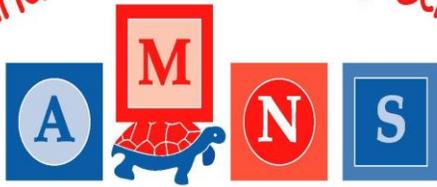


Aldrich Memorial Nursery School



For The Good Of Children

NEWSLETTER

February 2017

A Note from our Director

Happy February! It is hard to believe that our year with the children is at mid-point already! Registrations are coming in daily for next year, both for re-enrollments and for children new to Aldrich. Thank you for recommending Aldrich to your friends; it is an honor we don't take lightly, and we certainly do appreciate your endorsement and support. Enrollment is currently about 75% capacity for next year, so even though most of morning spots have been claimed, there still remains afternoon openings.

In addition to planning for the coming fall at Aldrich, many of our families who have four year-olds are also thinking about Kindergarten for next year. Last week a group of about 50 took advantage of a parent workshop entitled, "Getting Ready for Kindergarten." Presenters were Ms. Marla Hampl and Dr. Brenda Lewis who walked us through a typical Kindergarten school day, curriculum, district options, and suggestions for how we help our children be ready and excited for their next step.

Valentine's Day is an upcoming special celebration in which we share our love and affection for family and friends. Children are quick to share their affection which is a great gift, but they may need a little guidance on appropriate hugs. I also encourage you to help your child understand the art of giving and loving – not just in purchased items but enjoying the process of creating homemade cards, coupons and gifts. What a sweet treasure are those words and pictures in the cards created by a child!

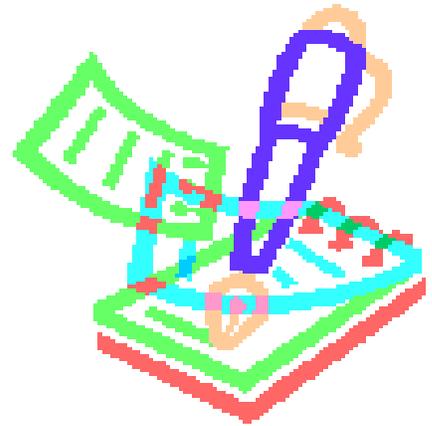
Serving the children with you,
Kevin Ewing, Director



Remember to Enroll for 2017-2018!

Many of you have already enrolled for the upcoming school year, but we encourage all families to register as soon as possible because **a few classes have already filled** and others are filling quickly! We have started waiting lists for full classes and will call names on those lists if there are any changes in the coming months. In order to register for next year, families will need to turn in a completed enrollment contract and fee (\$55 for one child; \$60 for two or more,) along with an immunization record (new students only.)

Many new families who enroll are referred by current Aldrich families. Thank you for telling your friends, neighbors, and co-workers about Aldrich! Please encourage anyone interested in Aldrich to call the office at [507.289.3097](tel:507.289.3097) to schedule a tour.



Cooking Monsters Enrichment Class Begins Feb. 28th and Mar. 1st

Looking for an option to extend your child's learning at Aldrich?! Our next enrichment class is **Cooking Monsters**. We will create a variety of recipes your child will enjoy making... and you'll both enjoy eating! The class contains a dash of nutrition, a pinch of action, and a heaping spoonful of fun- all while highlighting healthful habits and making good food happy food. Part art class, part math class, part tasty snack, your child will have a greater appreciation for making food and may even taste something new!

This will be our **last** enrichment class for the 2016-2017 school year. Cooking Monster classes will begin on Tuesday, February 28th and Wednesday, March 1st and will run for 5 weeks from 1:00-3:30pm. (There may be options to extend the afternoon with either Lunch Bunch or Kids Club). Children must have been at least 3 years old on Sept. 1, 2016 to participate in enrichment classes. The cost of this fun enrichment opportunity is \$81. Stop by the office for more information and to sign up today!



Did you know we have a **Kids Club** program from 3:30-5:30pm daily?

It extends the afternoon sessions for parents who need a more convenient pick up time! At Kids Club, children enjoy time in both playrooms, open-ended art projects, group story time and a snack. Because children have already had a full session at school, the pace is more relaxed at Kids Club. **You can reserve specific days each week, or drop in spots are available for \$12 per day!**

Aldrich Dates to Remember

Feb. 14: Valentine's Day

Please check with your child(ren)'s teacher about if/when and how their classroom will celebrate this holiday.

Feb. 16 & 17: Pizza Lunch Bunch!

Drop in space may be available!

Feb. 20: No School: Presidents' Day

Feb. 21: Aldrich Board Mtg. 7:30pm

Open to the public

Feb. 28: Aldrich PTA Meeting 7:00pm

Feb. 28 & Mar. 2: First Days of
Cooking Monsters Enrichment Class

April 3-7: No School: Spring Break

Weather Closings

If Rochester Public Schools are closed because of weather, Aldrich will be closed also. Closures will be posted on local television channels and on the Aldrich website at www.aldrichnurseryschool.com for more information. You can also "Like Us" (Aldrich Memorial Nursery School) on Facebook, where we will also post any closures. Always use your own judgment about driving and the weather situation. If you are not comfortable driving, feel free to stay home.

Aldrich Closure Guidelines:

- **If Rochester Public Schools are closed, Aldrich will be closed.**
- **If Rochester Public Schools begin 2 hours late, Aldrich will be closed in the morning only. Lunch Bunch will still be available.**
- **If Rochester Public Schools dismiss early, Aldrich will close in the afternoon, and Kids Club will be cancelled as well.**

Health Information

Part of maintaining a healthy school is cooperation between parents and Aldrich. It's the time of year that we need your help to help prevent the spread of infection to others. Colds, viruses, childhood illnesses are most easily transmitted in the early stages before the most obvious symptoms appear. To help us prevent the spread of infection, please observe your child before sending them to school. Some reminders regarding illness:

- A child should be able to participate in all parts of the regular school day, including outdoor play.
- If your child has a **fever**, they should remain at home for at least 24 hours after the temperature has returned to normal (without a fever reducing medication)
- Children should be kept home until a full 24 hours has passed from the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- Parents are required to inform Aldrich within 24 hours when a child is diagnosed as having a **contagious disease or infestation**. Parents of children who may have been exposed to an illness at school will be notified by a note in their child's cubby or via e-mail.

Please take a moment to review pages 16 & 17 in the Parent Handbook for more specific information regarding our health policies. Thanks for helping keep our children healthy!



News from the Board

Carnival Fun Coming to Aldrich!!!

Great opportunities for creativity, adventure, silliness and FUN are planned for **Saturday, May 6th** during the annual Aldrich Carnival from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.! Families will enjoy many activities inside the themed rooms, and the excitement will spill outside with giant inflatables. The raffle will have many great prizes, and there will be something for everybody in the silent auction.

We will be asking Aldrich families to consider donating items that can be used in the raffle or silent auction. We welcome all types of contributions! Look for information with suggested donations in your child's cubby later this spring.

Carnival proceeds partially benefit the Aldrich financial assistance fund which allows many students in need to benefit from a nurturing and educational preschool experience. If you are interested in helping with the carnival or have any questions about donations, please contact Elizabeth Ahern at ahern55901@gmail.com. We appreciate your support!

