

# November 2017



**Themes:**  
**Thanksgiving**  
**Hospital**

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

### **Important Dates for Everyone!**

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

November 6 NO SCHOOL

November 28 pick up Gertens order 8-noon all classes

November 20 Picture Re-Take Day

November 22-24 Thanksgiving Break

December 2 Caroling at Three Links

December 12 Last day 3am class

December 14 Last day 2am class

December 13, 15- January 1 NO SCHOOL

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### **3-Day Important Dates**

November 7 Parent and Kid Night, 6-7pm

### **2-Day Important Dates**

November 9 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 7 for the 3-day classes and November 9 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.

### **Gerten's Fundraiser**

Please remember that your Gerten orders will be available for pick-up from 8-noon on November 28. This means that you will have some lovely greens or plants just in time for the holidays as well as supporting Open Door! Questions? Please contact Missy at 708-337-6691. Many thanks!

## **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. We hope that you find them useful.

### **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 lesson 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 2 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.

## **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: Attending/doing something special with the entire family for a holiday celebration, family movie nights, Sunday dinners, family walks, special birthday celebrations including singing Happy Birthday as out of tune as possible. 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. No juice boxes or individually packaged sizes, please. Due to a severe milk allergy, please remember, no milk.

### **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.

### **Mayo Health Recommendation**

Mayo Health recently sent out a mailing called Hometown Health. One of the items that caught my eye had to do with screen time and recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics. The recommended screen time for children ages 2-5 is ONE HOUR PER DAY OF HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMING AND WATCH WITH YOUR CHILDREN.

### **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 Cassie Chavis who subbed for both Mrs Howe and Mrs. Christensen.