



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### DECEMBER 2018

- 12/3 - "Giving Tree" Holiday Gift Collection: [One Warm Coat](#)
- 12/14 JK/K Field Trip to [Ellanor C. Lawrence Park](#) for "Senses and Seasons" Program
- 12/14 *For Ms. Lolly's Music Classes:* Winter Concert @ 6 PM
- 12/19** GBS Holiday Program @ 3 PM (Class Parties w/ Book Exchange to Follow) **(PLEASE JOIN Us!)**
- 12/24 **EARLY CLOSING @ 4 PM** (Christmas Eve)
- 12/25 **SCHOOL CLOSED** (Christmas Holiday)
- 12/26 **SCHOOL CLOSED** (Christmas Holiday)

### JANUARY 2019

- 1/1 **SCHOOL CLOSED** (New Year's Day)
- 1/15 **SCHOOL CLOSED** (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
- 1/18 JK1/K Field Trip to [Children's Science Center](#) @ Fair Oaks Mall
- 1/24 JK2 Field Trip to [Children's Science Center](#) @ Fair Oaks Mall
- 1/25 **In-House Guest:** Kick-Off Assembly for the Feb 2019 Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) [Pennies for Patients](#) Fundraiser

#### Classroom Abbreviations:

- I Infants
- T Toddlers
- EP Early Preschool
- P Preschool
- JK Jr. Kindergarten
- K Kindergarten



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## 'TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING

*Please support our December coat drive*

GBS holds charitable drives throughout the year, to support those who are less fortunate. These are wonderful opportunities to talk to our children about kindness, sharing, and helping others.

In December, we will collect winter coats to benefit [One Warm Coat](#), a national, non-profit organization that works to provide a free, warm coat to any person in need. Coats are distributed in the communities where they were collected, to children and adults in need, without charge, discrimination, or obligation.

**Beginning Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, please drop off lightly worn coats, jackets, gloves, scarves, and hats in our collection box outside the front office.**



## GBS INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY



### When will GBS close?

We will follow the Federal Government's schedule for closings and delayed arrivals.

### What if the Government is open, but offers the option for unscheduled leave?

We will do our best to open the school, but we may have to open late or close early, depending on weather conditions.

### What happens if GBS must close early?

We will work with parents, but we expect parents to arrange to have their children picked up as soon as possible.

### What if the Government closes on consecutive days?

We will make every effort to open the school on the days following the first day of closing.

### How will I know if GBS is closed?

There are several ways to see if GBS is closed:

- Check your email or our Facebook page for updates from the GBS Office.
- Check [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov) or [www.wtop.com](http://www.wtop.com).





## GBS ANNUAL WINTER HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE

*Please join us for an afternoon full of festive holiday fun!*



### When and Where Is It?

Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2018  
3:00 PM in GBS Gym

### Who Is Invited?

Parents, siblings, grand-  
parents, aunts, uncles,  
cousins, etc. ☺

### What Can I Expect?

Each class will sing/dance in 2  
songs. Immediately following,  
there will be a book exchange  
and snacks in the classrooms.

### What Should I Wear?

This is a casual event, so  
please dress comfortably.

### What Should My Child Wear?

Each class will be assigned a  
color scheme to wear.

### Can I Take Photos/Videos?

Yes, please! The children have  
worked hard to practice their  
songs and will be excited to  
perform for you!

### CONNECT WITH US

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EMAIL: [gbssr3@gmail.com](mailto:gbssr3@gmail.com)

WEB: [www.goodbeginningsschool.com](http://www.goodbeginningsschool.com)

FACEBOOK: Good Beginnings School - Stone Ridge



### MS. MAYSOON FARHOUD

*Chef / Teaching Aide*

*Joined GBS in February 2012*

Ms. Maysoon was born in Ramallah, in the central West Bank, and had her first six years of schooling there. To complete her education, her family moved to the nearby village of Beitin. In 1993, she moved to America with her husband and two sons. She attended school to learn English, and became a naturalized US citizen 5 years later!

She lived in Wisconsin, and worked at a private childcare facility. She worked with infants, drove the after school care bus, took children on field trips, and even dabbled in the kitchen when the cook was not available. That experience prepared her for just about anything!

In 2011, Ms. Maysoon moved to Virginia. She began working for GBS at the Reston campus in Feb. 2012, and then moved to the Stone Ridge campus in Sep. 2017. She left in Dec. 2017 due to a family emergency in Palestine, but she returned to GBS in Oct. 2018.

Ms. Maysoon enjoys cooking, walking, and traveling overseas to visit her family in Palestine. She has four children now—her oldest son is 27, and her youngest, a daughter, is 19.



### MS. GRACEY YUMA

*Preschool Assistant Teacher*

*Joined GBS in September 2018*

Ms. Gracie was born in Kinshasa, in the Democratic Republic of Congo. She is the youngest of 9 in her family. As a child, her dream was to be a lawyer or politician.

She studied law at Protestant University of Chicago, and earned a bachelor's degree in law. In 2009, she was elected secretary of Minister of Public Services in the Congo and had the opportunity to learn about diplomacy. In 2010, she attended a human rights conference in New York. After the conference, it was not safe to return to her country, so she sought political asylum and stayed in America. She did not speak English, and the U.S. did not recognize her degree from the Congo.

In 2012, Ms. Gracie received her green card and chose to start her education over at Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC). In 2014, she received a scholarship from Bethel University in Tennessee, and she graduated in Human Services in 2017.

She began working at GBS in September 2018, and has loved working with our children. Her goal is to one day help people in need in her home country of the Congo.