

## Happy Holidays!

Catherine Barrow <Catherine.Barrow@keysSchools.com>

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Season's Greetings, Manatee Families!

Hoping all is Merry ~ we have heard many cheery "Elf on the Shelf" stories, along with bits of your multicultural holiday traditions.

This Thursday, December 16<sup>th</sup> the Manatee class will be celebrating with a Holiday Pot Luck Feast.

Here is the list of who is bringing what (please feel free to change your child's dish of choice, as long as it is a healthy substitute):

1. Adam ~ Almond/Coconut Cookies
2. Alisa ~ Fruit "Bells"
3. Sasha ~ Butter Cookies
4. George ~ Cucumber Slices
5. Lilu ~ Salt & Pepper
6. Abby ~ Baby Carrots
7. Ardan ~ Green Beans
8. Jack ~ Hummus
9. Alex ~ Cous Cous
10. Mariella ~ Dishes & Utensils
11. Bastian ~ Cauliflower
12. William ~ Sweet Bell Pepper Slices
13. Theodore ~ Apple Sauce
14. Julius ~ Cherry Tomatoes
15. Lukas ~ Granola
16. Parker ~
17. Ms. Kate ~ Tossed Salad
18. Ms. Sheila ~ Mashed Potatoes

Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, The Manatees will celebrate this half-day before the holiday break with a PJ Pizza party. We will clean, relax, create art, play games, eat lunch, and watch the "Charlie Brown Christmas" specials while comfy in our pajamas.

I will add dates to our Sign-up Genius weekly snack and laundry lists for the new year; please consider these as good options to gain service hours.

We have had the past 2 weeks without volunteers for both snack & laundry.

Here is the laundry link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4ea4a92daafd0-manatee2>

Here is the snack link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4ea4a92daafd0-manatee3>

Please contact me if you do need to fulfill any volunteer hours, we are extremely flexible.

Thank you to those who have contributed in ways of time, expertise, and kindness.

Our garden is thriving with the help and guidance of Yola & Christina ~ thank you ladies, we already have veggies ready for harvest ☺

We are grateful for hose extensions, and to those who are going to put in our garden irrigation system (I'm ready for a holiday reprieve;).

Thanks to all who have gifted our wishes from our Amazon list!

If you haven't heard, we are in the process of upgrading our fish tank from 20 gallons to 75 gallons.

(Our pleco has been gazing longingly into her empty, new, large tank.)

In order for the transfer to occur, we must have our filtration system up & running.

The filter is \$300. If each family were to donate \$20, our purchase would be possible.

Keep your eyes peeled for a “DonorView” link coming soon for this necessary acquisition, we would truly be thankful for any contribution possible.

The tank set-up will also need the gravel, and “Dr. Tim’s Aquatics Freshwater One & Only Live Nitrifying Bacteria” ~ all on our Amazon Wish List: [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/67oLjdb?ref=wl\\_share](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/dl/invite/67oLjdb?ref=wl_share)

Do not dismay, there are free “Wish List” items we need as well to create our new riverbed habitat.

We are looking for beautiful logs/branches that can be permanently submerged in a fish tank.

In order to create cave and hidey-holes for our fish we are also hoping for flat stones or unique rocks.

When dreaming-up holiday gifts for your children, please consider their very own yoga mat (to be kept at school), and personal earbuds or headphones ~ our listening gear is fragile & limited, while LE students are still experimenting with their fine and gross motor skills...

Please enjoy a happy, healthy holiday season!

Wishing you Peace, Love, and Happiness,

Kate Barrow, Ed. M.

[catherine.barrow@keysschools.com](mailto:catherine.barrow@keysschools.com)

(305)293-1413 ex.53423

Lower Elementary Lead Guide

**MAY SANDS**

