

**DURANT ROAD  
PRESCHOOL  
January 2012**



Ella Grace builds an igloo using homemade blocks

**Theme: Winter Wonderland**

During January, our children will discover the wonders of winter as we transform our classrooms into a winter wonderland. In science we'll observe ice melting, graph the temperature during different times of the day, and make bird feeders. Our sensory tables will be filled with ice cubes and we'll also make snow clay using Elmer's glue and liquid starch. This has become a Durant Road Preschool favorite!

Our math activities will include sequencing snowmen from largest to smallest, and a mitten match. We'll count snowflakes and snowballs. Watch out for our winter graphs.

In language we'll discuss winter sports and make a collage. We'll talk about dressing warmly and remember that sidewalks can be slippery. Our children will learn winter's words like frost, sleet, icicle, shiver, hibernate, and ski.

Keep a look out for dramatic play activities. You may see "ice skating" with wax paper and rubber bands, and

"ice fishing" through a transformed hole in a cardboard box. January will be busy!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**



- 2 Closed – Happy New Year!
- 9 Museum Visit
- 25 Winter Stories in the Library

**Fun Fridays**

- 6 Pajama & Teddy Bear Day
- 13 Mitten Day (wear your favorite pair!)
- 20 Kona Ice Visit- 3:00
- 27 WINTERFEST (winter activities)

***In The Community***

- Thru 1/15 Carolina Wonderland Express @ Museum of Life & Science
- Thru 1/29 Raleigh Winterfest @ City Plaza

**Our Specials**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Tumblin' Tots	Computer Class	Music Class	Spanish Class



**SCHOOL CLOSINGS**

During an inclement weather event, please check our facebook page for immediate information. As a back-up, tune into WRAL (CBS) or WTVD (ABC). You can also check online at [www.wral.com](http://www.wral.com) or [www.wtvd.com](http://www.wtvd.com). We do not close with the public school systems.

**WEEKLY READER TOPICS**

- Penguins
- Winter
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr
- Groundhog Day



Jack is building with Ms. Sylvia's teacher made snowmen blocks!

### INFANTS AND TODDLERS

Real things in the world around us are fun to watch and learn about. Being outside where there is so much to see and feel often helps to calm babies and toddlers.

The senses – how we hear, see, smell, taste, and feel- give us information about the world. As babies grow, they need to learn ways to understand all the information coming through their senses. They form ideas to help them understand things in the world around them. They also learn the words that go with those ideas.

Brrrrrrr! In winter the air is colder and the children wear coats, hats, and mittens. The children will discover the cool weather of winter and the many textures of winter clothes. They will have lots of fun learning about water, ice and snow. Winter is also a great time to watch the birds outside and make treats for them.



NC Museum of Natural Science presents... Busy Birds

Our children will learn about the characteristics of birds with a close-up look at live birds. We'll discover how clever and resourceful birds are as we examine a variety of nests and natural specimens.



### Book Of The Month

This month our preschoolers will enjoy reading, *Here Comes Jack Frost* by Kazuno Kohara. One cold winter day, a little boy has nobody to play with. He looks at the window and sees strange patterns appearing. He finds out how wonderful winter can be!



### CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAYS

Gavin Emily Ellie  
Zachary Alexandra Maliyah



### Spanish Class

Brrr...hace frio! (Brr...it's cold outside!)  
During this wintery month, we will be learning cold weather words such as:

mitones-mittens      hielo-ice  
invierno-winter      nieve-snow

We will also be playing winter games in Spanish!



### Music Class

In January, our children will learn how to use sand blocks. Sand blocks are rectangles of fine-grained sandpaper attached to blocks of wood. One of the best things about sand blocks is that, when scraped, they sound remarkably like a train.