

Phyllis Bodel Childcare Center at Yale School of Medicine, Inc.
December, 2009 Newsletter
bodelchildcare.org

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Calendar:

December 4: Teacher Inservice: Center opens at 10:00

December 17: Kindergarten field trip to Planetarium

December 18: Board meeting at noon in the Mezzanine

December 23: Center closes at 5:30 p.m.

January 4, 2010: Center reopens at 7:30 am.

Thinking about Kindergarten:

All parents who are planning on sending a child to Kindergarten for next year or the year after, are encouraged to review the Kindergarten Open House board at the end of the pre-school hall, right outside the Manatee room. Open houses for the area private schools are listed. To date, the Magnet schools have not sent out their open house schedules but parents are encouraged to watch for the notice. Please check for Magnet school applications on the New Haven Website www.NHPS.net. These application forms are scheduled to be available in January. Mark your calendars for January 20, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. in the Harkness Lounge for a round table discussion with current and former Bodel parents who have had children go on to Private, Neighborhood, Magnet or Bodel Kindergarten and then on to first grade. This meeting is for our parents with the hope to demystify the process of moving on to the next step. We will be sending out another notice to remind parents and to get an estimate of the number attending to ensure enough seats.

Health and Safety:

The staff and children at Phyllis Bodel have to date, had very little incidence of flu like symptoms. We have had very few children with more than just a solid cold. We appreciate all our parents support of our handwashing policies (these are required by our Accrediting Agency, the National Association for the Education of Early Childhood and by the CDC). We feel that by the work of our staff in providing a healthy environment and by our families working with the staff to reduce exposure to germs that we are keeping our center healthy. We do request that all parents who wear lab coats or white jackets remove these items before they enter the Center. Many of our parents are in hospital and lab settings and if the removal of these protective garments can in any way help keep our environment a safer place for children than they should be removed.

Special Thank you's:

From the Dolphin's, a special thank you to Aiden's family for the apples and squish balls.

To Raiden's Mom for coming in to talk to the children about the intestines.

To Raiden's Dad for coming in to talk about the body's skin.

To Mia's Mom for coming in to talk about the kidney's

To Mia's Dad for talking with the children about how our eyes work.

From the Kindergarten, a special thank you to Haniya's Dad for chaperoning the field trip to the Peabody Museum.

To Haniya's Mom for taking Skunk (the guinea pig) over the Thanksgiving break.

From the Manatee's, a special thank you to Wendy's family for taking Lucy (another guinea pig) over the Thanksgiving break.

Center Evaluation:

Each year as an accredited center we send out an evaluation form to all our parents.

Please watch your child's cubby this week for the form. We would request that parents take a few moments to read the form and check off the appropriate spaces. All forms are to be returned December 23, 2009. We welcome your comments and encourage parents to use these forms as a way to help us help you in a partnership of care for your children.

Some Final Notes:

This week in your mail you will be receiving a letter from a fellow parent and the chair of our Fundraising Committee. At this time of year, everyone seems to be inundated with letters and packets asking for donations. As the daily providers of care and education for your children, we ask that all our parents take a moment to really think about the level of care and concern the teachers have for your children. The emotional support that they give to your children each and every day and the life skills and general knowledge base they teach. Responding to this letter is your way of supporting opportunities at the Center, helping keep down all tuition costs and keeping quality staff. Everyone benefits by fundraising. It is not just about providing scholarship. We hope you can help support this drive. We need you.

Did you know: That if you shop at Evan's or Jessie's toy stores and mention you are with this Center we receive a donation.

If you shop at Stop and Shop and purchase gift cards from us, we earn 5%.

If you wish to purchase books from Scholastic, just take the form, fill it out with a check made out to Scholastic Books, leave it at the office and your books will be in within two weeks. In addition you help the Center earn points to get books for free for our children's library.

Snow Tree Reminder: The weather may be mild now but last December we had a big storm that forced the Center to close early before the Winter break. Please check the location of your numbers (new families are on my list) and have them in a safe place. I am sending out for everyone another copy of our Storm Policy for our new families as a reminder to all our families.

