

Southborough Village Preschool

October 2017 Newsletter

What a beautiful Fall season we are enjoying! We hope that you and your families find the opportunity to get out and enjoy the wonderful fresh air and beautiful colors this long weekend! We are looking forward to a busy and exciting few weeks at the Preschool and want to fill you in on a few things that might be helpful for you to know. As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about anything!

Family Open House: We look forward to welcoming you to our annual Family Open House on Thursday, October 26th. We hope that you are able to join us for an opportunity for your child to show you around the classroom and to introduce you to new friends! Please see the chart below for your child's scheduled Open House time.

Southborough Village Preschool *Open-House Schedule*

Please join us on Thursday, October 26, 2017

	Room 1	Room 2	Room 3
5:00 - 5:30 PM	Toddlers Eppen/Rosen		T/Th AM & PM Henderson/Shaw/Kostiw
5:45 - 6:15 PM	MWF AM Bergeron/Richardson	T/T Full Day Michas/Mills	
6:30 - 7:00 PM	MWF PM Distefano/Bergeron	Full Day Pre-K Hartnett/Arpino	Full Day Pre-K Henderson/Poutre/Kostiw

Registration for the 2018-2019 School Year: It's hard to believe that it's here already! It is time for us to begin the registration process for the next school year. Please note these important dates as we approach the first day of the registration process.

- **Registration will begin at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, November 1st for current students and their families, siblings and alumni.**
- **Registration for new families will begin at 8:00 AM on Monday, November 13th.**

Please keep this date in mind, as we would like you all to have the opportunity to register for the class that you would like. You will be receiving these documents in your child's backpack in the next few weeks, and they will be available at Open House as well. If your child is "graduating" from SVP, we welcome you to pass the information/application on to friends or neighbors who might be interested in registering. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if you have any questions as to what might be the best class for your child for next year.

Staying Healthy at SVP: Of course the health of our students and teachers at SVP is always a big concern for us. As we are heading into the cooler months and “cold and flu” season, here are just a few things that we ask you to keep in mind.

- We account for each student every day. **If your child will not be coming to school, please be sure to call the office to let us know.** Teachers are unable to check email during the day, so it is best to call us at 508-485-3109. Even if you get our voicemail, rest assured that we will get the message.
- **Does your child have a cold?** As you know, colds are common throughout the school year. Children are allowed to attend school with a cold, but not a fever! Children must be fever free for at least 24 hours **without the use of any fever-reducing medication** (this is key).
- **IMPORTANT:** While your child may simply have a cold, if he/she is uncomfortable, coughing heavily, has a very runny nose, or has had a bad night’s sleep, please, please keep him/her home! Preschool is not fun when you feel horrible. Also, this is the best way for us to keep our students (and teachers) as healthy as possible. Thank you for your help with this. We greatly appreciate it!

Labels: Just a reminder, as the weather gets cooler and you start to send your children in with jackets and sweatshirts, please be sure that they have labels of some sort in them! We always have permanent markers available at school if you need to label something last minute! **In the past, we have used a wonderful label company called Mabel’s Labels, as a fundraiser.** While we are not using them for a fundraiser right now, you can still order labels from them on your own. We highly recommend this company as their labels are so handy and versatile. They stick very well to clothes, outerwear, boots, backpacks, lunch boxes, water bottles, sports gear, etc. Check them out at www.mabelslabels.com.

Food Pantry Donation Program: We are excited to be starting a new donation program for the Southborough Food Pantry. In the past, we have participated in a Thanksgiving Food Basket program for this wonderful organization, but this year, we will instead be supporting their efforts to serve the community, through a monthly donation program. Each month, we will be collecting a few particular items that the Food Pantry tells us they are most in need of. There will be a collection box outside of the front door and we encourage you to drop the requested items in there, if you are interested in donating. Please know that this program is completely optional.

The Food Pantry items requested for the month of October are:

- Kleenex
- Dish soap (ie: Dawn, Palmolive, etc.)
- Laundry detergent

Boo!! Halloween is upon us!!! We love this exciting time of the year and so do our students. Each class will be having a fun Halloween party on either Monday, 10/30 or Tuesday, 10/31. Your child’s teacher will let you know what is needed if you are interested in sending in a treat or paper goods. While it is fun to have some sweets at our parties, we work hard to make sure that our small treats are balanced with some healthy fruits and vegetables.

- Note: At Southborough Village Preschool, **we do not allow children to wear their costumes to school.** We find that costumes at school can be a little overwhelming for our younger students, and of course there is always the risk that costume pieces could get lost or misplaced. We promise we will be sure to find lots of other ways to have fun during this wonderful holiday!

NUT FREE Reminder: Please remember that SVP is a completely nut-free school. Please be very, very careful when selecting items to bring in for any type of celebration or party at school. Not only must we have store bought ingredient labels stating that the items are nut free, but it is important that the labels also do not state that the items “may be manufactured in a facility that uses or produces items with nuts”. We cannot serve any food items that state this is the case.

Also, while we all know how much fun it is to bake and serve wonderful homemade items, we can't risk the cross-contamination that may occur in a house that is not completely nut-free. No exceptions can be made for this policy. We thank you so very much for your help with this, as we all need to work together to ensure the safety of all students.

Please also remember that if your child is having lunch at school, he or she may not ever bring in peanut butter, nuts, or items containing nuts. Additionally, if your child has been eating any nut products in the car, on the way to school, please take the opportunity to wash his or her hands upon arrival at school, or alert us and we will be happy to be sure that hands are washed upon arrival, so as to avoid a dangerous situation for our students who have nut allergies.

Fire Safety Month: October is Fire Safety Month at SVP! While we will be looking forward to our visit from the Southborough Fire Department (and their cool fire trucks) during our springtime Community Helper Unit, we will begin learning about fire/general safety this month. Our topics will include safety in the home/kitchen as well as safety in public. We will talk about fire fighters and police officers and how they work hard to keep us safe. We will begin our monthly fire drill practices, focusing on how to get out of (and into) a building quickly, quietly and safely. We work hard to make sure the children are comfortable with the sound of an alarm ringing (ours is more like a bell), and that they get really good at stopping what they are doing, listening to directions and moving quickly and safely to a new location. If your child has any concerns or issues with the idea of a fire drill, please do let us know. Our goal is to make sure fire drills are not a scary experience at all!

Important Dates to Note in October and November

*As a reminder, we always follow the holiday/professional development/snow cancellation schedule that Southborough Public Schools follows. Please be sure to note the following dates on your calendar.

- **Monday, October 9th and Tuesday, October 10th:** School closed for Columbus Day and a town-wide Professional Development day.
- **Thursday, October 26th:** SVP Family Open House (see schedule for times)
- **Monday, October 30th and Tuesday, October 31st:** Classroom Halloween Parties
- **Wednesday, November 1st:** First day of Registration for the 2018-2019 school year (8:00 AM)
- **Friday, November 10th:** School closed for Veterans' Day.
- **Monday, November 13th:** Registration opens for new families for the 2018-19 school year.
- **Wednesday, November 22nd:** Half-day (school closes at 12:00 noon-no PM session). School will remain closed for Thanksgiving break, **through and including Monday, November 27th** (for a town wide professional development day).
- **School re-opens Tuesday, November 28th.**

We are grateful to you all for your support on these, and all, matters at school. We have the best parents and families we could ever want and we appreciate your attention and thoughtfulness every day! We look forward to seeing you soon at our Family Open House. Have a great week!

Gretchen, Laura and the Entire Staff at SVP