

Phyllis Bodel Childcare Center at Yale School of Medicine, Inc.
January, 2010 Newsletter
bodelchildcare.org

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Calendar:

January 4, 2010: The Center opens at 7:30 am.

January 8, 2010: There is **NO** All Staff meeting. The Center opens at 7:30 am.

January 14: Kindergarten Field Trip to Children's Museum

January 15: Board meeting cancelled this month. Next meeting in February.

January 18: Center closed for Martin Luther King Day

January 25: Noon to 1:00 p.m.in Harkness Lounge. Kindergarten Parent Round Table.

Kindergarten Meeting:

This year in a effort to help ease the normal concerns over where to go and how to get in to the amazing kindergarten opportunities that exist within the New Haven area, the Center is hosting a noon time meeting with parents, current and alumni, who have been through the process. There will be parents who have gone on to public schools, private schools (including the Bodel Kindergarten) , and Magnet schools. We will have a representative from the City of New Haven here to help explain the Magnet school process. We hope that you will join us. Please be prompt. Some of our parents have kindly volunteered to do this but must leave by 12:30p.m.

Center Survey:

As an Accredited program by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and as a participating center in the New Haven School Readiness Grant we annually send out a survey to parents. This survey is a powerful tool and opportunity for families to let us know what we are doing right and what we need to improve upon. We need at least 50% of our families to respond to the questionnaire. I have attached another copy of the survey to this newsletter for those families that may have misplaced their copy. We need at least 15 more surveys returned. Please take a few minutes to complete this check list. We have made it as user friendly as possible but all the questions are required by our Accrediting agency and we must complete a summary sheet based on these questions and your answers to return to Washington, DC and to the New Haven School Readiness Council for our Grant. Thank you in advance.

Kindergarten Contracts:

This year we received a number of letters of intent for the Bodel Kindergarten 2010-2011 academic year. Several families are certain that this is their intent and are anxious to

have the commitment from us of a space for September. January 20th the contract for the new year will go out to all families who have expressed their intent to enroll. Please read over your contract carefully, please note that unlike any other part of our program, the Kindergarten contract is a 12 month contract. There are 10 spots in our kindergarten and we will fill by the date of returned contracts. If you have any questions, concerns, need for clarification, please, do not hesitate to contact me. Email will be best to ensure prompt responses.

Special Thank you's:

In the Sea Otter room, Thank you to Sebastian's day for the puppet show and story time. Alexie's Mom and Dad for taking the Hermit Crabs and Skunk the guinea pig for the holiday.

In the Kindergarten room, thank you to Haniya's Mom and Eleanor's Dad for chaperoning the planetarium field trip.

In the Dolphin Room, thank you to Raiden's Mom and Dad for taking Lucy the guinea pig home for the holiday.

To our own Beluga Teacher Barbara for minding the rest of the hermit crabs over the break.

In Toddler One, a thank you to Shalani's Dad for coming in to read to the toddlers.

A Few Notes:

They are forecasting snow this coming weekend. We should be fine to reopen on the 4th. For all our families, if you are a caller, please have your numbers in a place where you can find them, I will contact Channel 8 (WTNH) if there is a closing or delay and if you look over your storm policy, you will find the directions to have them contact you on your cell phone. Whenever there is weather (and we are almost always open) it is very hard to answer the number of phone calls we receive asking if we are open.

Snow, Salt and Mud: This year we are trying to keep the classrooms as clean as possible during the day. We ask all parents to anticipate removing their boots and their child's boots before they enter the room. There are boot trays outside every classroom. Thank you in advance for your help.

“Fifteen Minutes of Fame”: As we settle into winter and the days when we cannot go out or there is no “Big Room” available, we would like to re-establish our “Fifteen Minutes of Fame”. A comical title for an event very important to your child. – You coming into their classroom to read a story, give a puppet show, sing a song, play a game, make a special snack, what ever you would like. Please talk to your child's teacher to find a time when you would be available to spend fifteen minutes, it could of course be longer, with your child and their friends. We hope to see you soon.

Our website: Please remember to bookmark our website, bodelchildcare.org. Our calendar is there for staff meetings, closings and delayed openings, forms for the pediatricians and answers to questions you may have about our policies. If there is any additional information that you would like to see there, please let us know.

