

# The Garland School

## January-February News

### ICE AND SNOW AT THE GARLAND SCHOOL

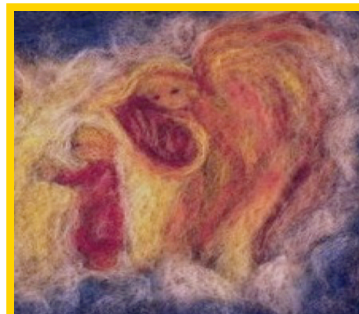
From the minus-20 degree weather, into sheets of ice covering the frozen ground, January taught us to bundle up warm in all our layers, and keep our hats and mittens on! The younger children enjoy being pulled in sleds across the ice, or picking their way carefully across, while the older children are more nimble than all of us on the slippery slopes (the Garland may be training our own Winter Olympics sledding team!)

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, our Parent Evening referenced Helle Heckmann's "Five Golden Keys" as Sleep, Movement, Nutrition, Rhythm, and Love. We opened the evening with a puppet show, "The Snow Maiden", and closed the evening with Danielle sharing some grounding techniques she had just gleaned from her workshop at Sophia's Hearth. The bulk of the evening was spent in fruitful discussion on these "golden keys" of child-rearing, and how we can incorporate them in our homes and at school.

On January 26<sup>th</sup>, Mr Michael and his wife Jesse, as well as his son Finneas, welcomed Baby Lucas into the world! Many Garland families signed up for their meal train – Mr Michael mentioned how much he enjoyed seeing the children as they helped deliver their food offerings during his time away.

On February 11<sup>th</sup>, while the teachers were attending the regional Waldorf Early Childhood conference, the Fundraising Committee (Ian, Jessa and Liz) hosted the Jamboree, a *highly successful* fundraiser! The final tally was \$1,632.15! A special thanks to Jessa and Nathaniel for paying for the space and the musicians out of their own pocket. At the peak, the event had about 60 people there, including children. A big thank you to the Fundraising Committee, and to all the parents who helped pull such a big event through: responding to requests to help, making food, donating supplies and money, playing music, inviting friends... this couldn't have happened without the whole community behind it.

Baby  
Lucas



### *Birthdays*

*Mr Michael celebrated his birthday on Jan 3rd.*

*Mr John celebrated his birthday on Jan 26th.*

*Baby Lucas was born Jan 26<sup>th</sup> 2018.*

*River Starr turned 6 years old on Jan 28th.*

*Benjamin Lefebvre turned 3 years old on Feb 23rd.*

*Miss Danielle celebrated her birthday on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>.*

*Ivy turns 3 years old on Feb 27<sup>th</sup>.*

### *Upcoming Events*

*March 6<sup>th</sup>: Teacher In-service Day: NO SCHOOL*

*March 26<sup>th</sup>: Parent-Teacher Conferences: NO SCHOOL*



## **FROM THE ROSEBUDS:**

In January the Rosebuds were adjusting to winter- learning to move in snow and ice, dealing with wind and cold. It was a whole new world for them outdoors! But they tackled the challenges head on and getting more and more competent and confident. They also began talking more and discovering new social skills. We gained a new addition this January - welcome Griffin! He brought an infusion of new energy to the classroom and we are excited to get to know him better as the year progresses.

February has found the Rosebuds more social then ever before. The children often gravitate to each other to see what the other ones are doing, rather than the independent play more common in the fall. They enjoy playing hide and seek/peek a boo with each other in the classroom sleeper curtains. They also can frequently be found peering over the gate to see what the Morning Glories are up to in their room- and when the gate comes down, they enjoy playing with their older schoolmates. They have all recently learned to say "No!" and are reveling in this newfound powerful word. Circle time is always a joy. There are 2 songs and 2 stories we have been doing since the Fall- everyone can do the motions or say the words now-even the one I do in both French and English! There are an additional 2 rhymes I introduced after the winter break and now students are able to anticipate and join in to those as well. It is very rewarding to see them participating in circle time with such enthusiasm. We've also added art to the curriculum and have been doing coloring with crayons or painting once or twice a week.

## **FROM THE MORNING GLORIES:**

January: We have been sledding and shoveling! It's been so wonderful having the Singing Crickets help us sled down the hill in the yard, and some of us have been sledding on our own! We've been building igloos, eating snow slushees, and even hiking through the snow to the forest. We found that our path to the woods turned into a great slippery hill to slide down on our bellies! During circle, we are singing about the North Wind and a chilly robin, and a snowman melted by Father Sun. In our puppet shows, we laugh about a little fish surprised to find his pond covered in ice!

February: We've been out in the woods exploring the frozen stream, hiking up the big hill, and sliding down on our bodies! While indoors, we are telling our dollies goodnight stories and dressing them warm and toasty for their slumber. At our table, we tell each other stories about different animals we know. Sometimes we even turn into that animal! We are all working together to 'whittle' sticks with our wooden knives to make tiny gnomes, and while we work we tell the story of the princess and the frog, or the story about the black bear. The days are getting a little warmer, and we all feel cozy and warm out in the snow!



**FROM THE SINGING CRICKETS:** During the month of January, Mr Michael began his paternity leave, and Mr John became much more of a presence in the classroom. We also welcomed Miss Lylah in as our most regular substitute teacher. Almost every day we sledded out on the big hill or in the yard, sometimes took our sleds up to the pond as well. Circle time centered on the adventures of the woodsmen as they sawed up trees in the forest for firewood. Our puppet show story-time was based on the Russian fairy tale of the Snow Maiden, who has adventure in the forest, and journeys down with her snow friends every year to play with the children. February gave us sunnier weather and a few warmer days. Our late January story became the Grimm's fairy tale of Mother Holle, with the beautiful image of shaking the feather quilts to make the snows fall on the Earth. Our Valentine's story chronicled the adventures of a little ant, who is courted by the different animals she meets on her walk... but the mouse wins her favor because he has the smallest voice of all. Our circle introduced the chickadees who fly off to find their lovebirds. Each child sewed their own Valentine's sack to hold their notes from their friends, and we exchanged our notes while singing "I wrote a letter to my love, and on the way I dropped it, someone must have picked it up and put it in their pocket!"

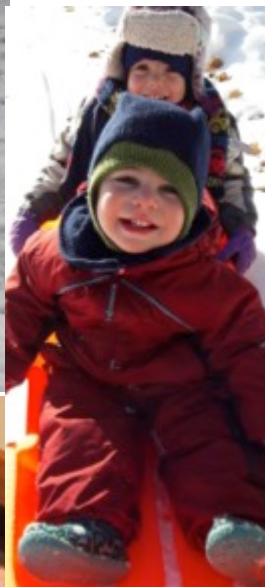
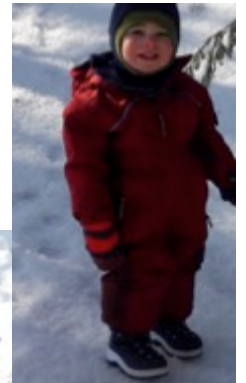
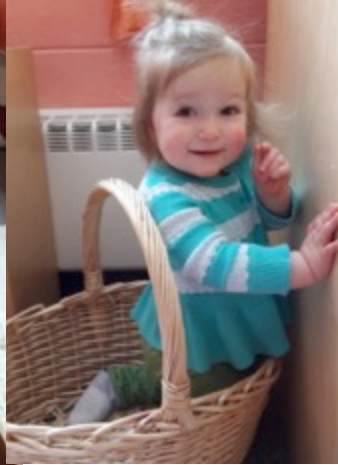
## PHOTO GALLERY

### JAMBOREE FUNDRAISER





## ROSEBUDS



The Rosebuds have been interested in body parts (see top left). Bottom middle: one child gets on the rocking chair...everyone gets on the rocking chair! Above: Leo at the pond, a major trek in ice and snow!

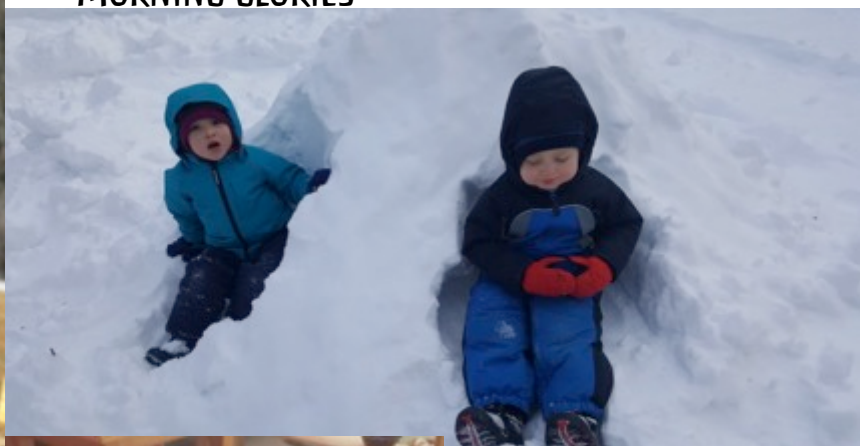


Left: Half-day ritual: pointing to the snow in the skylight.





# MORNING GLORIES





## SINGING CRICKETS

