



January Newsletter

Ms. Jenn and Ms. Laurie's 5 Day PM Class

Happy new year everyone! We hope that you enjoyed the winter break (as hectic as it probably was) and we are looking forward to a wonderful new year. 2012...here we come!

As you all know, we both feel it's important to introduce young children to the joy of books and reading. With this in mind, our new theme, which will continue right up to our February vacation next month, will be focused on **BOOKS AND VARIOUS CHILDREN'S AUTHORS**. Each week or so, we shall focus on works by a particular author and facts about that author as well. The list of authors will include such people as Tomie dePaola, Eric Carle, Jan Brett, Dr. Seuss, Laura Numeroff, and others as well.

As our students are reaching an age where they can acquire their very own library card (if they don't have one already), we also plan to use this opportunity to teach them how to care for books properly.

When I was quite young, I was lucky enough to have a teacher who sparked my love of books. I believe the affinity for them she instilled in me made learning to read over the following year that much easier for I could not wait to be able to read all on my own. As I went through my years in school, I always took such joy from exploring new worlds and experiences as they jumped from the pages I read. Our hope is that, through this theme, we might spark a similar affinity for books in your children as well. We have a lot to do, so let's get this year rolling!

Days to Mark on the Calendar:

Starting Tuesday, January 3rd - Music Class

Being added to our specialist activities is a six week music program that begins today! So, be sure to have your child bring his or her singing voice along on Tuesdays.

Week 2 of January - In-House Registration for the 2012-2013 school year will begin in the second week of January! This will be opened up to the general public on Thursday, January 19th at our Open House.

Also in the second week of the month, **progress reports** will be sent home and a **sign up sheet for Parent-Teacher Conferences** will be hung outside of our room. If you wish to have a conference, please choose a date and time and check off whether you would prefer a phone conference or a face-to-face meeting.

Friday, January 13th - Blue Day

For this month, we spotlight the color BLUE. We ask that you send your child in wearing something BLUE on that day.

Monday, January 16th - NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday

Thursday, January 19th - Joyful Learning/Southbrook Academy Open House

If you know of someone who might want to come and join our school family, please be sure to pass the word on to them that this is the date of our open house. It will be held from 6:00 - 7:30 that evening.

Friday, January 20th - Show and Tell Day

The shape that is celebrated this month is the RECTANGLE. We ask that you assist your child in finding an item with a RECTANGLE on it to bring in and share with the class.

Other Quick Notes:

- **Weather Related Closings** - Any weather related school closings will be listed on **Channel 5** under **Joyful Learning**. If you miss it, you can go to either the Channel 5 school closings list at www.thebostonchannel.com/clossings/index.html or you can visit our school web site at www.southbrookacademy.org
- Another thing to point out regarding closings, if Southbrook has any kind of delay, it has been decided that Joyful Learning's morning classes will be canceled for that day.
- **A Great Big THANK YOU!** - Thanks to your generous help and support, our food drive was a success! It was a fantastic lesson for the students regarding the spirit of giving and the importance of helping those in need. It also helped them work further on the graphing and sorting skills. They really seemed to enjoy it and, thanks to you, we were able to give back to the community. Thanks again!

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to come to either one of us.

Ms. Jenn and Ms. Laurie