



Stepping Stones Newsletter

(Where You'll Find the Good Details)

Also available on line www.steppingstoneschoolnh.comcast.net

February Parent Conferences

What: Informal meeting to discuss your child's progress

Who: Teacher or Parent request only

When: Wednesday, February 7th

Call if you would like an appointment

In the Classroom

As I look back through old newsletters I have written from other years I have come to the conclusion that the weather in New Hampshire in January is generally cold and icy. It seems we have a pattern of big snow storms, followed by thaws, rain, and then drastic drops in temperatures where we have a deep freeze. Field trips and guest speakers are consistently cancelled or rescheduled. The playground becomes "off limits" for weeks at a time and flu season hits hard.

I know no one really wants to hear me say this but we need snow! About a foot of the nice, fluffy stuff to cover this ice and make our playground safe and fun again. We need snow, sunshine and temperatures in the high thirties so we can get out and play.

Seriously though we had a great deal of fun in class in January and very much enjoyed sharing what we did with all of you at Open House on Saturday the twentieth. Thank you for coming in and spending time with us. The teachers had such fun seeing so many siblings who will be ready for school next year! How exciting is that?

Two special events, as well as the winter school vacation week, will make February a very busy month. Please watch closely for updates on Facebook and notes coming home.

As a natural extension to "sending" Valentines, we will be adding a Stepping Stones Post Office to our dramatic play this month. The excitement knows no end as the children "write", "address" and "send" each other letters and valentines. The writing center gets a wonderful work-out during this time of year as the children write with a new purpose.

The Three's Class

This month we will be having a lot of fun pre-

paring for Valentine's Day; painting, counting and creating. The Post Office in Dramatic Play is always a favorite spot for our Threes!

On the 21st the Threes will celebrate with a pajama day. They will be encouraged to bring in their favorite stuffed animal and we will be making pancakes for snack! It is always a fun last day before winter vacation.

The Four's Class

Along with our Valentine's activities, the Fours will continue exploring letter recognition and sounds. We will be half way done with the alphabet this month and will begin identifying letters in our names and comparing them with those in each others' names. We have some fun winter activities planned for this.

We will continue our study of symmetry

This month as we explore winter and in particular the "snowflake" we have many new and different projects to try. Some even the teachers have never done. It should be a wonderful time of experimentation on everyone's part.

Miss Mary returns to us mid month with another new story "Stranger in the Woods" to base an Enrichment Class on for our Fours. More information follows but we are very excited to welcome her back and look forward to another afternoon of fun with her.

We are having so much fun in our

music classes with Mrs. Virga on

Monday and Tuesday mornings!

Stop by and join the fun on your child's leader day.



More Stepping Stones news on the reverse side....

Stepping Stones

February 2018

Special points of interest:

- ☺ Parent Conferences
- ☺ In the Classroom
- ☺ Valentine's Day Parties
- ☺ Registration For Fall of 2018
- ☺ Important Dates

Important Dates:

- 02/13 and 02/14 Valentine Parties
- Fours Enrichment Class February 15 12:00-2:00
- 02/21-02/25 No School Winter Recess

Ask Us Why
Everyone Loved
The
Stepping Stones
Fours
Enrichment Class
So Much
Help Us Bring It
Back In 2018



Valentines Parties

All classes will be having a Valentine's Day party [Please refer to your class calendar]. Each child will be making a valentine holder at school with his/her name and photo on the front. A complete set of his/her classmates' matching photos has been sent home to be attached to the outside of the valentines brought in by your child to give to his/her classmates. **These should be used instead of, or in addition to, each child's name.** This eliminates painful time spent trying to write names on valentines. It also greatly simplifies handing out valentines in class and becomes a fun matching activity. Please consider, even if your child writes and recognizes his/her classmates' names, that the child receiving the mail may not. Please put the photo on the outside of the valentine.

Please also note that the Valentine's Day parties are regular school days. Room mothers may come in to assist if they so choose, but parents and siblings cannot be accommodated. Thanks! Happy Valentine's Day!

Registration For 2018

To those of you returning next year, we are happy to welcome you back, and thank you for sending in your deposits for next year.

We currently have received deposits for more than half our class of 2018 Fours and about a third of our 2018 Threes' class. If you are planning on returning next year you need to get your paperwork and fee in soon as we have opened up registration to the general public at this time.

The Enrichment Class has been such a fantastic program in the past and we are hoping to see more of you consider it for the Fall. Please call if you have any questions at all about the program. We need a minimum of 6 children to run it and at this time we have 2 definite and 2 that are thinking about it.

We would also like to thank you for your continued recommendations to others. So many of our families new to our school tell us they heard about us first from you. Thank you.

You are our best advertisements!

Help us spread the word.

Rate our school. Log onto

www.GreatSchools.org

Go to our school website

www.steppingstonesschoolnh.com

and/or Facebook page

write a testimonial about your family's

Kindergarten Readiness

Notes from a workshop offered by
Salem, NH, School Superintendent

The key areas to concentrate on when preparing
your child for kindergarten:
(in no specific order)

- Accepting responsibility and accountability
- Demonstrating self-control
- Producing quality work
- Remaining on task
- Following multi step directions
- Listening effectively
- Participating in class
- Working cooperatively
- Showing respect to adults and peers
- Exhibiting self confidence
- Working independently
- Developing good self help skills

At Stepping Stones we take all these areas very seriously as we strive to offer your children the best developmentally appropriate program for their age as well as prepare them for wherever their future may take them.