

The Express

December 2019 & January 2020

Dear Parents,

As I write this letter, our classrooms are bustling with festive holiday activities, many of which fill our classrooms and hallways with the wonderful sounds and smells of the holidays. Children are baking wonderful recipes, jingling bells, singing songs with delight, and gathering together with friends and teachers for special holiday activities. It is truly a wonderful time of year.



Thank you for taking the time to meet with your child's teachers at our parent/teacher conferences. It is a wonderful opportunity to exchange information with them as well as hear about your child's developmental progress and goals for the school year. We hope you found them beneficial. The teachers will conference with you again in April but should you ever need to speak to them before that, they are always available.

As you know, registration for the 2020-2021 school year has begun. If you know of anyone looking for a preschool for next year, I hope you will refer them to NCNS. You can either contact Jessica Kray, our Enrollment Chairperson, or myself for details on enrollment. I am happy to schedule a school tour for anyone who may be interested.

I am excited to let you know we will be doing our all school community project in January to help our neighborhood food pantry, the Northfield Food Pantry. We feel it is so important for our children to understand the concept of giving back to the community and helping others. We wanted to gear this project to both something the children could relate and identify with and would also fill a great need to the pantry. This will be our NCNS community project which will culminate with our NCNS spirit day! We will be collecting items from our families to go into two types of bags. The first bags will be "healthy snack bags" and the second will be "baby bags". Beginning the week of January 6th, we ask that you begin sending in items for these bags. We will have collection boxes here at school and will collect items until Friday, January 17th. On January 17th we will have our "All School Spirit Day" where all classes will sort and pack the items into individual bags to deliver to the pantry. Please have your child wear their NCNS spirit shirts or a red or blue shirt to school this day to show their school spirit. More details on this event will go out soon as well as a list of specific items to collect and bring to school.

Just a reminder with the cold weather upon us, we do play outside daily through the winter months as long as the temperature is above 25 degrees. On questionable days, I try to send out an email letting you know whether or not we will meet outside on the playground. Please take a moment to look for an email from me indicating our plan if the weather is borderline.

With the holidays around the corner this can be a very busy, hectic and often stressful time of year; trying to fit everything in and get everything done. In this fast pace of life, remember to slow down and enjoy the memories your family is creating. Try to include your children in holiday preparations, making them a part of them. It may take longer to bake cookies with your preschooler or have them help you wrap gifts, but think of the wonderful memories you are creating together.

I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year!

Warmest Regards,

Gail



Dates to Remember

December

- 23 Start of Winter Break
- 30 Winter Break Playdate at "Pump It Up" Glenview

January

- 6 School Resumes
- 12 Lunch Bunch & Parent/Tot Session #1 end this week
- 13-17 NCNS CommUNITY Week & Spirit Day (Jan 17)
- 20 No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 21 Lunch Bunch & Parent/Tot Session #2 begin this week

February

- 1 2019/2020 Payment Due
- 7 Vision & Hearing Screenings
- 12 Family Valentine's Dance 5:30-7pm @ School
- 14 No School Professional Day
- 17 No School President's Day

Mark your calendar!

Sign up for Lunch Bunch!

Looking to enrich and extend your child's day? Spring Lunch Bunch enrollment is open!



Spring Lunch Bunch

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 11:20am-12:40pm January 21 - May 15



Priority registration December 9-13.

Descriptions of each Lunch Bunch/Enrichment class and a downloadable Enrollment Form will be available at <u>http://www.ncnskids.org/programs/enrichment-programs</u>

Please contact Gail Nemoy at (847)272-5430 or Beth Spaniak at <u>bethspaniak@gmail.com</u> for additional information.

December & January Birthdays



It's a Boy!

Big brother, Weston, welcomed new baby brother, Macalister ("Mac").

> Congratulations, Rupnow Family!

Join the NCNS Board!



Interested in joining the NCNS Board next school year?

Participating on the NCNS Parent Board is not only a rewarding, hands-on way to support your child's education, but also a fantastic way to meet friends! The volunteer Board of Directors manages all business aspects of the school, and has positions available for every interest, expertise, and commitment level.

- Each Board member is responsible for specific duties in addition to assisting with fundraising and promoting NCNS.
- The Board holds monthly meetings with the exception of July.
- The Board sponsors and plans all fundraising and all-school events throughout the school year.
- Board members typically serve a three-year term with transitions each June.

For more information or questions, please contact Betsy Kivetz at <u>eacuster@gmail.com</u>





JOIN YOUR NCNS FRIENDS FOR OUR ANNUAL



Winter Playdate



WE' RE BOUNCING INTO WINTER BREAK AT

PUMP IT UP 1857 ELMDALE AVENUE, GLENVIEW MONDAY, DECEMBER 30 9:30-11:00 AM \$12 PER CHILD*

SIBLINGS & FRIENDS WELCOME!

***PUMP IT UP** WILL DONATE 50% OF ADMISSION PROCEEDS TO NCNS

Mark Your Calendars for 2020 NCNS CommUNITY Week!



As we welcome in a new year at NCNS, we invite our families to join us, in partnership with *Northfield Township Food Pantry ,* to support local families in need!





January 6th – 16th: Collections in NCNS Hallway/Totes January 17th: NCNS Spirit Day & In-Class Service Activities

All NCNS students will participate in **NCNS CommUNITY Week** inside the classrooms, learning side-by-side about the importance of working together to help others in our community.

We invite our students to wear their NCNS Spirit Wear, Blue or Red clothing on Friday, January 17th as we show our pride for our own NCNS community! If your child does not attend schools on Fridays, they are welcome to join in with their class on Spirit Day.

Please see attached for additional information and requested items for donation.

Kids Helping Kids.

How Can We Help?

At NCNS, as we celebrate our history as Northbrook's community preschool, we look to not only help nurture and inspire our students, but to spread positivity and good citizenship beyond our walls.

Our partner, Northfield Township Food Pantry, has been servicing the Northbrook/Glenview community for over 50 years, helping assist residents who are unable to provide enough healthy food for themselves and their families.

No tax dollars are used to supply the Pantry. The Pantry is sustained entirely by the generous support of local residents, civic organizations, schools, businesses and the faith community who generously donate food items, grocery store cards and cash.

Join us in making this CommUNITY Week a success! Below, please find a list of the requested items, all identified with growing kids in mind:

Small water bottles	100% fruit pouches & cups
Diapers (all sizes) opened bags ARE acceptable	Household cleaning items (dish soap, toothpaste, shampoo, soap)
Cheese & cracker packs or Cheese & peanut butter	Coffee, tea
Protein bars	Small raisin packs
100% fruit snacks & rollups	Dried fruit packs
Rice mixes	Baby wipes
Baby food jars & pouches	Baby rice cereal
Ziploc bags	Hand sanitizer wipes
	Diapers (all sizes) opened bags ARE acceptable Cheese & cracker packs or Cheese & peanut butter Protein bars 100% fruit snacks & rollups Rice mixes Baby food jars & pouches

THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU DONATE:

Individual sizes are best.

Unopened, unexpired items only, please. Perishable items are not accepted. Save the Date NCNS Family Valentine's Dance Wednesday, February 12th 5:30-7pm, Westminster Hall

A celebration for the whole family! Join us for a night of dinner, dancing, and love.

DJ and dancing emceed by Energy Productions Family photo wall, games, prizes and more!

More details to come via January tote drop

Save the Date

NCNS Annual Fundraising Gala Saturday, March 7th 8-11 pm at Jolane's

Wild, Wild

West

Presented by Northbrook Community Nursery School

Request for Donations

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to the most FUN night of the school year with our annual fundraiser:

The NGNS Wild, Wild West Gala!

It will truly be a night to remember, and we are asking for your help to make it the most successful gala yet.

- Do you or a family member own a company or business that could provide an item, service, or gift certificate to support our silent auction/live auction?
- Would you like to personally donate something to the silent auction/live auction (sports tickets, airline miles, vacation rental, gift certificate to one of your favorite places, themed gift basket)?

No donation is too small and all help is greatly appreciated! Please contact Kat Stahl (katherinegstahl@gmail.com) with donation ideas or if you have questions.

Yeehaw! The NCNS Gala Committee

NCNS & AmazonSmile



As a non-profit preschool, NCNS is a proud recipient of donations made by the AmazonSmile Foundation. With a simple click of a button, Amazon not only helps you conveniently tackle everything from your daily shopping lists to holiday wishlists, but it also helps to support our wonderful preschool. AmazonSmile will donate .5% of eligible purchases back to NCNS.

If you're an Amazon or AmazonPrime shopper, and you're interested in signing up, please go to:

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- 1. Go to smile.amazon.com
- 2. Search Northbrook Community Nursery School
- 3. Complete a quick registration and you're all set!