



Goodbye 2009



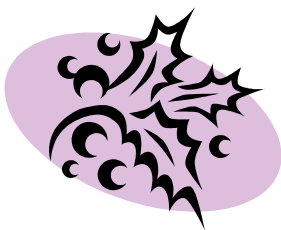
Wasn't I just partying like it was 1999? Ten years gone by? Really? Everyone says time moves quickly once your children start school and boy they weren't kidding. I can't believe the year is drawing to a close. The OTC is enjoying your feedback and growing and evolving to suit your needs. Keep those suggestions coming. Look for a few new things in the New Year - no hints - you'll have to check often! Until then... Enjoy your family. Enjoy the Holidays.

December Events

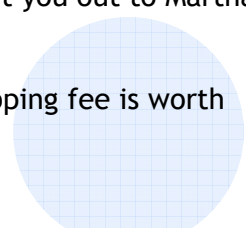
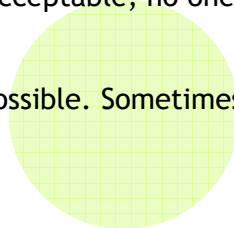
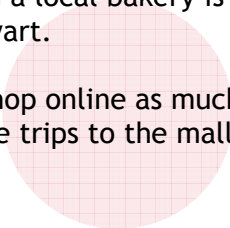


No doubt Christmas is a busy time. However, if you're looking for some fun holiday activities and events to enjoy with your family, there is lots to choose from including Gingerbread House Workshops, Christmas Skates, Bowling Parties, Craft and Story Times and much, much more. For details visit: www.outsidethecrib.com/calendar.

Holiday Survival Tips



- 1) Don't be afraid to say no. Just because there are lots of fun holiday activities for you and the children don't be afraid to pass on a few. Don't jam-pack your days. Enjoying the holidays means relaxing and taking it all in.
- 2) Stay the course. You want to have fun and ease up on the usual schedules and routines over the break, but meltdowns are not my idea of fun holiday times. Try to keep nap and bedtimes as close to routine as possible. And don't forget to put yourself to bed on time!
- 3) Don't stress. If you don't get around to sending your Christmas cards or people don't get them until after the holidays, that's ok. Ordering sweets from a local bakery is also acceptable, no one will rat you out to Martha Stewart.
- 4) Shop online as much as possible. Sometimes a shipping fee is worth three trips to the mall.





Mommy Spotlight

OutsideTheCrib.com has added a Parenting Profile to its home page. Check out our new local mommy working the OTC spotlight! www.outsidethecrib.com

If you know a parent who deserves a little recognition, why not shine the spotlight on a fab mom or dad you know. Send us their name and email to outsidethecrib@rogers.com



Top Toy Sites

If Santa is having trouble deciding what to buy your little ones this year, check out the OTC's list of Top Toy websites. Don't get too excited though, you still have to find these toys!

www.outsidethecrib.com/news/toytoys



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Holiday Fun

It's the ultimate in time management... combine craft time with gift wrapping! Provide your children with plain shipping labels and plain paper or paper bags and let them decorate with stickers, glitter and more! Everyone will love the homemade gift tags and wrapping paper and the children will be very proud of themselves for helping and for having their artwork on display under the tree.

