

Alexander Elementary



Parents Make A Difference!



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A note from:
Mr. Wade
Elementary Principal

As you think about giving gifts this Christmas we should all remember as parents there are some gifts only we can give. Unlike toys that may break before next month, these gifts will last a lifetime:

The gift of time. The old saying is true. Children really do spell love T-I-M-E. Give the gift of listening to your child, reading with your child, helping your child, and just hanging around with your child.

The gift of understanding. Children aren't perfect (no one is). If your child makes a mistake, listen first before reacting.

The gift of confidence. When you believe in your child, you help him believe in himself. When you tell him that you know he can do it, he'll never doubt that he can. Years from now when he faces another challenge, he'll hear your words in the back of his mind.

The gift of enthusiasm. Whether you're working on a household project or going out to toss a ball, do it with verve. Your excitement about the task will rub off on your child. When he has to tackle a tough project in school (or later in life), he'll find the energy to carry it through.

It is our hope that all of our students and their family have a wonderful Christmas and prosperous New Year!



Thursday, December 13- **Christmas Program PreK, K, 1st grades.** High School Gym beginning at 7:00 PM

Monday, December 17- **High School Christmas Program.** NEO A&M College. 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 19- **Pictures With Santa. \$3.00**

Wednesday, December 19- **5th Grade Basketball Game at Quapaw. 12:00 PM**

Thursday, December 20- **Christmas Program 2nd, 3rd and 4th grades.** High School Gym beginning at 7:00 PM

Friday, December 21, 2007- **End of First Semester.**

December 24—January 4- **Christmas Break**

Thursday, January 10- **Grade Cards**

Merry 
Christmas 



ALEXANDER ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Thursday, December 13 (PreK, K, 1st)
Thursday, December 20 (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th)
7:00 PM – High School Gym



You Can Help Your Child With Learning Difficulties

Sometimes, being the parent of a child with learning difficulties is a real challenge. But other parents have found ways to help themselves so they can help their child.

Here are some of their ideas:

- *Learn as much as you can.** Talk with teachers about what works with children who have similar issues. Ask if there are books you can read.
- *Keep a notebook.** Keep copies of your child's work in a three-ring binder. Their papers can give you priceless tips about your child. One mom saw that her child always did poorly in December. Perhaps it was holiday excitement or perhaps her child was bored. But together, she and the teacher worked out ways to motivate her child.
- *Keep your expectations high.** Children rise to the level that's expected.
- *Visit school as often as you can.** Volunteer in your child's class. You'll feel "in the know" about what's going on at school. You'll also get to know the teacher.
- *Read aloud to your child every day.** This is one of the best things for children with learning difficulties. Later, when your child reads the same words she has heard being read aloud, she will find it easier to figure them out on her own.
- *Keep a sense of humor.** Since learning can be tough for your child, provide lots of laughter and smiles.



According to the legend, there was a candy maker who wanted to invent a candy that was a witness to Christ. The result was the candy cane.

First of all he used a hard candy because Christ is the Rock of all ages.

- This hard candy was shaped so that it would resemble either a "J" for Jesus or a shepherd's staff.
- He made it white to represent the Purity of Christ.
- Finally a red stripe was added to represent the blood of Christ shed for the sins of the world and three thinner stripes for the stripes He received on our behalf when the Roman soldiers whipped Him.

Sometimes a green stripe is added as a reminder that Jesus is a Gift from God. The flavor of the candy is peppermint which is similar to hyssop. Hyssop is in the mint family and was used in the Old Testament for purification and sacrifice. Jesus is the Pure Lamb of God come to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

So the next time you see a candy cane, hear the Sermon it preaches: Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, is the Rock of all Ages who suffered and died for our sins.

