

Dear Families,

October 18, 2021

Part of our job as Early Childhood Practitioners is to look at the hazy big picture of a child's full environment. We look first at the direct positive offerings by the bonded adults, such as safe yards, meaningful toys, friends, the right literary experiences, music, healthy food and more. In contrast, the things that are not offered, but exist, need some scrutiny too, such as silent pauses, the contemplative time to self-select activities, find a toy, hum a tune, look at the sky, find a friend, help a friend, etc. Although kids can be adaptable, a closer look at things they are subjected to in order to be part of a family, (or class), need balance and consideration, such as having to sit through an older sib's, sport when there is no adjacent playground, unreasonable amounts of time waiting for something, or going to Grandma's fragile and fancy house. Everything shapes a child or frustrates a child. If there isn't an immediate outburst, it might go underground and manifest itself 24 hours later. Be aware of what may be causing frustration, that seemingly comes out of nowhere.

SmileAmazon.com You will be helping your school (if you already use Amazon), by making Amazon give some of the profit to us. Please consider how much it helps us.

Thank you for not sending any "one-use" plastics in the lunches. I am amazed at the beautiful lunches. Thank you.

We must have documentation for Children's flu shots by Dec 31. This is very strict. Disregarding this mandate, requires children to stay home until the end of flu season, March 31. We did not communicate this sooner because many families have gotten it too soon and were required to take it again.

Please see the attached "current" Covid requirements for Child Care Centers. We don't know how long this will last.

Best,  
Joanne

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Dear Families

Oct 23, 2021

Get the snow pants ready. Being an outdoor school, this garment is a marvel. It's cozy, cushiony and like a spacesuit, it lets us go places and do so many things, we couldn't do before. Tends to make us superhuman!

As mentioned before, people who come to school after 8:30 and are late to dismissal need gentle reminders that everyone has a different job description at 8:31 that affect the safety of children. After 12:30 and 4:00, teachers only have a few minutes to clean up. Late fees will be posted to the invoices. Thank you for your understanding.

As per the Parent Handbook:

- We cannot accommodate any items for storage except the backpack, water bottle, lunch box and weather gear.

Please do not disappoint the children by sending anything but a 2-inch cuddly for a separation issue. We are happy to vet books handed privately from parent to teacher. Children may be sad if they know and love a certain book that is not in accordance with curriculum criteria.

The way we celebrate Halloween is more about the richness of the harvest season. In fact, we really don't celebrate it per se, because of its complicated nature (but is an interesting subject for older children). We will, however, decide on poems, songs and stories that are age-appropriate. Costumes, which are dangerous to wear and terrifying to a few children, are not a part of our program. Thank you for understanding. Tricks or Treats are not on the agenda as I'm sure you can imagine.

Best,  
Joanne

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