

Southborough Village Preschool Newsletter

December 2017

Well it's hard to believe it, but December is upon us! While these next few weeks can be busy and stressful for many grownups, we will be having a tremendous amount of fun with your children at SVP. There is nothing more magical than spending your days with preschoolers during the holiday season, and we certainly enjoy every minute of it!

GINGERBREAD HOUSES AND HOLIDAY TREES! One of our favorite holiday traditions at SVP is the making of gingerbread houses and holiday trees. These adorable holiday decorations will be made in class on Monday, December 11th and Tuesday, December 12th. We need several volunteers to make this activity run smoothly. Your child's teacher will be in touch regarding details and decorating times, but feel free to let her know if you might be interested in helping. Due to the fact that the trees and houses require hands-on assistance, we ask that you make other arrangements for siblings if you plan to come in to help. Thank you so very much!

*We will need to collect a few more one-pound butter boxes (rectangular) before we make our gingerbread houses (we use the boxes to form the shape of the house). If you have any of these boxes at home, please think of us and send them in. Thank you!

HOLIDAY TRADITIONS: At SVP we love celebrating all of the winter holidays! If you would like to come in at some point, to read a story, share a craft, or talk to the kids about your family's special winter holiday, please let your child's teacher know as soon as possible. We try to touch on all of the holidays that our students celebrate, but we always love learning right from our families, so don't be shy! Come in and help us explore the winter holidays and your rich family traditions.

HOLIDAY PARTIES: We will be celebrating the holidays and the start of vacation with our classroom holiday parties on Monday, December 18th and Tuesday, December 19th. We will keep you posted on details, as the dates get closer. Your child's teacher will be in touch regarding party times and items needed. We thank you in advance for all donations.

Southborough Youth and Family Services Holiday Giving Program

Southborough Village Preschool is delighted once again this year to have the opportunity to participate in the Southborough Youth and Family Services 'Holiday Giving Program'. We thank those of you who took tags off our Giving Tree over the past few weeks. On the ID tag, you will find information about the requested gift, as well as the age and gender of the gift recipient. If you are unable to find the item requested, you can always purchase a gift card towards the purchase of the item. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the guidelines and instructions for the gift program. We thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness during this holiday season.

****Please remember that the Giving Tree gifts need to be returned to school, no later than Thursday, December 7th.***

WILL YOUR CHILD BE ABSENT FOR THE DAY? Please always remember to call us to let us know, as we do need to account for every student, every day. Thank you!

WINTER GEAR REQUEST: As the cool weather has finally come our way, we have some requests for you to consider as you begin to gather your child's cold weather gear. The process of preparing children to go outside every day (sometimes twice), can be a long and tricky one to handle for 2 teachers. There are some things you can do at home to make this go smoother for us.

- **Please be sure to LABEL ALL ITEMS (even boots).** This is tremendously helpful, especially as children will soon be bringing in multiple items...jackets, hats, mittens, snow pants, boots, etc. Then they leave them in the hallway, and when we go outside for recess, they sometimes don't recall what they brought in that day.
- **Also, we ask that you send your child to school wearing mittens, not gloves,** unless he/she is able to put the gloves on independently. This really helps us to get outside for recess in a timely manner.
- **Please take some time over the next week or two to help your child practice putting on his/her own coat/mittens/boots, etc.** We are teaching (and helping as well) at school, but practice at home is so helpful. You would be surprised at how well kids can do with practice!

SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY: While we are extremely confident that it will not snow this year, here is a copy of the snow policy - just in case! ☺

Southborough Village Preschool's main objective during bad weather is to ensure the safety of our staff and children. If the Southborough Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Southborough Village Preschool will always be closed as well. While we will make an effort to email you in the case of a closing, there is always the chance that due to power outages, this will not be possible. We strongly recommend that you rely on the news/radio/websites to hear of a school closing in Southborough. If Southborough Public Schools are closed, Southborough Village Preschool will be as well.

If there is a delay to the start of the public school opening, we will most likely open Southborough Village Preschool with a delay as well, at the discretion of the Directors. If there is a 2-hour delay, all morning classes at the Preschool will be cancelled, but PM classes will most likely be held, and Early Drop-off will begin at 11:00 AM. In the case of a delay, full-day students will still eat lunch at school. We also reserve the right of judgment to close the Preschool early due to poor weather conditions. In this case, parents and caregivers will be notified.

Important Dates to Note in November and December

- **December 11th and 12th: Gingerbread House/Holiday Tree decorating:** More details to follow. Volunteers will be needed.
- **December 18th and 19th: Holiday parties.** Details to follow.
- **December 20th-January 1st: Winter Vacation.** School resumes on Tuesday, January 2nd. Enjoy your vacation!

Most Sincerely,

Gretchen and Laura