

K-K News

September 19, 2008

Dear K-K Families:

Thank you to everyone that attended Back to School Night on Wednesday. I hope that the presentation and information that I shared with you was helpful. There are a few things that I forgot to mention on Wednesday night:

It is difficult for the children to play free of distraction, and for Donna McFarlane, Julie and me to supervise them effectively, if parents are standing by the fence or the edge of the playground. The temptation for the children to run over and visit (or to run off of the playground) is great, and we also don't know all of the adults in each other's classrooms. Thus, we ask that you wait in the circle by the driveway if you arrive early. We love that parents want to connect with each other; we just want to be able to insure the safety of all, as well. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

On a completely different note, if you forget to write a note in the morning to notify us of a change in your child's pick up plans, there is always scrap paper and a pen in the pocket by the classroom door in the hallway. Please feel free to come in and use them before the day begins, if you need to. Also in that area is the parent bulletin board, which is where copies of the newsletter, conference sign ups, and other information will be posted each week.

As I did mention on Wednesday, there are two items in your child's home folder today: a book and a permission slip. The book was a free gift from the book company with no strings attached. Please enjoy it or dispose of it as you see fit. The permission slip is about the friendship groups that are run by our school psychologist, Phyllis Fermon. In these groups, children play games and work together to build social skills like joining in, taking turns, and so on. While some children may be picked to participate in a group for a period of a few weeks, others are invited to go with a friend once, on occasion. It is tremendously helpful for us to have a broad range of children to choose from in such instances, so I encourage you to sign the consent form and return it to us on Monday morning. Of course, if you have questions, you can contact me, or Ms. Fermon, for more information. (Note: The form is written as if your child has been selected to participate in a group, but in reality, we are still creating groups and are looking for as many possible participants as we can find.)

In other news...

- Please remember to send in library books on Monday morning, and have your child wear sneakers on Tuesdays and Thursdays!

- **Stay days begin on Monday!!!** To insure a successful first week, please talk over the day with your child each morning (e.g., "Today is your stay day. You are buying lunch," or "I will pick you up at 12:00 today."); separate snack and lunch so your child knows where to find them and which is which (separate pockets in the backpack; different bags for each; or an S on snack and L on lunch are a few ways people have managed this); and try to minimize play dates as the children adjust to the demands of the new schedule.

- As noted on Wednesday night, the KK cocktail party will be November 7 at the Murray's home. Thanks to Jill Sharrock, Betsy Homa, and Meghan Murray for organizing/hosting!

- Thank you to the parents that signed up as science volunteers for this year. There is a note coming today about the schedule for the year, and a training walk Tuesday, September 23 at 9:00. We could use one more volunteer for this. If you are available Wednesday mornings, 10:30-11:45, and would consider helping us out this year, please let me know on Monday so I can get the appropriate information to you.

I think that is all for now. Enjoy the weekend with your children, and know that Julie and I are looking forward to spending additional time with them next week!

Sincerely,

Lynn