

# Southborough Village Preschool Newsletter

## December 2018

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 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. 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!

**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. 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 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**SVP DAY OF FUN:** As you hopefully have already heard, we will be hosting a very special fundraiser for our beloved teacher, Amy Richardson, here on Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, from 10-3:00 PM. Please see the attached letter for details and let us know if you think you will be able to join us for this very special cause.

## 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'. After the Thanksgiving weekend, you will find a table top tree by the front door, with a number of gift tags hanging on it. We invite you to participate in this wonderful holiday tradition by taking a tag or tags when you come to school next week. On the ID tags, 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 recognize that families give in many ways and in many places throughout the holiday season. Please don't feel any pressure to contribute to this program unless you are interested. 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 Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.***

**TUITION DUE DATE:** If you are on the “five payment plan”, please remember that your next payment is due on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Please see Laura if you have any questions about your payment. 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 for two teachers. There are some things you can do at home to make this go smoother for us.

- **Going forth into the winter...please always assume we will be going outside.** We would love it if you would find a small “snow bag” to send all of your child’s snow gear in. This bag will hang on your child’s coat hook in the hallway.
- **Please be sure to LABEL ALL ITEMS (even boots).** This is tremendously helpful, especially as many children have the same coats, boots, etc., and often times they don’t recognize what they brought in.
- **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!

**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 lunch or 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.

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.

## **Important Dates to Note in November and December**

- **December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>: Gingerbread House/Holiday Tree decorating:** More details to follow. Volunteers will be needed! All are welcome to join us in this fun SVP tradition!
- **December 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>: Holiday parties.** Details to follow.
- **Tuesday and Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>:** Music with Miss Shannon
- **December 19<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup>: Winter Vacation.** School resumes on Wednesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Enjoy your vacation!

Happy Holidays!

Gretchen and Laura