwanzaa Parade

**Tuesday, December 27, 10am**

Let's celebrate Kwanzaa with a joyful parade! Children will create and carry flags and are encouraged to wear Kwanzaa colors (red, green and black) to celebrate. We'll also learn about and enjoy parts of a traditional Kwanzaa holiday. Families are welcome to join!

### Hanukkah Storytime

**Wednesday, December 28, 10am**

Our center will come together for a special Hanukkah storytime! Families are welcome to join!

### New Year's Eve Celebration

**Friday, December 30**

Join us as we gather together to "practice" for the New Year's Eve ball drop! Each of our centers will ring in the new year a little early with party hats, music, confetti and a ball drop of our own!



## TOYS FOR TOTS TOY DRIVE

Our centers will accept new,  
unwrapped toys

**November 28 - December 16**

# Let's Celebrate Our 12 Directors of Doodle Bugs!

This month, we're taking a moment to recognize our 12 Directors of Doodle Bugs! Being the leader of a child care center is an important job. Not only are our directors overseeing their team and the daily operations in the center, they are also role models, nurturers, cheerleaders and teachers for all of the children in their building.

In the spirit of the holiday season, we'll be recognizing each of our directors on the blog over the course of 12 days in December. We'll celebrate what makes them successful and what their team admires most about them – plus lots of fun photos! As blog posts are published, we'll share on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. If you're not following us yet, you can find us @DoodleBugsUSA on each platform. We hope you'll help us cheer on these amazing team members all month long.



## Employee of the Month

### Brittany Strouse

Pre-Kindergarten Lead Teacher  
Lancaster, NY Center

Brittany exhibits the Doodle Bugs! Way in everything she does. Her pre-kindergarten classroom is impressive. The space is always clean, engaging and energetic. Not only does her room look amazing, she cultivates a respectful and safe environment for the children in her care.

Miss Brittany is a wonderful team member. She is continually positive, demonstrates drive, and is always helpful. Her fellow teachers truly appreciate that they can count on her as a mentor and cheerleader. Currently, Miss Brittany is working with the teachers to increase the quality of the Tadpoles daily reports sent out at her center-- just one example of how she continues to go above and beyond. Brittany is also one of our Mentors for her peers and participates in the Doodle Bugs! Leadership Program.

We are thrilled to have Miss Brittany on our team, her positive energy cultivates a community of Happy Children, Happy Parents and Happy Teachers every day!

## Congratulations!

### 10+ Years

Amanda Dehlinger (East Amherst)

### 5+ Years

Patricia Sciolino (West Amherst)

Joy Faulkner (West Amherst)



**Stay Connected:** [www.doodlebugs.com](http://www.doodlebugs.com) 866.668.5111

