

Aldrin Preschool Newsletter

October 2004

Aldrin's preschool program has started with lots of wonderful children learning and growing and enjoying their time with us. Our youngest and newest students are learning to deal with their separation anxiety, but sure do enjoy seeing their families at the end of the day. Classroom themes for September and October include buses, school, transportation, feelings, apples, pumpkins and fire fighters

New Staff Member

We are proud to introduce 3 new In-structional Assistants in our Preschool Autism Program (PAC). They are Tatiana Goldovsky, Nina Mahdad (with Gina Clavio) and Roberta Williams-Rector (with Margaret Davis). They are all working hard to get to know our children and learn the strategies and techniques that are effective with our young children with Autism. We are very happy to have them.

Fire Prevention Month

October is Fire Prevention Month. All fire stations in our area will be having Open Houses on October 9th. This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your child/ren to visit a fire station and they usually have some hands on activities for children. Fire fighters will be visiting the preschool and Kindergarten classes on October 20th. 10:00 for the morning students and 2:00 for the afternoon students.

Scholastic Book Orders

We will continue to send Scholastic Book orders home monthly. When you order from the flyer, you have an opportunity to purchase books at an affordable price while helping our preschool program earn free books for our class libraries. Feel free to talk to your child's teacher regarding appropriate selections for your child.

Remember, books make wonderful gifts for birthdays or the upcoming holidays.

Autism Parent Workshops

The new program for enhanced service for students with Autism includes parent workshops given on a monthly basis by one of the two consultants for the Autism Program, Ron Leaf or Jon Rafuse from Autism Partnership and Todd Streff from Great Strides Behavioral Consulting. These workshops are very informative and are open to all parents with students on the Autism spectrum. If you are interested and have not been receiving flyers, please ask you child's teacher for one.

Information Meeting for Parents with Transitioning Students

If your child will be of an age to transition to Kindergarten next year (5 years old by September 30, 2005) he/she will need to go through a transition process this year. There will be a meeting on October 12th, 7:00PM at Clearview Elementary School. This is an important meeting that will explain the process to you and answer any of your questions. More information will come home soon.

RATE Conference

The 5th annual Real Assistive Technology for Everyone conference will be held on October 16th at Rachel Carson Middle School. More information is attached. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about using assistive technology.

Potluck Dinner

Mark your calendar for Aldrin's annual Potluck Dinner for preschool families on October 19 at 6:30. More details to follow.

Harvest Day

Our annual Harvest Day with Kindergarten will be held on Monday, October 25. More information will be sent home from your child's teacher as we get closer to the date.

Preschool Web Site

Aldrin Elementary has a new and improved web site (www.fcps.edu/AldrinES) with lots of good information. Preschool will have our own page up and running soon. You will be able to access this information there as well.

World of Possibilities Disabilities Expo 2004

This event will be held at the Dulles Expo Center on October 22-24. It includes a lot of information, demonstrations products, etc. We are attaching a coupon for free admission if you would like to check it out.

Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center (PEATC)

PEATC is a wonderful support for families of children with disabilities. There are people there who can answer any of your questions regarding your child's disability, the services he/she receives and what they are entitled to. They can help you understand the special education system as well as help you advocate for your child. A bookmark is attached with contact information.

Important Dates to Remember

October 6	PAC Team Day
October 6	Parent Autism Workshop
October 11	Columbus Day Holiday No School
October 12	Transitioning Parents Meeting
October 16	RATE Conference
October 19	Pot Luck Dinner
October 20	Firefighter Visit
October 25	Harvest Day
October 27	Fall Pictures