

Southborough Village Preschool

January 2019 Newsletter

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you had a wonderful holiday vacation and enjoyed plenty of fun and relaxation with your children. We are ready to get back to work and play at SVP! We have a few reminders and updates for you as we get back to school, and as usual, please let us know if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for us.

Parent Teacher Conferences: Parent Teacher Conferences will be held the first few weeks of February, between the 4th and the 15th. Your child's teacher will be contacting you regarding your conference date and time options. Written progress reports will be sent home prior to the conferences. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this procedure.

Updated Physicals: Has your child had a physical since September? Please be sure, as your child has his or her annual physical, to bring us an updated copy for our files. We are always required to have a current (within one year) physical on file for each student.

Kindergarten Registration is here!! Hopefully, all Pre-K parents know this by now, but Kindergarten registration for the next school year starts this month. **Registration will occur at the Mary Finn School on Thursday, January 17th, from 8:00 AM-2:30 PM.** If your child will be turning 5.0 years old by August 31st, you should have received a packet by now. If you have not received a packet, or if you have any questions regarding registration at the Finn School, you can contact Linda Brandt at (508) 485-3176. If your child will be attending another school for Kindergarten next year, this would be a good time to contact them regarding the registration procedure. When you register your child for kindergarten, you will all be given an evaluation form for our Pre-K teachers to fill out, regarding your child's preschool experience. **Please be sure to bring these forms to us as soon as you receive them. Thank you!**

Tuition Due Date: If you are on the "two payment plan", please remember that the second and last payment was due on January 1st. Please see Laura Eppen if you have any question regarding your tuition, Early Drop-off or Playschool payment. Thank you!

SNOW???? Although we are certain we won't have any snow to deal with this winter ☺, we thought it might be a good idea to remind you about our Snow Cancellation and Delay Policy (just in case!). Please let us know if you have any questions at all.

Winter Weather School Cancellation & Delay Policy for Southborough Village Preschool

Southborough Village Preschool's main objective during winter weather is to ensure the safety of our staff members, students and their families.

School Closing: 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 for information regarding school closings. If Southborough Public Schools are closed, Southborough Village Preschool will be closed as well.

Delayed Opening: If Southborough Public Schools announce a weather related delay, then Southborough Village Preschool will also have a weather related delay. If there is a 2-hour delay, all morning classes at the Preschool will be cancelled, PM classes will most likely be held, and Full Day classes will begin at 11:00 AM. In the case of a delay, Full-Day students will still eat lunch at school.

Early Drop-Off: In the case of a 2-hour delay, we will make every attempt to be open by 10:30 AM, if you are in need of early Drop-off (Full Day students only - this is not available for PM classes). However, we ask that you call the office that morning to be certain that we are indeed able to open at 10:30 AM, as there is always a chance that our parking lot and sidewalks will still be in the process of being cleared.

Early Release: We reserve the right of judgment to close Southborough Village Preschool early due to poor weather conditions. In this case, parents and caregivers will be notified as quickly as possible.

Note: Don't forget, that while school may not be cancelled, you can always feel comfortable making the decision to keep your child at home, whenever the driving conditions are of concern to you.

BRRRRRRR..... It's really cold out there! As you may already know, we are required by law to bring preschoolers outside for fresh air and exercise every day (30 minutes for half-day students and 60 minutes for full-day students). We know that children have fun and learn best when getting regular exercise and they certainly develop their muscles, coordination and social play skills during this time outside. With this said, there will be some days when it is simply too cold to be outside!

COLD WEATHER POLICY: At Southborough Village Preschool, we follow the public school policy when it comes to deciding whether or not it's too cold to go outside. The elementary/preschools monitor the air temperature and wind chill factor on weather websites (we use WeatherBug among other sites.) and if the temperature, including the wind chill is 20 degrees or above, the children will likely go outside to play. We follow the same policy at SVP, however, if it seems very cold, we often times will only go out to play for a short period of time (perhaps 10 or 15 minutes). It is our goal to always get outside for exercise and fresh air, but we do use reason and caution when dealing with our young students. **As a general rule, please always send your child to school prepared to play outside.** Although it may be too cold to play at 9:00, often times it is warm enough to play at 11:30 AM, or 2:30 PM. We make our decision regarding outdoor play, right before the scheduled recess time.

Things to remember when preparing your child for school...

- **Please send your child's snow gear to school in a labeled bag that can be hung in the hallway.** This helps us to keep gear organized. The cloth reusable grocery bags are a great size.
- Please always send your child to school in a very warm winter **jacket, hat and mittens.**
- **Mittens are best!** Please only send gloves if your child can put them on independently.
- We can't allow students to wear **scarves on the playground**, due to safety issues.
- We suggest, even if there is no snow, sending snow boots and **snow pants** if you think your child would be warmer in them.
- **Please spend a few minutes helping your child practice how to dress for recess**, and making sure they recognize all of the gear you are storing in their snow bag.

- **Slippers?** When sending your child to school in boots, please be sure that he/she has something else to wear in the classroom (slippers, sneakers, Crocs, etc.), so that we can keep our classrooms clean and dry.
- **Labels, labels, labels...** Please take the time to write your child's name in all items, so we can easily return all of your child's gear to you. Thank you!

Food Pantry Donation Program: Each month, we collect items that the Food Pantry tells us they are most in need of. There will be a collection box outside of the front door if you are interested in donating. Thank you for your support!

The Food Pantry item requested for the month of January is:

- Solid White Tuna

Important Upcoming Dates:

January:

- **15th and 16th:** Music with Miss Shannon
- **Monday, January 21st:** School closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- **29th and 30th:** Music with Miss Shannon

February:

- **4th through 15th:** Parent Teacher Conferences (more details to come)
- **12th and 13th:** Music with Miss Shannon
- **13th and 14th:** Classroom Valentine's Day parties (more details to come)
- **18th through 22nd:** School will be **closed for February Vacation.**
- **26th and 27th:** Music with Miss Shannon

We thank you for all that you do for us! We realize that we have the best parents (and students!) in the world, and we are immensely grateful to you all for your hard work, attention to detail, and for your consistent support. We wish you a very happy and healthy 2019!

~Laura, Gretchen and Teachers at SVP