



ROOT ACTIVITY LEARNING CENTER

NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2017

Come visit us at www.rootsactivitylc.org

Honorable Ancestor Albert Leroy Robinson, AKA King Kamau



King Kamau was born December 7, 1955 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. He loved his mother, Queen Mother Carrie Johnson, and his stepfather, Lucian Johnson, and his entire family. King Kamau was an extraordinary Principal and Leader at Roots Activity Learning Center. He began teaching the Middle School in 1985 and was a Teaching Principal from 1999-2005. During his tenure Roots' students achieved some of the highest standardized reading and math test scores in the city. King Kamau believed in longlife learning and loved to read, teach, and travel. King Kamau made his ancestral transition December 31, 2005.

*We also celebrate the birthday of our living "Shero". **Cicely Tyson**, stage-trained actress. Ms. **Tyson** was born in New York City on December 19, 1933. Like many gifted Black performers. She established herself in the theater in the 60's, yet only began landing worthy film roles in the 70's. One of the main reasons for this was the lack of good roles for women of color. Television afforded this commanding actress many more rich opportunities; "Roots" and her **Emmy**- winning performance of "The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman". She has continued to appear as strong, courageous women: "Sounder" "King" and "A Woman Called Moses."*



December Roots Family Birthday

Haleema Hikim-12th, Aziah Powell- 12th, Mama Diane Johnson- 28th. Abel Perez 30th
Our birthday party will be held Friday, December 22nd, 2017 at 3:30 p.m.

BLACK SEEDS 2018 CALENDER
NOW ON SALE - \$5.00

Black Seed calendar is both historical and educational, as such it will be a wonderful gift for students, parents, friends and family members. The calendars are on sale for \$5.00 each. See Mama Nkechi for purchase.

KWANZA & DRESS CODE



Kwanzaa is from December 26th through January 1st.

RALC'S Pre-Kwanzaa celebration will be December Monday, 18th through Friday, 22nd . ALL CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR TRADITIONAL AFRICAN CLOTHING. CHILDREN MUST WEAR TRADITIONAL AFRICAN CLOTHING TO BE ADMITTED TO SCHOOL DURING THIS WEEK.

Our activities for Kwanzaa will include candle lighting ceremony, Kwanzaa songs, African folktales and videos, Kwanzaa videos, African dancing and drumming, Africa and

*Kwanzaa worksheets, and arts and crafts. ***Happy Kwanzaa!****

EVENTS OF THE MONTH

DECEMBER 8th

Pre-K 3&4

MLANJENI'S MAGICAL THEATRE

Library- every Wednesdays

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY PARTY at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, December 22rd

Pre-Kwanzaa

Monday, Dec. 18th through Friday, Dec. 22rd

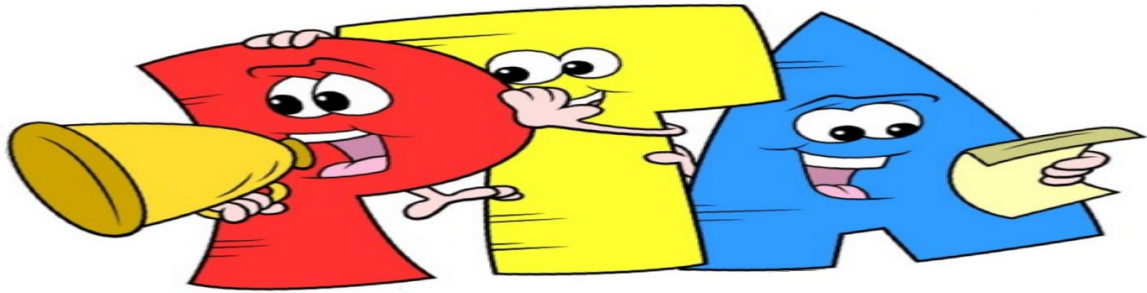
SCHOOL CLOSED

December 25th through January 1st

Winter Break.

SCHOOL OPENS

Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018.



REPORT CARDS & PTA MEETING/PARENT CONFERENCE

This will be held on **Wednesday, January 10th, 2018** at 6 pm. Please, be present to receive report cards and speak with teachers.

TUITION PAYMENT - Be prompt in your payments. Remember to stay ahead in tuition to avoid late fees & no admission status.

PAC Committees - All parents are required to work on PAC committees. Offer your skills; let us know your plans to help the school. We hope that this year will be a very productive one. Remember annual dues are \$25 per family.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT:

TO ALL PARENTS, STUDENTS, SUPPORTERS, TEACHERS AND STAFF OF RALC FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR. PEACE AND BLESSINGS TO ALL. Thanks also for donations of supplies, time and efforts to RALC.



VOLUNTEERING: We welcome any parent who is interested in volunteering in the classrooms or office.



BAD WEATHER PROCEDURES

On bad weather emergency days, Roots Activity Learning Center will follow DC Public School delays or closings. Therefore, RALC will be closed if DC Public Schools are closed.

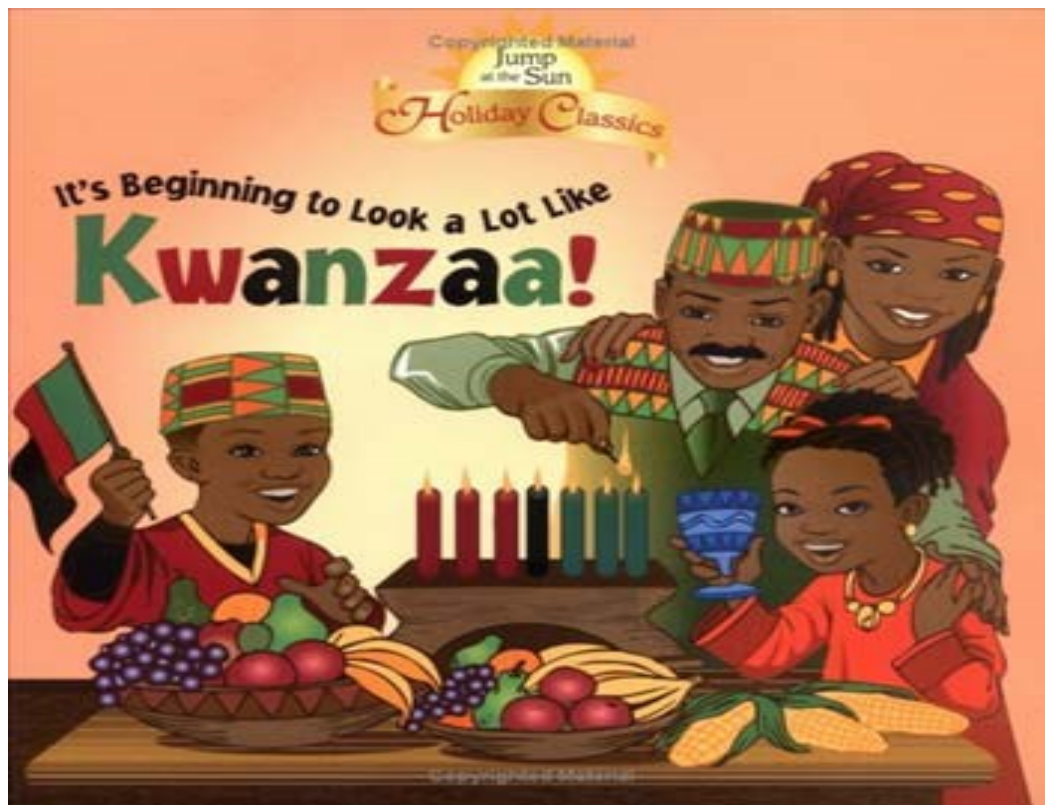
Kwanzaa

*A Celebration of Family,
Community and Culture*

Kwanzaa is a U.S. African holiday celebrated from December 26th – January 1st. It is not a substitute for Christmas. Christmas is celebrated by Christians of all Races. Kwanzaa is celebrated by U.S. Africans of all religions.

Dr. Maulana Ron Karenga recognized the need for U.S. Africans to have a holiday celebrating their heritage as do all other cultural groups in America. He adapted the principles of the harvest festival in Africa to create the celebration of Kwanzaa in 1966.

Kwanzaa, a Kiswahili word, means first fruits. The analogy is between the first fruits of the harvest season in Africa and the first fruits from our laboring all of the 1989 year. *i.e.*, the end of the year celebration of progress and accomplishments made from the year's work. Each day of Kwanzaa symbolizes a different principle or value. In Swahili we say "Nuguzo Saba" meaning the seven principles:



***WEAR AFRICAN CLOTHING DECEMBER 18TH -22ND**