

Aldrich Memorial Nursery School



For The Good Of Children

NEWSLETTER

October 2016



Greetings,

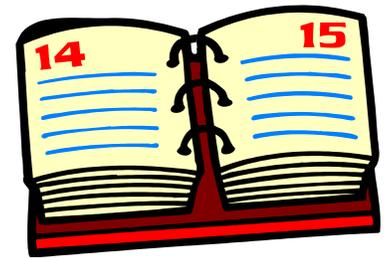
Another beautiful fall day - allowing the children to spend a healthy part of their sessions outside! The fall coolness warns us of the upcoming winter months, but before then we want to maximize our time outside, at home and at school. (We will still be outside on those winter days when we are above zero...just so much nicer now).

Being outside is vital to our children's health and development. We all know the benefits of being outside and understand the reduction in stress we feel when we make the time to enjoy the outdoors. It also increases a child's attention span – so let's maximize these fall days.

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to fill out the Post Bulletin online survey and once again vote Aldrich Nursery School as the Best Preschool in Rochester! The Aldrich staff work very hard to make this a rich and safe experience for your children. It is a privilege and a responsibility to partner with you in the very challenging and rewarding work of providing for our children in these early learning years.

Together, for the Good of our Children,

Kevin Ewing, Director



Aldrich Dates to Remember

- **October 6 & 7:** School Pictures
- **October 10:** BB's Pizzeria from 5 - 8 p.m.
(Aldrich receives 50% of pizza slice sales!)
- **October 13&14:** Pizza Lunch Bunch (Drop-in spots available!)
- **October 18:** Board Meeting 6:30pm
- **October 18&19:** Library books due back!
(only if your child checked out a book during classroom library check-out days 10/11&10/12)
- **October 19:** Fall Parent Outreach: Child Safety, 6:30 p.m.
- **October 20-21:** Education MN **(No School)**
- **October 27-28:** Parent Teacher Conferences **(No School)**
- **November 1-30:** Channel One Food Drive
- **November 1-4:** Book Fair
- **November 5:** Fall Festival from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- **November 17-18:** Picture Retake Days
- **November 23-25:** Thanksgiving Break **(No School)**

Visitor/ Volunteer Badges

If you are going to be volunteering or visiting at Aldrich, please stop by the front desk to sign in and put on a Visitor/Volunteer badge. This helps us keep track of who is in the building in case of emergency and also helps staff identify who has checked in the front office. A similar system is used in the Rochester public schools to help staff members identify volunteers and visitors. If you'd like more information on volunteer opportunities, talk with your child's teacher or visit the front office!

Halloween and Other Holidays



Halloween is quickly approaching, and we would like to pass along a few reminders regarding our holiday observance policies at Aldrich. Certain classrooms may have Halloween treats, stories, art, and songs. However, we do not wear costumes or masks as these can be frightening for some children.

Aside from Halloween, we do recognize holidays and participate in activities appropriate for the class. Preschoolers often experience too much stimulation and excitement connected with holidays, so we try to keep school activities low key but meaningful. We also like to incorporate the different cultures of our families. We want to affirm family traditions and also provide an enriching experience for the class. Please notify your child's teacher if you are willing to share your family's traditions. Anything that is special to your family is worth sharing and bolsters your child's self-esteem.

Financial Assistance Donations

This year, we have been able to provide financial assistance to many families that would not otherwise be able to send their preschoolers to Aldrich. We



have spent down our substantial scholarship allotment for the 2016-2017 school year with applicants from the fall semester. We know from experience that other families may fall upon hard times throughout the year and require assistance. That's where you come in. Financial support from our current Aldrich families makes it possible to help those in need. Consider making one extra tuition payment

or donate as you are able to the Financial Assistance fund. As you know, children benefit greatly from being at Aldrich.

Donations can be sent in separately or added to your monthly tuition check. Please let the office staff know how much should be put in the Financial Assistance fund. Let's help as many children as possible be prepared for kindergarten!

United Way Campaign

This fall, many businesses will be promoting their United Way campaigns, encouraging their employees to give back to support community needs.

Because Aldrich is a non-profit organization, did you know that you can designate your United Way donations to go to Aldrich? Simply write in Aldrich Memorial Nursery School as the recipient when you make your donation to United Way. **For Mayo Clinic employees**, find more specific directions about how to designate Aldrich for your United Way donations by visiting <http://www.aldrichnurseryschool.com/giving.html>

We appreciate the financial support from the Rochester community!

Looking for more time for your child at Aldrich?



We offer many options to extend your child's day at Aldrich! Lunch Bunch, Kids Club, and Enrichment classes can provide you with more options to find the right schedule for your child's and family's needs. If you are interested in enrolling, please stop by the office for more information, or reference the fliers given out at orientation. Enrollment forms are also on our website under the "Aldrich Families" tab.

Library Check-out begins in October!



Beginning in October, the 2nd Tuesday and Wednesday of the month, students will have the opportunity to check out a book from the Helmholtz Memorial Library at Aldrich during their class time. This is a great opportunity for students to pick out a book from school to read at home! Books may be borrowed for up to one week. Kindly return your book on time so that our librarian can check in books for the next borrowing session. Please feel free to borrow books at other times throughout the year. Children enjoy the chance to read with loved ones in our cozy reading room. Research has shown that reading with and out loud to children starting quite young can improve their future educational success. Reading together also allows for a special bonding time.

Reminders from School

Safety First at Aldrich!

Children's safety is a primary concern of all Aldrich staff. We'd like to offer the following reminders:

In the parking lot:

- **Drive slowly – 5 miles per hour.** Children can dart out from cars so quickly.
- Follow the directions of the one-way signs and arrows.
- Hold your child's hand from the Aldrich door to your car door.
- Do not use cell phones while driving in the parking lot.
- Be considerate of other families and other cars.



When dropping off your child:

- **Please turn off your car.** For the safety of everyone in the parking lot, please do not leave your car running when dropping off and picking up children, even during the colder months.
- **Please bring all children into Aldrich with you. Do not leave any children in the car.** If you regularly have a sleeping child in the car or too many kids to bring in with you, coordinate times with another Aldrich parent to watch your kids while you come in.
- Upon entering and exiting the building, keep an eye out for any children who may be alone and near the doors. We don't want to accidentally let children outside unaccompanied by their parent or guardian. If you see a child slip through the door, please stop him or her. The child's parent will thank you.

News from the Board

Family Fun - By the Slice!

Mark your calendars for Monday, October 10th from 5 - 8 p.m.! BB's Pizzeria (across the parking lot from ShopKo North) will be hosting a fundraiser for Aldrich. **They are donating 50% of their pizza slice sales to the school!** Bring your family and friends for a fun and easy dinner that will benefit Aldrich! Remember, only individual slices of pizza are a part of this fundraiser. We hope to see you there!



Child Safety:

Aldrich Parent Outreach Night



Join us on **Wednesday, October 19th at 6:30pm** to learn more about a variety of child safety topics! Topics will include car seat safety, gun safety, fire safety, neighborhood safety, natural disasters and basic first aid. Experts from the community will be available to offer tips and address safety concerns in and around your home. Childcare will be provided.

Fall Festival

Please join us for Aldrich's Fall Festival on **Saturday, November 5th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.!** Come and celebrate with games and prizes, face painting, crafts, and story time. Family and friends are welcome! Baked goods will be available for sale. The cost is \$7 per child, age 2 and older. Adults are free of charge. **Tickets will be available at the door on Nov. 5th.**



The Fall Festival will be a fun and successful event because of many volunteers like you! There are a lot of opportunities to help on and before November 5th. If you would like to help, please e-mail Brenda Kalmbach at brenda.kalmbach@yahoo.com.

Aldrich Spiritwear

Show your Aldrich spirit! During the month of October, order forms for Aldrich t-shirts and sweatshirts will be placed in your child's cubby. Sample items with the new design for 2016-2017 will be available by the main entrance for you to see color and size options.

Orders will be due Tuesday, November 8th



The Aldrich Board of Directors is made up of volunteers interested in serving Aldrich. **Aldrich Board Members receive a 15% discount on their tuition at Aldrich!** The Board is the leadership that determines the direction of Aldrich. In addition, they run Aldrich activities such as the fall festival, spring carnival, book fair, and picture day. Please consider becoming a member of the Aldrich Board of Directors- applications are available in the office!

Board Biographies

Elizabeth Ahern: Finance Committee Chair

This is my third year on the board and my seventh year at Aldrich. My son, Joseph, is in his second year at Aldrich. Sarah (9) spent 2 years here and Jamie (7) spent 3 years at Aldrich. Charles is only 7 months old, but we look forward to continuing on with the Aldrich tradition. I really enjoy being a part of the school where my kids have spent and will spend so much time. We love the social and family atmosphere where they play and learn. I am a stay-at-home mom and serve on many committees at schools and in the community. My husband is in IT at Mayo and has been with the organization for 14 years.

Nour Alhamwi: Personnel Committee

I am happy and excited to be a member with Aldrich for the first year. My husband Musab and I moved from Iowa a year ago along with our 2 girls; Leen and Sara. This is Leen's second year attending Aldrich. Looking at my girl growing and having a great experience at Aldrich and seeing her smiles every time I pick her up made me excited to be part of the Aldrich family. I am also a graphic designer and am half way through earning my degree at SNHU. I am looking forward to serving Aldrich kids and families this year!

Tamara Buechler: Finance Committee

This is my third school year on the Aldrich Board of Directors. Our twins just started Kindergarten. We also have a 7th grader at Kellogg and a 4th grader at Hoover. All are Aldrich alumni. As a family we enjoy traveling and bicycling adventures together. I work at Mayo Clinic in Hospital Medicine. Looking forward to a great year!

**Christina Burke-Tillema: Education Committee Chair**

This is my fourth year on the board and fifth year at Aldrich. I am honored to serve the school in this capacity. My 7 year old son Aidan had an amazing Aldrich experience before starting elementary school at Folwell. My 4 year old daughter, Kaia, has attended the 2 and 3 year old program at Aldrich, and she is off to great start in Room 7 this year. We look forward to Harper, our 1 year old to start at Aldrich in the future! Before moving to Rochester and becoming a stay-at-home mom, I was a project manager and grant writer for a health care reform non-profit and I taught composition at the community college in Cincinnati, Ohio. My husband is a neurologist at Mayo Clinic. In my free time I enjoy an active lifestyle and spending time with my sweet family.

Jason Carey: Finance Committee

This will be my 2nd year on the board. My wife Tiffany and I have 2 children that attend Aldrich. Our daughter Addisyn (4) is on her 3rd year and our son Levi (2) is his first year. We love how excited they are to go to school and can't wait to hear all the stories of the fun they had that day. We wanted to be involved in our kids' education. We feel so good about our decision for our kids to attend Aldrich and I am honored to serve the school.

John Church: Finance Committee

John is a native of Rochester, MN and attended the University of Minnesota where he received a B.S. in Applied Economics. He has worked in the finance industry in Rochester for the past decade. He is the CEO of Blickle Church & Co. Investment Advisers where he assists clients with wealth management and financial planning. John has two boys who attend Aldrich Memorial Nursery School. When away from the office, John loves spending time with his boys, golfing, cycling, and traveling.

Jessie Ekholm: Personnel Committee Chair

I will be starting my third year on the Aldrich board. My family and I moved to Rochester six years ago. My wife, Melissa, and I have two children. My son, Rowan, is an Aldrich alumni and currently in 2nd grade. My daughter, Ada, is an Aldrich alumni and started Kindergarten this fall. While not working in public safety I enjoy spending time with my family. I also enjoy camping, biking, and reading. It is a privilege to serve on the Board of Directors and I look forward to another great year with Aldrich.

Annie Getchell: Secretary, Education Committee

This is my third year serving on the Board of Directors. My husband, Aaron, and I have 4 busy boys. Our 2 year old twins started at Aldrich this year in Room 2 and our 4 year old, who attended Aldrich last year, started Kindergarten this fall. I am thankful for the opportunity to serving on the board and am looking forward to a wonderful year.

Kari Grapp: Personnel Committee

Hi everyone! My name is Kari Grapp and I am proud to be serving on the board this year. My husband and I have two daughters, Amelia and Alaina. We are patiently awaiting our son's arrival in December. Amelia is in her first year here at Aldrich in Room 6 and loves it so far! I have a background in education and look forward to contributing my knowledge to the board. I am excited and honored to be a part of the Aldrich community and look forward to a wonderful year.

Hitan Kamdar: Personnel Committee & Development Committee Chair

This is my first year serving on the board of directors. My wife Janki and I have been in Rochester for 4 years now, moving from Detroit, MI. When I'm not at work I enjoy spending time giving back to the community through various groups and organizations. Most recently I chaired the 2016 Leadership Greater Rochester community impact project, which was to transform old fire station number 2, into Silver Lake Station, a multi-use space for health and wellness. Child development, inclusion, and exceptional customer service are all passions of mine. I hope to be able to take those passions and help Aldrich continue to be an amazing place for children, parents, and our staff.

Brenda Kalmbach: Education Committee Chair

My name is Brenda Kalmbach. I live in Elgin with my husband, Mike, and our 3 children. This year is my second year on the Aldrich Board of Directors. I have taken on the role of Education Committee Chairperson. My oldest child, Alex, is 5 and is an Aldrich alumni. We are currently homeschooling him.

Nate is 3 and in his second year at Aldrich. He absolutely loves it! Lily is 16 months old and is looking forward to attending Aldrich next year with her big brother. Mike works for Mayo on the IT side of things. He moonlights as an editor and an author. I am a stay at home mom who likes to stay busy. Besides serving on the Board of Directors for Aldrich, I volunteer as an EMT in my spare time and am on the Minnesota EMS Honor Guard.



Brie Landry: President-Elect, Education Committee

My husband, Brad, and I moved here just over 5 years ago from Long Island, NY. We have 3 kids, Kiera (9) who attended Aldrich for 1 year, Sophia (5 1/2) who went to Aldrich last year, and Joshua (2) who is a future Aldrich student. I was an Early Childhood Special Education teacher for 11 years before deciding to stay home last year when my husband finished his fellowship and came on staff as a Pediatric PM&R physician at Mayo. This is my second year on the Aldrich Board and am so excited to continue to be involved!

Kelsey Metzger: Education Committee

Hello everyone! This is my second year serving on the board, and my third year as an Aldrich parent. I am an Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota Rochester where I teach undergraduate biology and genetics courses, and engage in research on student learning. Since moving to Rochester in 2009, I have enjoyed exploring the many local and regional resources, especially camping in the State Parks and Forests in SE Minnesota. Our family has loved becoming a part of the Aldrich community, and I am happy to be serving this community as a member of the board.



Brian Price: Treasurer, Finance Committee

This is my fourth year on the Aldrich Board of Directors. My wife Debbie and I have two children who are both Aldrich alumni, and currently attending St. Francis of Assisi School: Trevor (15) and Taylor (12). I am also an Aldrich alumni and, along with my 2 brothers, run a 3rd generation family business. I am looking forward to a wonderful year.

Laura Quest: Past-President, Personnel Committee

This is my fourth year serving on the Aldrich Board of Directors. My husband Dan and I have 2 daughters. Lilly (8) is an alumni of Room 7 and is currently in 3rd grade at Pine Island Elementary. Maggie (5) is an alumni of rooms 1, 2 & 7 and is loving Spanish Immersion Kindergarten at Pine Island. In addition to my time with school activities, I work full time at home. Looking forward to a wonderful year at AMNS.

Alysia Steinbeck: Education Committee

This will be my second year on the board and I couldn't be more excited! My husband, myself, and our three year old daughter (who attends Aldrich) and my 11 month old son have lived in Rochester for just over a year now. I was a stay at home mom for the last three years and just returned to teaching this fall as a 2nd grade teacher. This will be my fourth year overall teaching and I have a great passion for it. I'm excited to be a part of my child's (and your child's!) education.

Karla Sukov: President, Education Committee

This is my fourth year on the board at Aldrich. My husband (Bill) and I have two active boys. The oldest, Theo, just started second grade, and Ivan, has just begun Kindergarten. We have been in Rochester for 12 years and have met some of our best friends right here at Aldrich! In my spare time, I love playing the oboe, teaching private lessons, drinking coffee, and sleeping. It is a great privilege to serve on the Board of Directors and help keep Aldrich amazing.

Clare Tarr: Personnel Committee

This is my second year serving on the Aldrich Board of Directors. My husband Eric and I have two very busy boys, Solomon (age 5-currently at Aldrich) and Morrison (age 3 will-start Aldrich next year). We fell in love with Aldrich when we moved to Rochester (from Fort Wayne Indiana) 2 years ago and knew right away that it was the perfect fit for our family. In my spare time (after the boys go to bed) I enjoy sewing and working on creative projects. I look forward to contributing to such a great school!

