



Earl D. Taft Elementary School

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Paula A. Montesi, Principal
Lori J. Fafard, Assistant Principal

Overview of Activities for December

Two assemblies were held on December 21, 2007 in the Taft gymnasium. Students and teachers got together to sing multicultural songs of the season. The highlight of the assembly was the Taft School staff's renditions of *The Twelve Days of Christmas* and *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*.

Grade 4 students participated in the second Mix it Up Day in the cafeteria on December 14, 2007 in the cafeteria.

Subject/Course/Classroom Activities

December 11 & 12, 2007 – Grade 3 Classrooms were visited by Slater's Mill. They demonstrated the spinning wheel and various tools for the classrooms.

Grade 2 teachers celebrated holidays around the world. Each teacher chose one country to represent and planned activities based on curriculum frameworks. Students rotated from classroom to classroom where they engaged in a multidisciplinary activity and had their passport stamped.

Professional Development Activities

December 3 & 4th, 2007 – Paula Montesi attended a workshop through Lesley University designed for school leaders on the topic of literacy.

December 4, 2007 – Erica Haraldson attended a workshop on Asperger's Disorder in Springfield, Massachusetts.

December 11, 2007 – Ruth Bandstra and Lillian Hazard attended a workshop on "Making the Most of Small Groups: Differentiation For All" at the University of Phoenix, Westborough, Massachusetts.

PTO Reports and Information

The December meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather.
Next meeting January 17, 2008.

Holiday Shoppe and Marketplace held at Taft School on December 5, 2007. PTO sold Taft Elementary School ornaments to raise money to replace the playground surface.

General School/Department Information

The Taft School Volunteer program is in full swing thanks to the efforts of Nancy Winters. Volunteers are being used in the library, as classroom assistants, supply room volunteers, and, under the direction of classroom teachers, as literacy tutors.

The Donate a Book program is up and running for the third year. Last year parents and other community members donated over 100 books to the Taft School library.

Upcoming Events

January 1, 2008	New Year's Day
January 2, 2008	Professional Development Day
January 3, 2008	School Resumes
January 10, 2008	PTO Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
January 18, 2008	PTO Family Fun Night
January 21, 2008	Martin Luther King Day
January 25, 2008	Spirit Day Theme: Support your favorite sports team
	Curriculum Day – Dismissal @ 11:45 a.m.

Administrator,

Paula A. Montesi, Principal