



KITELET FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dates to Remember

Friday, February 4th
Parent/Teacher Conferences
No School

Monday, February 7th
Registration Materials to Families

Monday, February 7th
Board Meeting
7:30 PM

Thursday, February 10th
K/Pre-K Info. Night
6:30 PM - On Zoom

Monday, February 14th
Enrollment Applications Due by the End of the Day

February 21st - 25th
Winter Recess
NO SCHOOL

January 2022

Dear GCS Families,

Happy New Year, and welcome to what we hope will be a healthy and less eventful 2022. Fingers crossed that this journey we have been on will turn a corner to calmer times!! It has definitely become an opportunity to reflect on where we have been, recognize our priorities, and seek out ways in which we can all regroup. It is also an opportunity to model and build resiliency in our children, a vital skill necessary to help them deal with difficult situations and challenges that they will face later in life! No doubt this will be an era that they will be reading about in their history books.

Test & Stay

As we continue to work through the challenges that COVID-19 has brought us, our licensing agency, Early Education and Care, has very recently made some significant changes to help us all move forward. They are putting forth guidelines that will now allow early childhood centers to participate in a "Test and Stay" program when an individual tests positive for COVID-19. This gives families and the school an alternative to closing down the classroom. It does, however, come with risks, adds some inconveniences to drop-off times for families, and also creates some extra responsibilities for the school. After much thought and discussion, GCS has

decided to move ahead and put this program into place. We have filed the necessary paperwork to be able to offer “Test & Stay” and have just received testing kits to implement the program. Please look for updated information on our website soon.

Snow, Snow, Snow

This past weekend certainly proved that winter is officially here and thankfully, we were spared the harshness of the storm. While I think we are all grateful that we don't live down in Stoughton where over 30 inches of snow fell, we at GCS are looking forward to finally having some snow to blanket our playground. Classes are so excited to go outside for sledding, snowball throwing, angel making, and fun with friends! We encourage packing an extra set of mittens for your child, and welcome donations of mittens in case children need spares. We acknowledge that parking is difficult until some of this snow melts! If spaces are full, and you do not need to come inside the lobby to talk with us, you are welcome to drive up to the front entrance and one of our staff will escort your child to their class.

Children's Observations

Teachers have been working hard completing individual Children's Observation Forms regarding assessment of their growth and development. Forms will be sent home over the next couple of days. I know you will enjoy reading about your child's many successes, areas for growth, and future goals. A reminder is that the school will be closed this Friday, February 4th, for Parent/Teacher Conferences. While this day is generally an in-person opportunity, we regret that it must be done via Zoom once again. Your child's teacher has already sent home sign-ups and Zoom links. Please check in with them if you need more information or guidance.

2022-23 Registration

Also coming your way next week is Registration materials for next year. Please look for a Constant Contact email on Monday. There is a lot of information so please take time to read it all carefully and reach out if you have questions. Hardcopies can also be requested and picked up at the Front Desk. We will begin taking completed applications and registration fees on Tuesday, February 8th through Monday, February 14th.

K/Pre-K Information Night

Our Kindergarten and Pre-K Information Night will be held via Zoom on Thursday, February 10th at 6:30 PM. Please RSVP by February 10th before 5 PM at the Front Desk if you plan to attend, as we will be sending a Zoom invitation that night. This is purely an informational night for those who would like more information or have questions about these programs.

Summer Camp

I know a lot of you have also been asking about Summer Camp. While that information won't be ready for distribution until the Spring, we will put the schedule up on our website in the next couple of weeks so you know program dates and offerings to help with planning. After all, there are only 144 days until Summer!

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the Collins family on the birth of their son, Henry (brother, Lachlan is in the 5-FD Aqua Room).

Thank You!

We'd like to share a special thank you to our family volunteers who provided a delicious lunch & snacks for the staff last week as the teachers worked diligently writing children's observations: Thank you to Ann Marie Abner, Vanessa Black, David Bushery, Jessica Caligan, Beth Christoforo, Jaime Doucette, Meagan Doyle, Jena Fritz, Krista Giangregorio, Angela Gibney, Lindsay Guaraldi, Jacqueline Hagermoser, Jennifer Halloran, Laura Hankin, Leslie Howard, Jessica Larrabee, Molly Laurano, Amanda Maillet, Kendra Quinn, Melissa Sulprizio and Erica Tamlyn.

Thanks, too, to the following families for their donations to the school in January: The Dewing family for clothing and games, the Howard family for snow clothes, and to the Kramer family for donuts for the staff.

Until next time,

Linda Kosinski

GCS Director

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