



NEWSLETTER

October, 2020

CALENDAR

- October 1 TUITION DUE
- 12 Columbus Day Holiday (Indigenous People Day) School closed
- 20-22 School pictures

WELCOME BACK! After a late start to school, I can say that I am happy to be back in session even in a pandemic! We have enjoyed catching up with our returning families and getting to know our new ones. The children are becoming familiar with new rooms and teachers. New friends are being made. We are learning to wear masks and use hand sanitizer. We are enjoying spending lots of time outside in the beautiful weather!

Look for a Fairlington Preschool newsletter to be sent home via email at the beginning of each month. Check the calendar that will always be included to learn about new events or to remind you about already scheduled events.

TUITION

Tuition is due the first of the month. Tuition checks can be mailed from your bank if you use online banking. We do not do ACH payments. Tuition in September was half the monthly tuition as even though the children were not here, the teachers were working the month of September. Tuition is as follows: Orange and Green room (5 days) \$580. Green room (4 day) is \$505. Yellow 3 day is \$450 and 2 day is \$340. If you have not paid September tuition, please include it with your October payment.

SNACK GUIDELINES

Thank you for sending in small snacks in packaging that children can open themselves. One thing that we encourage here at Fairlington is independence with our kids! We also appreciate the water bottles that children can open independently. If you are wondering about what an appropriate snack is, a great

snack is a banana and some pretzels. Please remember that we are a nut free school!

HARRIS TEETER TIE

This year the preschool continues to raise funds by participating in the Harris Teeter Together in Education programs. These programs bring funds to the preschool by linking your Harris Teeter savings cards to our preschool. Funds are deposited into our account and all you need to do is shop! Cards can be linked to more than one school. Please consider participating in this program. It's easy!

- Simply give the cashier at Harris Teeter your VIC card and Fairlington Preschool's TIE number...5236, during checkout OR
- Go to www.harristeeter.com, click the community tab and then enter your information.

LIBRARY:

Every week your child has library and will bring a book home in his/her cubby. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to read a book together that your child has chosen!

The library days are as follows: Tuesdays and Thursdays Yellow; Wednesdays: Green; Fridays: Orange. Please remember to send your child's library book back on the library day for his/her class and encourage your child to give it to the teacher or leave it in the designated space in the classroom. Thanks!

FAIR PLAY:

Fair Play is **F**un **A**ctivity **I**magination and **R**ecreation. This is a 20-minute time for each class every week led by Karen Joia, our certified Therapeutic Recreational Specialist. The goal of Fair Play is to use recreational games and activities to further enhance the High Scope curriculum in the key developmental skill areas of Approaches to Learning, Social and Emotional Development, Physical Development and Health, Language, Literacy and Communication, Mathematics, Creative Arts, Science and Technology and Social Studies. Karen sets up different activities and learning opportunities for each class every week. Currently, Karen does a lot of her activities with the children on the playground while the weather is nice. She will also push in to the classes she works with each day and provide support in the classrooms.

PARKING:

The parking lot is a very busy place in the morning at drop off time as well as pick up time at noon. Please have your child or children by the hand when walking in the parking lot. Also, when crossing the street, please use the pedestrian signal button to alert cars that you are in the crosswalk. Thank you for not parking in handicap spaces unless you have a DMV hangtag for your car. There are grandparents who pick up children who need those spaces. Also, the only entrance to the upper parking lot is off Menokin St. Exiting is only at Van Dorn St. If you have a provider or grandparent pick up your child, please share this information with that individual. Please remember to enter the building at the building handicapped entrance on the King St side. That door is scheduled to be unlocked between 8:45 and 9:10 as well as 11:45 and 12:10. Please do not park by the playground.

When dropping off your child in the morning, please exit the building by going down the stairs and out the doors on the Van Dorn St. side of the building. That way, we are limiting our exposure inside the building. Also, when coming inside for temperature checks, please keep an appropriate 6-foot distance. Working together, we are hopeful that we can keep Covid out of the school.

ODDS AND ENDS

- **Please be on time to school!** A late arriving child is disruptive to the classrooms and makes the transition more difficult for the late arriver. Plus, there are so many great things happening in the classrooms, you don't want your child to miss out! Parents and children arriving later than 9:10 need to come to the office for a temperature check and Lana or Carol can bring your child to class to lessen the disruption to the class.
- **Dress your child appropriately for the weather.** Make sure they are prepared to go outside every day. As the weather begins to cool off, make sure there is a jacket or sweatshirt available for your child. It is also important to **mark your child's outerwear with his/her name on the label.**
- **Please be sure your child has an extra mask in his/her cubby.**

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I will often use this space to share articles about early childhood that I find interesting for parents. This article comes from Exchange Every Day, May 23, 2019

Encouragement Versus Praise

Be honorable yourself if you wish to associate with honorable people.
-Welsh Proverb

Rachel Robertson, in an *Exchange* article called "[Making Happy Happen: Building Resilience in Children](#)" describes the difference between encouragement and praise: "We live in a culture where a blue ribbon, a gold star, a trophy, or at minimum an enthusiastic, 'Good job!' has become commonplace and even expected when children participate in an activity, regardless of their effort or outcomes. Many feel these practices are important to build a child's self-esteem and are harmless. In fact, they are neither. While each situation in and of itself is not harmful, and some are perfectly appropriate, the practice of continually praising or over-praising a child can be."

Instead of over-praising, Robertson explains that: "As an alternative to praising the outcome or end result or the children themselves, we should offer recognition and encouragement for their efforts and attitude."

Instead of praise, comment on a child's effort, "you worked hard putting on your shoes yourself"; "gluing all those jewels on your paper was hard work;" "thank you for remembering to carry your cubby bag".