

~Preschool News~

Luke 2:11: "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Preschool News:

Christmas is an exciting time of year for children! Stores are filled with toys and sparkling decorations, houses are decorated with Christmas lights, there are parties and events to attend, children get pictures with Santa, and the smell of cookies and pine fills your homes! During this time memories are made and traditions continue. This time of year can lead to selfish thinking because the commercialism of Christmas is everywhere we look. When asked, children often say their favorite thing is getting presents or meeting Santa, you can see the example of that through the responses from our preschool children below.

At a young age, children only have an awareness of themselves. Their brains have not yet developed to think of outside of themselves. Another term for this kind of thinking is Egocentrism. "Egocentrism in a child is the process of loving and discovering themselves through the love of others – when they are the center of the universe for everyone else." Children ages 2 to 7 are often self-centered, self-serving, and self-focused. This type of thinking begins to change as children grow older but this time of year when children seemingly get whatever he/she wants can fuel the egocentric mindset.

There are ways to manage egocentric children. It requires patience and consistency. This is a developmental phase, but it is important that caregivers do not ignore the behavior. It is necessary for adults to meet rational needs of children and ignore irrational demands. Do not ignore egocentric behavior or "bossy" attitudes, address behaviors when they arise. As a parent or caregiver, it is important to nurture the ability to love and respect people around them. God created humans to love one another, love is part of who we are. The Bible is filled with stories that prove this statement true. The gift of Christ is one of many stories that show children God's love for his people. Share the story of Christ with your children, allow your children to share his/her feelings with you and share with them how others may feel when they learn of the story of Jesus. Doing so consistently will provide children with space in their hearts and minds to think of others, more importantly make room in their hearts for Jesus. When we let Jesus in our hearts, our minds begin to think outside of ourselves and more about those around us.

Christmas is the perfect time to work through an egocentric mindset in children. Here are some tips:

1. Set the Limits

This can be difficult, as a parent, we want to give our children everything just they want, but it's ok to provide firm "No" to things that are not right or not needed.

2. Encourage Decision-Making

Participate in age-appropriate discussions and ask your child for their opinion about things that concern them and their environment.

3. Engage Your Child in Friendships and Play

Let your preschooler engage with other kids and build friendships. Children often begin to lose egocentrism when they realize their peers have different views. This causes an understanding of different realities.

4. Observe and Listen to Their Self-Talks

This will help adults understand a child's thinking and will provide you with steps on how to deal with it.

5. Encourage Open Talks

Provide opportunities to explore, discuss, and share ideas. Having open-ended conversations with children, this leads to both parties sharing thoughts and feelings.

6. Engage in Activities that Benefit Others

Donate to a toy drive, allow your child to put loose change in the kettle bell outside of the store, take cookies to elderly neighbor or family member, allow your child to be a part of the caring for others.

While you are enjoying this Christmas season, think about your favorite childhood Christmas memories- do you remember the gifts? Or more so the feelings you had, the smells in the air, the traditions that were kept, the family and friends you visited? Egocentrism can stay with us into adulthood, but with God's grace, we move beyond that phase of thinking. We think of others, enjoy the giving more than the receiving and love others the way God loves us.

Source: www.beingtheparent.com/understanding-ego-centrism-in-children/

Preschool students were asked "What is your favorite thing about Christmas?"

Pre-K 1

Anders-Everything
Chase-I like when Santa brings me presents
Brinlee-Making Christmas cookies
Hendrix-Presents
Kaison-Getting presents
Willa-Decorating
Mila-I don't want coal
Konner-Watching Christmas movies
Warren-Getting presents
Madison-When Santa gives presents

Pre-K 1

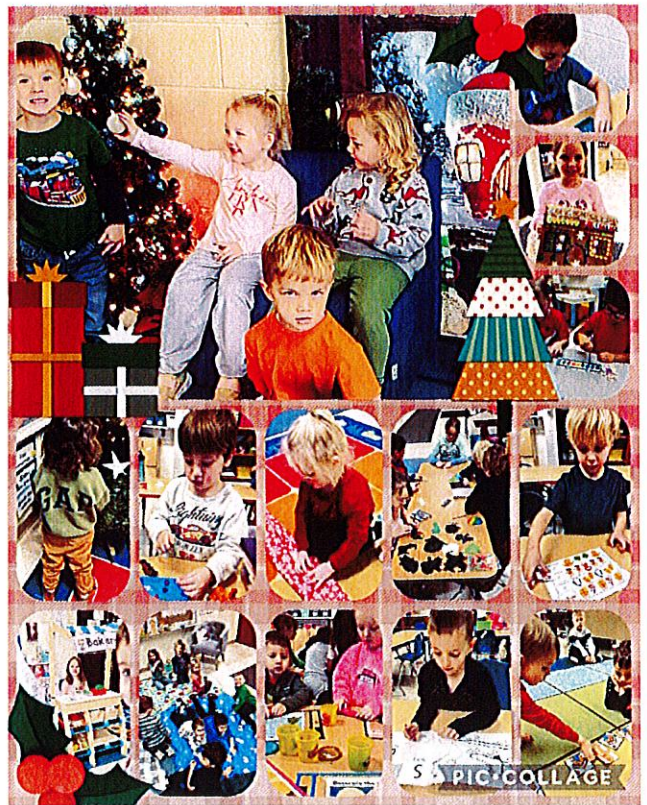
Mason- turtles
Kennedy-getting presents
Coralina-Everything
Elias-getting presents
Johanne-presents
Miles-gifts
Harold-giving presents
Jaxon-Presents and Christmas tree
Eleanor-Playing in the snow

Pre-K 2:

Tripp- The lights and ornaments
Levi-Decorating with my mom
Luke-Watching toy story with Harley and Teresa
Tyler- Getting presents and giving presents
Warren-When Santa comes to my house
Maisie-Opening presents
Emerson-Getting together with others
Kavik-Getting gifts and staying home
Wyatt-Making cookies with my mom
Eli-Going to see Santa
Elliott-Decorating the trees
Colton-Building the Christmas tree with mommy
Gracelynn-Getting make-up
Madison-Getting dinosaurs
Leo-Christmas trees
Aubree-Getting presents
Izzy-When Santa brings baby dolls
Clara-Decorating my house with mommy, daddy and Wyatt

Pre 3:

Eleanor-Cats
Payton-Gingerbread
Aaliyah-My teddy
Connor-My cars
Zaya-Decorating the Christmas tree
Ben-Christmas lights
Adalyn-Getting presents
Dawson-Getting presents
Wyatt-Christmas cookies
Charlee-Christmas lights
Kali-Getting presents
Kayde-Gingerbread houses
Gavin-Getting toys
Sage-Getting presents
Henry-Getting presents
Jaxson-Christmas lights
Maxwell-Christmas cookies
Olivia-Eating food
Kenzie-Decorating
Kylie-Santa brings me presents
Brody-getting presents
Owen-decorating



MERRY CHRISTMAS and
HAPPY NEW YEAR
from St. Boniface Preschool!



Important Dates:

- **Wednesday, Dec. 23rd - Fri. Jan. 2nd:** Christmas Break-Preschool Closed
- **Mon. Jan. 5th:** School resumes
- **Fri. Jan. 16th:** No School
- **Mon. Jan. 20th:** No School; MLK Day

Snow Make-up Dates:

- March 13, 2026
- March 16, 2026
- April 1, 2026
- April 7, 2026
- May 22, 2026

Hours of Operation:

Before Care: 7:00-8:15 AM
Preschool Programs: 8:15 AM-3:15 PM (11:45 AM half day)
After Care: 3:30-5:30 PM

**Be Grateful in all things and God Bless,
Brooke Lander
St. Boniface Preschool Director**