

## ***Sudbury Extended Day ~ Kindergarten Newsletter September ~ 2016***

Welcome to the Sudbury Extended Day Kindergarten! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer! We are looking forward to sharing this year with your child/children and you. Our Kindergarten program is designed to encourage and support the physical, social, emotional and cognitive growth of each child.

Your child/children have the option to choose from theme based and open ended sensory projects. We also have a Free Art Area where children may use their creativity to design something unique. Various centers are set up for the children to pursue throughout the year. The Math Center allows the children to explore various math manipulatives and math concepts. The Writing Center provides an area for the children to practice letters, words, tell stories and make books. The Science Center is changed frequently and is housed with interesting items for the children to research and investigate. Our Quiet Reading Area allows for a relaxing location where children may pursue various literacy materials. The Building Area has different types of blocks and toys such as castles, cars and animals. The Drama Area is changed frequently with themes to foster imagination through dramatic play. Outdoor play is very essential as we bring forth cooperative games, various gross motor activities and the exploration of nature. In addition, we also have many games and toys for the children to play with that help promote socialization and sharing.

We are a “Bully~Free” classroom. We help guide the children to be responsible, kind and caring citizens via specialized mini-meetings that we have adapted and modified to our Kindergarten Curriculum. (\*Via Open Circle Curriculum\*)

Each month you will receive a newsletter and email highlighting the various themes, units and activities in the classroom. Please take the time to view the whiteboard directly behind the parent mailboxes. It highlights classroom activities and events that are offered each day.

School Transition: The new school year brings excitement and anxiety to many incoming Kindergartners. At SED, we strive to make the transition to Kindergarten as easy as possible and our teachers are readily available to help the children adjust to our program. We let the children know ahead of time what the schedule is and what they should expect. During bus time, we coordinate with the schools to ensure the safe arrival of students to the SED Kindergarten Center. We also provide extra comfort and support to children who may experience separation anxiety.

Parent Involvement: If you have any special skills, hobbies, stories or projects that you would like to share with our Kindergarten Community, we would love to have you come in and present! In past years we have had parent presentations on making apple cider, dental health, sign language, disabilities, Native Americans, ecology, dinosaurs, and frogs.

### **Important Reminders**

\*SED is a peanut/ tree nut free center. Please DO NOT send in sandwiches or snacks containing any of these products. We appreciate your cooperation with

this.

\*When dropping off or picking up your child please do not park in the spot marked “Minister’s Spot.” You may park in the handicapped spots if nothing else is available. (However, one handicapped spot must be left available.)

\*PLEASE get in the habit of checking your parent mailbox every day when you pick up or drop off your child/children.

\*Weather permitting, we play outside every day. All children are expected to go outside, so please send your child/children with appropriate clothing and shoes. (Sneakers/boots in Winter weather) are the safest and most supportive options.)

\*Students will be painting, using markers and glue, working with play dough and other “messy” items. Please select clothing that is appropriate for these activities. (We have smocks that are always available.)

\*SED has a generous amount of toys and games that students will be using. Please DO NOT send in toys from home. SED makes exceptions if a student needs a stuffed animal/transitional object for comfort. (We encourage the children to leave it in their backpack and “visit” it there if they need to do so.)

\*As a Kindergarten staff, we promote diversity and multiculturalism. Throughout the year, we will present books and projects that enhance the children’s understanding about the diversity in our world. If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to Miss. Esteves.

\*We explore different themes throughout the school year. We start off with the themes ~ “All About Me”, 5 Senses and Trees/Leaves. Mini Circle Times and projects are related to these themes. During these times, we use a lot of visuals, music, quality literature and artifacts to enhance our themes.

\*During the month of September ~ the children will spend time becoming familiar with the different items in our centers and learning about the rules of each one. In October there will be various thematic educational activities/experiences for students to pursue at the Math, Writing and Science Centers in addition to various other seasonal centers around the room.

#### Early Release Days

\*On Early Release days ~ the children depart school at 12:45 and eat lunch at SED. The students will either participate in a thematic event or a performer/venue will come in to entertain and educate the children. \*Please pack a peanut /nut free lunch\*

#### Early Release ~ September 14th~ Curious Creatures

Curious Creatures arrives to offer a live, interactive animal program. The Handler ~ Lenny brings in various animals and allows hands on interaction with many of the

animals. Students are also taught the importance of animal safety and treating animals with dignity and respect. We request Lenny each year as he consistently displays the upmost patience and respect to our students.

Early Release ~ September 28th ~ Hawaiian Luau

The children will participate in various events and centers that revolve around our Luau theme!

Upcoming Holiday Programs in October

Rosh Hashanah Program ~ October 3rd

Teddy Town arrives bringing all the supplies for the children to create their own stuffed animal!

Yom Kippur Program ~ October 12th

Pumpnickel Puppets present, "The 3 Billy Goats Gruff." The show is extraordinary! His performance, theater and handmade puppets are exquisite and enchanting!

\*Please contact the SED office to sign up for these special holiday programs.\*

Contact Information

Please use the email address [sedkindergarten20162017@yahoo.com](mailto:sedkindergarten20162017@yahoo.com) to relay information to me. However, after 3:00pm ~ I do not check my phone or emails when I am with your children unless it is an emergency ~ so the best way to get information to me (after 3pm) is via the office phone number: [978-443-5829](tel:978-443-5829)

\*If you have any billing questions/schedule changes or general office questions than please contact the SED Office at ~ [office@sudburyextendedday.org](mailto:office@sudburyextendedday.org)  
Phone Number: [978-443-5829](tel:978-443-5829) Fax Number: [978-440-8361](tel:978-440-8361)

Calling in Absences

We are separate from the Public Schools and they will not contact us if your child/children will be absent. We ask that you call us (or email me) before 3:00pm ([978-443-5829](tel:978-443-5829)) to ensure we know your child/children will be absent from the SED Kindergarten. If a student(s) does not get off the bus, I need to perform a detailed search procedure which takes me away from the other children.

Shutterfly Account

We use this private online account to showcase the various photographs we take during SED time. (We take ALOT of photos!) I will discuss this option with you personally and have you fill out a form if you agree to use this account.

Please try to take the time to view the photos! Parents in the past have really enjoyed this feature. They had the opportunity to get a glimpse of all the activities their child/children were participating in. The students also love the idea that you are looking at their photos. Please make sure the Shutterfly emails don't end up in your SPAM box! I have the photos neatly organized in thematic folders that are easy to view! \*It is vital that you do not share your password with anyone and you may not purchase any photos of other children without permission from their parent(s). Please help me to keep this account private for the safety of all the children and staff.

Thank you!

#### Photos/Videos in the Classroom

You of course may take photos of your own child/children while spending time in the classroom. However, you may not take a photo of any child/children without the permission of their parent(s). (This also includes videotaping.)

#### Daily Schedule

3:35/3:40 ~ Arrival and Snack

4:00-6:00:

\*Outside Play \*Choices (Projects, activities, special events, table centers)

\*Free Play Upstairs/Downstairs

5:50 Ending Circle

6:15 SED Closes

#### Classroom Donations

\*Newspapers \*Envelopes \*Old Stationary

\*Plastic bags(from the grocery store) \*Tube Rolls(paper/toilet)

Materials from Outside : Fall leaves, shells, abandoned nests/beehives, unusual stones, gems or pebbles, feathers, deceased insects, etc...

All Kids need is a little help, a little hope and somebody who believes in them!

Smile, SED Kindergarten