

Southborough Village Preschool Newsletter

November 2022

Dear Southborough Village Preschool Families,

How is it possible that we are cruising into November already! We've had a wonderful first few months of school and we are really enjoying all of your lovely children. We have enjoyed seeing our new classroom communities come together and new friendships being formed every day. We are grateful to be off to such terrific start at SVP, and thank you for all that you have done to help us.

We want to take a moment to thank you all for your diligence and support regarding our sick policy this Fall. We know it's been a difficult few weeks as young children are catching many of the colds and viruses that they haven't been exposed to over the past few years, but we feel good knowing that we are working together as a team to keep our students, teachers and their families as safe and healthy as possible this year. We are fortunate to have such a kind and supportive school community.

Below you will find some information regarding upcoming events at the Preschool. We ask that you make note of the calendar at the end of the newsletter, in particular, the registration dates (starting this Tuesday) as well as dates that the school will be closed (two days coming up next week). Please let us know if you have any questions at all, we are always happy to hear from you!

Registration: As you know, registration for the 2023-2024 school year will begin this week, on **Tuesday, November 1st at 8:00 AM**, for current families and alumni. We do encourage you to register early, as classes are filled on a first come, first served basis. Let us know if you have any questions regarding your child's class for next year. Please keep in mind that registration for new families will begin on Monday, November 14th, at 8:00 AM, so if you wish to register, or make changes to your registration, please let us know before then. We thank you for your continued support.

Tuition Due Date: Are you on the four payment tuition plan? If so, the second payment will be due on November 1st. Please reach out to Laura Eppen if you have any questions regarding tuition.

Flu Shots: As a reminder, the DEEC, the Department of Health and also the Academy of Pediatrics strongly recommend that all children receive an influenza vaccine this year. Please contact your child's pediatrician if you have any questions about the influenza vaccine.

Scholastic Book Orders: The deadline for ordering from Scholastic Book Clubs is approaching, this **Friday, November 4th**. Please note that ordering is completely optional, but if you are interested, feel free to look at the flyers that were sent home last week, or if you prefer, you can view these catalogs as well as many others, online. If you choose to order books, you can order easily online. All books will be shipped to our school and we will distribute them to you upon their arrival. We anticipate delivery within a few weeks. Thank you!

Shop Online: [scholastic.com/readingclub](https://www.scholastic.com/readingclub) and enter the **Class Activation Code: K3CFL**

SVP Book Nook: Don't forget to stop by our SVP Book Nook! You'll find this cute, red cabinet to the right of our front door, and it's full of fun books of all genres, free for your children. We encourage the kids to take a few books, and you are also welcome to leave a few books that you are

ready to pass along. There is not a limit to the number of books that you can take, and you do not need to return the books if you would like to keep them. We hope you and your kids enjoy the Book Nook!

Veteran's Day: School will be closed on Friday, November 11th, in recognition of Veterans Day. We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of the veterans in our community for their service and dedication to our country. **Please let us know if you have any veterans or current service members in your family or friend/work circles, who might like to receive some cards from our preschool.** We would love that!

Election Day: School will also be closed on Tuesday, November 8th, for a town-wide professional development day. As a reminder, we follow the Southborough/Northborough Public Schools for professional development days, holidays, snow days and vacation.

Illness Reminders: If your child has any illness symptoms, please let us know before school. For any symptoms on the COVID symptom list (fever, sore throat, congestion, coughing, fatigue, etc.), please use a rapid COVID test. If negative and the symptoms are manageable (not a lot of coughing or congestion), and no fever for 24 hours without medication, he/she may come to school but we do ask that they mask to prevent the spread of illness amongst students, teachers and family members. We ask that you repeat the rapid test a few days later to ensure your child was not in the early stage of developing COVID when you first tested him/her. Thank you for your help!

Winter Wishes Giving Program: Southborough Village Preschool is delighted once again this year to be partnering with Southborough Youth and Family Services for their Winter Wishes Program, to support local families throughout the winter months. This year, SYFS will be inviting people to support the program by either purchasing gift cards or making a tax-deductible donation to the Friends of the Southborough Youth Commission. While this program is completely optional, **if you would like to participate, you will find information posted by the front door within the next few weeks.** We thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness during this holiday season.

Thoughts on Lunch: Lunch is always a really fun time for us as a class. It's a chance for us to eat and chat together, which is always an enjoyable time with this crew! As cold and flu season ramps up though, we ask that you give some thought to packing lunch items that your child can open by themselves. While we are always here to help, we do try to minimize how often we handle the kid's food and drink packaging. Plus it can be frustrating for kids to have to wait for assistance as we make our way around the classroom opening packages.

- **We find the sectioned bento style boxes work really well,** as once they are open, the kids have access to their entire lunch at once. Lunch boxes are fine as well, of course.
- **As far as drinks go,** you are welcome to send additional drinks if you choose, but **the kids do have their water bottles with them during snack and lunch** and we encourage them to drink regularly from them. The water bottles seem to work well for the kids and they are able to use them independently. We refill water bottles from our Poland Springs water cooler as needed. If you prefer to send milk for your child's lunch, perhaps try a small water bottle with a pop lid.
- **Practice really does help.** Try having your child open packages and containers on their own at home and practice on a regular basis. This will give you a good idea as to how independent he/she can be with their lunch items.

- Finally, consider **cutting a little snip** in the packing of lunch items and then show your child how to find that snip and use it to open the package.
- Please remember, these are all just suggestions, but we do like to share our lunchtime experiences and observations with you, so as to make this fun time of day more efficient and relaxing for your child.

Important Dates to Note in November:

- **Tuesday, November 1st:** Registration begins at 8:00 AM, for current families and alumni, for the 2023-24 school year.
- **Tuesday, November 8th:** School closed for a Town-wide Professional Development Day
- **Friday, November 11th:** School closed for Veterans Day
- **Monday, November 14th:** Registration begins at 8:00 AM, for new families, for the 2023-2024 school year.
- **Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd:** Classroom Feasts. Students will be preparing and sharing in feasts on these days. No need to send anything in for feasts.
- **Wednesday, November 23rd:** Half-day of school (12:00 dismissal). No PM class.
- **Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th:** School Closed for Thanksgiving Break. Classes resume on Monday, November 28th. Happy Thanksgiving!!!
- **Monday, December 19th through Tuesday, January 2nd:** School Closed for winter vacation.

Please let us know if you have any questions at all, regarding anything in this newsletter, or any upcoming events at SVP. We are always happy to hear from you! We will be sending out another Newsletter in a few weeks with more details regarding our upcoming December events. Stay tuned!

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, we would like to thank you all for all that you do for us at the Preschool. We have the best parents in the entire world and we are thankful for that, as well as for the opportunity to spend our days with your delightful children. We are also grateful to you all for choosing to send your children to us this year. We wish you all a most wonderful Thanksgiving holiday!

~Gretchen, Laura and all of our Teachers at SVP