

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PRESCHOOL



Spring 2015 Newsletter

Program Updates:

It is wonderful that we can now take advantage of the weather and get outside as much as possible now that spring is here. The children have enjoyed exploring many of the neighborhood parks.

A.M. Drop-Off

I think we thought that once the snow disappeared our parking issues would also go away. NO SUCH LUCK! Parking and traffic continue to be a nightmare! Then you add street cleaning to the equation and it gets even worse. I do have to remind you that our arrival cut off before you are considered late is 9:30. The above mentioned issues will not go away. Please make sure you leave enough time to deal with these difficulties in order to arrive before 9:30. We serve breakfast from 8:30 to 9:20 if it makes it easier for you, have your child eat at school. Earlier arrival also gives your child more time to come into school and get acclimated before we move on to structured activities.

P.M. Pick-up

- Most afternoons we will be outside in the school playground for pick-up. We are no longer bringing out the children's belongings. It is too difficult to keep track of what goes home, what stays, and some of the children have so much to carry that teachers are not able to carry things for themselves.**

Teachers have program materials they are required to carry with them at all times.

I am suggesting that when you arrive to pick-up your child you get their belongings before you get them. Often the children want to play and you want to give them that time, which can be a wonderful time to watch them and enjoy their abilities. Then it comes time to leave and it is hard to get them to go in and get their things.

- **On the housekeeping side of things, once 5:30 comes and all the children have been picked up the teachers need to lock the classrooms before they leave. While we do have Moisená, our cleaning woman, here we cannot have her feel responsible for letting families in and out of the classroom.**
- **Once you have entered the playground to pick-up your child it can be tricky to know who is responsible for your child, you or the teachers. We are asking you to assist the teachers by taking responsibility of your child so that they can take care of the children who have not been picked up yet. We are also asking you to support the teachers by having your child continue to follow school rules. If you have any questions regarding these rules the teachers would be happy to answer your questions.**

Family Surveys:

Next week we will be handing out Family Surveys. I will be setting up a table near the office where you can fill out your survey and put it into a box to ensure confidentiality. Please check off your name once you have completed the survey. It is my intent to have everyone fill out the surveys at drop-off or pick-up rather than send them home. I am hoping for 100% participation. We use your feedback for program improvements. We also share the results with our

administration in order to ask for support or to show off what we do well. So it is very important for you to participate. If you need to take it home with you or need someone to interpret the questions, please let us know.

Upcoming Events:



WE ARE GOING TO THE SWAN BOATS!!

We are planning a field trip on Friday, June 5, 2015 to the Boston Public Gardens to ride the Swan Boats! We will be taking the Red Line Train and have a snack after our ride.

We would love to have parents join us on our trip, please let your child's classroom teachers know if you are interested in joining us. We will leave at 9:45 and be back by 12:00.

The cost for each child will be \$2. The cost for adults to ride the Swan Boats will be \$3:00.

Permission slips will be distributed the week before the trip.

We hope that you can join us on what is sure to be great fun for all!

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR POTLUCK



Please join us on Friday June 26, 2015, 5:00-6:30, for our end of “school year” potluck.

We have reached the end of the public school year calendar and have a number of children who will be leaving our preschool for the summer before heading off to Kindergarten in the Fall.

The teachers will be collaborating on how to make this time a special celebration for those moving on to new adventures while also celebrating the children who will be staying with us. This will also be the last event for the M.L. King, Jr. Preschool at 359 Broadway St. before we move to our new site.



PRESCHOOL CLOSING DATES:

Monday May 25th for Memorial Day

Friday July 3rd in observance of Independence Day (July 4th falls on a Saturday this year)

Dates for Closure in August and September to be determined.

We will let you know as soon as possible.



Summer Reminders!!



- **All shoes need to have closed toe and at least a strap in the back. Please sunscreen your children before arrival or before you leave in the morning. Teachers will reapply after naptime. Please make sure your children have extra clothes that are weather appropriate and check sizes. I know that sounds crazy, but your children have grown exponentially over the last several months!**
- **Please, label, label, label.**
Many of the children have the same water shoes and bathing suits and we do not know what belongs to whom, or sizes. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!!!!
- **Your teachers will let you know when the children are going in the water. When this time comes please have them dressed in their bathing suits before you leave.**