



News from Strawberry

Preschool 

~December 2016~

Strawberry Families,

It's hard to believe that this will be the last newsletter of 2016; time really is going by so quickly.

December Curriculum: Throughout the last few months, we have spent some time observing and talking about the environment we live in. We also talked about the changing seasons, and how the days go from long and warm to short and cold. We will be continuing with this type of theme, but will now move into the different habitats that make up our home. Due to our amazingly close proximity to the water, we will be paying particularly close attention to the wetland, bay, and ocean habitats. Through this study, many of the groups will be taking multiple walking field trips to the bay in order to observe the wildlife and beauty that makes up the area around our school. Binoculars will be used by the children to pay closer attention to the variety of birds, crabs, and even leopard sharks that can be seen. We will talk about what we observe on our field trips as well as further our learning in school through a variety of art projects and stories.

There is much excitement in the air for the upcoming holidays, and we value the many traditions that are celebrated during this time of the year. We welcome you to come in and do an art project, bring in some food, or read a book with the children. Please let us know if there is anything you would like to do or something that you would like to bring in. **If you would like to come in and volunteer your time, please remember the change in the immunization law, requiring all parents that volunteer in the classroom provide proof of MMR, Whooping Cough and Pertussis.*

This is also a great time of the year to donate to families that are less fortunate than us. Every year at this time, Strawberry Preschool does a canned food drive. We would greatly appreciate any non-perishable items that you are willing to donate to the school. Starting this Monday, December 5th, there will be a box in the preschool where you can donate your items. This is a great opportunity to involve your children as well, by having them pick out some items on your next shopping trip. At the end of the month, everything we collect will be given to the Marin Food Bank. According to the Marin Food Bank, the most needed items are: tuna/canned meat, peanut butter, soup, chili, beans, cereal, canned fruit/vegetables, and granola bars. Thank you in advance for your support!

Some Reminders

Enrichment Reminders: If you would like your child to stay with us for Enrichment, please remember to let us know, and to also check off the correct box/boxes when signing them in. If your child will be staying with us for rest, we ask that you bring a bag with a small fitted sheet (crib size works best) and a blanket. You may also include a small stuffy if your child enjoys one while resting. Please make sure to label everything!! REMEMBER your child can attend every day for either or both of our childcare blocks 1:00-2:00 & 2:00-4:00, even if it is not on your child's regularly scheduled school day.

Reserved Church Parking Spots: Please be aware of the four spaces designated for "Church Staff Only", as they may not be used by the preschool, even for just a few minutes. Thank you for your understanding.

Is Your Child Sick? With the cold and flu season officially here, we are seeing a lot more runny noses, coughing and sneezing. Please pay close attention to how your child is feeling. Oftentimes a change in behavior can mean that they are coming down with something and could use a day or two at home. We appreciate your help with this.

Messages From Our Board

Christmas Tree Fundraising: We are teaming up with Sausalito Farms again this year. This wonderful organization has helped raise a lot of money for many local schools and sports programs throughout the community. For each item sold, Sausalito Farms will donate \$20.00 per tree and \$10.00 per wreath to Strawberry Preschool. Bring you Christmas tree stand, and they will even put it on for you.

- **Hours of Operation:** Starting November 25th
 - Monday-Thursday noon-7 pm
 - Friday & Saturday 10am-9pm
 - Sunday 10am-7pm
 - Local delivery is available to Sausalito, Mill Valley, Tiburon and Corte Madera

- **Ordering at the Lot:**
 - Sausalito Farms is located in Dunphy Park. There will be forms there for you to fill out. Please make sure to include Strawberry Preschool on the form so that the proceeds can go directly to our school.

- **Online:**
 - Visit www.sausalitofarms.com
 - Be sure to enter *Strawberry Preschool* when you check out so that the proceeds can go directly to our school
 - You can pick up and choose your tree at the lot, or they will deliver it to your house.

A Message from our Financial Administrator

The Equipment and Enrichment Fee is now due. Thank you to all of the families who have already paid. This important fee pays for the specialists, field trips and new equipment purchased throughout the school year.

Please remember that there is a \$15 late fee for all monthly bills received after the 25th of each month. If you have any questions about your bill, please contact Rose Lofrano at 415-246-4941 or at rosespl@yahoo.com.

Gifts and Donations to Strawberry Preschool: Strawberry Preschool is a non-profit school and any gift or donation made to the school is 100% tax deductible. Also, your employer may even match your donation. Thank you for your support!

Amazon Smiles: With the holidays officially here, Amazon Smiles is a great way to do your holiday shopping while helping Strawberry Preschool at the same time. It's so easy to do; simply click on the Amazon Smiles banner on our website (strawberrypreschool.org) and do your shopping. A percentage of what you spend will be donated to Strawberry Preschool. Thank you in advance for your help and support!

Important Upcoming Dates

Kindergarten Readiness Night: How do I know my child is ready for kindergarten? What can



I do to help my child get ready for kindergarten? There are so many questions when it comes to preparing for kindergarten, and we are here to help you along with way. Kindergarten Readiness Night is coming up on Thursday, December 15th from 6:30-7:30pm at our sister school, Tamalpais Preschool. ***Please note that this is a different time than I stated on the November Newsletter, I am sorry for the mix-up.** We will cover topics such as state guidelines, the registration process, and public school vs. private school. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. **Please note that this is a parent only event.** We are looking forward to seeing you there.

Registration for the 2017-2018 School Year: I know it's hard to believe, but the registration process for the upcoming school year will begin in January. All current families are guaranteed a space, but please check in with me regarding any younger siblings that will be starting next year to make sure I have that information. As is always the case, please don't hesitate to come and talk to me if you have any questions.

Upcoming Dates:

- Kindergarten Readiness Night: Thursday, December 15th from 6:30-7:30 at our sister school, Tamalpais Preschool.
- Winter Break: December 23rd- January 6th. We will re-open on Monday, January 9th.

Here's to a great December,

Lisa Woods and the Strawberry Staff