

**Themes:  
Thanksgiving  
Hospital**

# **November 2016**

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

**Important Dates for Everyone!**

Tuition is due on November 1<sup>st</sup>!

November 7 NO SCHOOL

November 15 pick up baked goods 11:30-3:30 all classes

November 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

December 3 Caroling at Three Links

December 13 Last day 3am class

December 15 Last day 2am class

December 14, 16- January 2 NO SCHOOL

**3-Day Important Dates**

November 1 Parent and Kid Night, 6-7pm

**2-Day Important Dates**

November 3 Parent and Kid Night, 6-7pm

**It's important to know!**

Our security policy provides that the doors into our classroom remain locked during class hours. Any items you wish to put into the room can be placed on the take-home-box table. Tuition payments should be placed in the plastic message envelope or you can place tuition payments into the black payment box during pick-up time.

**Get the news you need!**

As you enter the door near the playground, you will see a bulletin board area. There you will find pertinent messages, copies of our newsletters, our handbook and our snack schedules-all for your convenience. In addition, important notices are often placed above the take-home-box. Please take the time to read these messages. "Like" us on Facebook and check the website regularly for other updates and information.

### **Parent & Kid Night**

Parent and Kid Night is fun! Here's an opportunity for your children to share with you what they like to do at Open Door. The event will be on November 1st for the 3-day classes and November 3rd for the 2-day classes. We will open our doors at 6pm. You are welcome to come at any time during the scheduled "fun time." At 6:45 the clean-up will begin and the doors will close at 7pm. This popular event is for ODP students and their parents only. We are not able to accommodate siblings on this night. We hope you can join us!

### **Shoes, Slippers, Mittens and Bags!**

We ask that shoes or slippers be provided during "boot" weather. Please send a large bag or backpack with your child each day so that hats, mittens, scarves and snowpants can be placed in bags rather than on the floor, and shoes can be returned home at the end of the day. Be sure to put your child's name on ALL these items.

### **Butter Braid Fundraiser**

Please remember that your Butter Braid orders were due on October 31st. Pick-up will be November 15<sup>th</sup>. This means that you will have some delicious treats just in time for the holidays as well as supporting Open Door! All baked goods will be picked up on November 15 from 11:30-3:30.

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

### **Emails!**

We are sending out emails with important weekly updates. If you are NOT receiving them be sure to contact your child's teacher to be added to our mailing list. If you are already receiving them no further action is required on your part. If you do not have access to email, please let us know.

### **Pre-School Screening**

Please note that a free screening is available for pre-kindergarten children in Northfield in cooperation with the Northfield Public Schools. Call 507-645-1200 to schedule an appointment. Additional information is posted on the bulletin board.

### **Drawstring Safety**

For safety, the Minnesota Child Care Association recommends that parents remove all drawstrings on hoods or around the neck of children's jackets and/or sweatshirts. To lessen the possibility of drawstrings catching in playground equipment or other products, the MCCA also recommends the drawstrings at the waist or bottom of jackets either be removed or cut to 3 inches.

### **Joyful Noises**

Things get so hectic as the holidays approach so take a minute now to put the upcoming

Open Door caroling party on your calendar. We will meet at ODP at 2:00pm on December 3rd and walk over to Three Links Care Center to begin our program at 2:30. We will do some singing and then head back to the school for treats. Please bring your entire family for this fun holiday afternoon. More information will come next month.

### **Parent Meeting Update**

We were so happy to have a chance to review policies and discuss concerns at our parent meeting. We hope that you have had a chance to consider some of the items we covered including:

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library contact: The Northfield Area United Way 1651 Jefferson Parkway, Northfield 507-664-3510. The bicycle helmets can be purchased from the Northfield EMS. Please call 507-646-1414 if you are interested.

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

### **Traditions**

At conferences we asked each of you to tell us about a family tradition. We thought that you might be interested to hear some of them, and perhaps incorporate them into your special moments:

Eating birthday cake for breakfast, choosing a special new to all place to visit each year, return to a special place for family vacation each year, sing a special song with your child, writing stories with your child, spending Christmas with just the immediate family. These were just a few, thanks for sharing. Here's to many more special memories!

### **Thirsty?**

Water is always served at our snack tables, but we ask that you provide an additional drink choice, please remember that juice must be 100% juice. Milk is another great option. No juice boxes or individually packaged sizes, please.

### **Mittens First? Mittens Last!**

When dressing children for outdoor play in the cold climate, many of us have children put mittens on first to be sure they're tucked in securely by coat and jacket cuffs. HOWEVER, because we are trying to encourage children to learn to do their own zippers, put on their own hats and put things in their own bags using their hands, we at Open Door encourage our children to put on mittens LAST. Please remember, gloves don't keep tiny fingers as warm as mittens do and they are more difficult to put on.

### **Review Your Handbook**

The cold weather is here! We ask that you review the policies in the handbook regarding outdoor play during the inclement weather, cold weather clothing and cancellation of classes.

**Bathroom Time**

Please be sure to have your child go to the bathroom BEFORE coming to school. Children will be expected to wipe themselves and pull up their underwear after toileting.

**Thanks!**

To all the parents who were able to help chaperone on the environmental trip to St. Olaf. We are so excited about this opportunity and it would not be possible without your assistance. We will be visiting the prairie in the Winter and Spring (exact dates are TBD). We know that there are many parents who were unable to attend because of sibling care. Perhaps you would like to arrange a child-care swap? One parent could care for the siblings during the winter visit and the other could care for the children in the Spring. It's such a great experience; we'd like it to be available to all of you. Let us know if you are interested.

To all who helped with picture day: we could not have done this without your assistance. Thanks!

To Crystal Henslin for subbing for Mrs. Howe

To Missy O'Leary for subbing for Mrs. Christensen

**Stay in Touch** 507-645-8532  
opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org  
Barb Howe 507-645-8532x1  
barb@opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org  
[barb@opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org](mailto:barb@opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org)  
Sue Anderson 507-645-8532x2  
sue@opendoorpreschoolnorthfield.org