



It's hard to believe we are already three and a half months into the school year as we say good-bye to fall and head into winter. It's been so exciting watching your children get settled in over the last few months. We are now at full capacity, seventeen children in each room. We were sad to say good-bye to Harin, a child from the Blue Room, as she heads off to new adventures internationally. We will be welcoming a new child, Yasmina Ghamloush , who will be transitioning into our program over the next couple of weeks and joining us full time in the new year.



I would like take the time to thank the teachers for all the hard work and dedication that they give to the program.

Jess Schaffer, Lead Teacher in the Green Room:

As a lot of you know, Jess Schaffer, the Lead Teacher in the Green Room, has been on maternity leave after the birth of her daughter, Iyla. At this time Jess has decided to take some time at home and be with her family and will not be returning. We will miss her!!!

On that Note!

Tiff has done an amazing job stepping in as interim-Lead Teacher. She joined our team in late August and jumped right in. Kudos to her!!! We have posted the position and are currently looking for a new Lead Teacher replace Jess. We will keep you posted and will be asking for parent volunteers to join us in the interviewing process.



The Last Three Months:

In these few months we have gone on a field trip to Shelburne Farms to go apple picking, where fun was had by all. The children have also been going to the library to listen to the librarians read stories to them; and have been involved in the City Sprouts Garden in the school courtyard, where they planted seeds, tasted herbs and vegetables, and got to help make apple cider and taste it afterwards. I know that the teachers have shared photos of the children in their weekly emails and that you have seen the joy on each of the children's faces as they attended these events.

We have also hosted two family events; *Family Orientation Night* and *Literacy Night*.

The turnouts for these events were about half our families for each. We are grateful to those who were able to attend and hope that if you were not able to attend that you will find it easier to attend our future events. Please remember, we do offer childcare and dinner for all!

The next Family Workshop topic is to be determined during our **Parent Connection Meeting, Friday, December 12th at 4:30.**

We also had you fill out the Ages and Stages Questionnaire for your child/ren and met with you to determine how you felt things are going and set goals for your child/ren.

On the business side of things, we have submitted our Annual Report for NAEYC as part of our accreditation, and over the next couple of weeks we will be visited by the Department of Early Education and Care to go through relicensing.

All in all, a very busy few months!!!

Now it is time to set goals for the next few months:

Sept.-Dec.
2014

M.L. KING, JR. PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER



The teachers have been gathering information on your child's development in all areas of growth. They will be writing reports over the next month or so and will be giving these to you and meeting with you in early January. There will be sign-up sheets like we did for the Ages and Stages conferences. We will probably use the same format for times with the understanding that we may have to schedule an alternate time if the times given do not work for you.



A friendly reminder to families: Please join me on **Friday, December 12th at 4:30** for coffee and treats for our first **Parent Connection Meeting**. I would like to talk about: **fundraising ideas, topics for the next Family Workshop, a spring school class trip, and scheduling of family breakfasts and potlucks.**

Kindergarten Registration and Information Meeting



Kindergarten registration takes place the month of January. You will be able to register your child from Monday, January 5th to Friday, January 30th.

Two thirds of our children will be moving on to Junior/Kindergarten next year. To help prepare for this transition we will be hosting a **Kindergarten Information Meeting, either Monday, December 22nd or Tuesday, December 23rd at 8:00. Coffee and treats will be served!! I will let you know as soon as possible.**

Snow Day Plans



I will send out a separate notice, but would like to quickly state the Snow Day Policy.

***If the Cambridge Public Schools are closed, we have a delayed opening and will open at 10:00,**

*** If the City Manager calls a City Emergency and all city offices and schools are closed, our programs will close as well.**

I will use our hotmail account to let people know as soon as I'm told if we are closed or have a delayed opening. I will also change the voicemail message on our phone.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP REMINDER



We want to remind all families of our drop off and pick up policies. Children must be dropped off by 9:30 in the morning. At the end of the day children must be picked up by 5:30. At this time in the year we need to be conscious of the weather and traffic. We will be enforcing the drop off and pick up policy with late slips.

Below is a link to the Center for Families Newsletter with upcoming events, community resources and news:



<http://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/DHSP/centerforfamilies/CenterNews.ashx>



We are in need of a few items for our classrooms – thank you!

1. Rolls of paper towels
2. Boxes of tissues
3. Flushable wipes
4. Sponges
5. Liquid Dish Soap
6. Computer paper

UPCOMING DAYS WE ARE CLOSED



Wednesday December 24th

Thursday December 25th

Thursday January 1st

Monday January 19th



Please go through your child's cubby and update with seasonal clothing. Also, our aim is to go out at least once daily please send in Mittens, Hats, Coats, Long Pants to go over tights, and Warm Shoes or Boots, and Snow Pants for the cold or snow.