

News you can use!

January 2017

Themes: Winter, Colors

**When you have just 2 minutes!
Read this stuff...**

Important Dates for Everyone!

Tuition is due on the week of January 3rd

January 16, No School MLK DAY clean up day at Open Door

February Prairie Visit, TBD

3 Day Dates

February 3 School Resumes

February -14, Valentine Party, 10:30 Morning

2 Day Dates

February 5 School Resumes

February 16, Valentine Party, 10:30 Morning,

Barb Wants You to Know...

We're wishing you a wonderful winter break. As we welcome 2017, Open Door still has openings in both the 3-day and 2-day morning sessions. It's a perfect time for new children to enter in, so please let your friends know. In addition, should you wish to add an afternoon option, there will be an afternoon session on Wednesday afternoon for the 3 day sessions. Unfortunately there was not enough interest in offering an afternoon session for the 2 day session. The occasional drop in lunch is available on Tuesday and Wednesday for the 3 day class and Thursday and Friday for the 2 day class. Be sure to let your child's teacher know your needs with a minimum of 24 hour notice.

Thanks for all your support this past year. We're so glad that you are here. We wish you all the best in the New Year!

This is NEW! Drop Off is Changing!

In an effort to make the transition to school easier for the children (and parents) we have implemented the curbside drop-off procedure starting immediately after break. Please drive into the Northwest entrance and turn left toward the nursery school steps. One teacher will stand waiting for your child. We ask that you drive all the way up to where the teacher is standing. There may eventually be snow piled up near the sidewalk and this will allow your child to exit your car safely. The children will wait on the benches and talk with one another while they wait for everyone to arrive. After everyone is here, we will all enter in together.

If the temperature is 0 or below, or the wind chill is -10 or colder, we will start our day inside. On those days we ask that you bring your child inside. (This procedure will also hold true on rainy days.) We will continue to use the IN or OUT sign.

It's great because...

You won't have to take other children out of the car to drop-off your preschooler, children having difficulty separating will have a brief good-bye, and increased verbal interaction will occur while the children wait for others to have an equal opportunity entrance.

It's a challenge because...

Parents will have to be timely. We will start in the parking lot at 9am/1pm and hope to have all of the children out of their cars soon thereafter. If you arrive late, your child misses the benefit of entering with others. You will have to have messages written in advance or call the school and leave a message. Backpacks and bags will need to be placed near the child and ready to go. We are merely trying to say, this will involve more organization for parents.

Our end of the day pick-up will remain the same. We felt there is a benefit for parents to have a chance to meet one another while waiting together in the hallway. Important messages/reminders are often posted above the take-home box. In addition, parents get to see what's going on in the classroom.

We know this will be confusing at first, but we feel the benefits far outweigh the initial confusion. Thank you for helping.

Time to Clean

On the January 16 holiday school is not in session. We will however be at school and hope that everyone will join us for our cleaning day. Supplies including rubber gloves will be provided. Childcare will also be available (provided by some of the volunteer parents in the nursery). A sign up sheet will be posted in the hallway. We will begin at 9:00 and hope to be finished by 11:00. Even if you can only help for an hour, PLEASE Come! Your help is greatly appreciated. Through the generosity of Goodbye Blue Monday, delicious coffee will be available to all! Hope to see you there.

**When you have 5 MORE minutes!
Read this stuff...**

Will We Be In or Out? Good Question...here's how we decide!

In an attempt to be consistent with the Northfield public school's policy on winter weather, we will start our day inside if the temperature is zero or below or if the windchill is -10° . If you are unsure on the weather conditions we use the Carleton College Weather Station (the same site the public schools use).

It's the Sweetest Thing! A Valentine's Day Party

Many of us remember the fun and excitement of Valentine's Day. This is why we host a special Valentine's party at ODP. Because of the ages of the children, there will be **no exchange of valentines**. Instead, the children will provide entertainment and refreshments will be served after the program. (You may want to ask Grandparents or a special family friend to set this day aside.)

Registration for 2017 -18

It's that time again! Often the children in the 2-day classes sign up for the 3-day classes the following year. In addition, siblings of children currently enrolled have the benefit of early registration. A registration form will be in your take home box after the holiday break. Please let us know if your child plans to return or if you have a sibling that you would like to enroll as spaces are limited. We will be hosting an open house in early Spring so please let your friends and neighbors know. They can also sign up in mid January via our website or by calling Open Door.

When you've got 10 more minutes! This stuff is good to know...

Open Door Preschool Tax Number

For those of you who are really organized and are thinking about taxes already, the ODNS tax number you might need for tax purposes is 41 605 3204

Got News? Sometimes We Have Late Breaking Details!

Occasionally there will be notices placed above the take home box on the board. Upcoming events, sign-ups and special news of the day can be found here. Don't forget to check it. Also, important details about current programs and fundraisers can always be found on our website.

If you were wondering how we decided on our payment policy...

Our yearly tuition is based on the number of days that your child attends ODP. We attempt to follow public school breaks as closely as possible; the remaining days are spread throughout the year. There will indeed be some months where there are fewer contact days and some where there are more. The yearly tuition is conveniently divided

into equal monthly payments.

With All the Gratitude in Our Hearts We Thank...

Everyone who attended our caroling party.

Mattias Kortuem and family who took great care of Boris the Tortoise throughout the summer and also provided a new heat lamp. (This thanks is LONG overdue, but heartfully sent.)

The Grant family for their donation of the book How Full Is Your Bucket? in honor of Kate's birthday.

The Patterson family for their donation of the book Miss Spider's Tea Party in honor of Caden's birthday.