



## **Upcoming Events**

### **Family Night is Coming! Mark Your Calendars for February 23**

Are you experiencing some of the “after-the-holidays-blahs?” We have a cure. Family Night is coming on February 23. It’s a fun event to look forward to because it has something for all ages. Watch for a flyer with all the details on the Spaghetti Dinner, free activities, and the fun Basket Auction...coming in the next newsletter!

You’ll also be receiving a note from your child’s teacher about the Basket Auction. Collecting items to use in making themed baskets for our silent auction has been a fun activity each classroom enjoys in January. In your note you’ll see the theme of the basket your child’s teacher has chosen, and ideas for items you might choose to bring to school to add to the basket. These items range from small to large in price, so please do what is comfortable for your family. The fun is seeing how putting everything together makes exciting baskets. Our auction will have both the baskets that appeal to all ages, as well as items that are geared just to adults. Thanks so much for joining with us in this whole-school event.

## **Happy New Year!**

### **Executive Director’s Message**

*by Nancy Rosenow*

Welcome back to our second semester, and to many exciting activities and events ahead in 2007! Thank you so much to all of you who were so kind to donate to the Teacher Gift Fund. Our staff received their holiday “bonuses” (made possible by gifts from parents) in time for the holidays. We celebrate our work with each other, our wonderful families, and of course the very special children we have the privilege of working with each day!

Thank you, also, to each of you who sent gifts and good wishes in other ways. I hope everyone knows how much the support of parents contributes to our ability to provide a wonderful program for

children. We truly couldn’t do it without the great partnership we have with each of you.

### **Looking Ahead to a New Semester**

Looking ahead in 2007, I see Family Night being planned for February and a great Children’s Concert coming in March.

As we plan for children’s learning, I know many new opportunities to explore developmentally appropriate reading and writing, counting, singing and painting are being developed, as well as chances to create sculptures, work in the greenhouse, discover more of the wonders of nature, and continue to make friends and practice social skills. It’s going to be a wonderful new year!

### **What Does “Developmentally Appropriate Practices” Mean?**

“Developmentally appropriate practices” describes an approach to education that focuses on the child as a developing human being and life-long learner. This approach recognizes the child as an active participant in the learning process; a participant who constructs meaning and knowledge through interaction with others, friends and family, materials and environment. The teacher is an active facilitator who helps the child make meaning of the various activities and interactions encountered throughout the day.

*From the article,*

*“Developmentally Appropriate Practices: Right for All Kids”*

*by Danielle Houser and Cathy Osborne of the Pennsylvania Department of Education*

## Donation Requests

*Needed:*

*Did you get a new camera for the holidays? We would love to adopt your used, working digital camera to help teachers document children's learning.*

*Talk to Michelle Zimmer or*

*Beth Pauley about a tax*

*deductible donation!! We would*

*love to give your used digital*

*camera a good home!*

*Thank you!!*

### Preschool & Kindergarten

- ⊙ Kleenex
- ⊙ Glue Sticks
- ⊙ Washable Tempura Paint
- ⊙ Construction paper

### Infant & Toddler

- ⊙ Kleenex
- ⊙ Wipes
- ⊙ Construction paper
- ⊙ Bounty Paper Towels

## Staff Birthdays

*Julie Rose.....Jan. 18*

*Linda Maack.....Jan.23*

*Joleen Podtburg.....Jan.23*

*Tami Britton.....Jan.29*

## Mark Your Calendars... Upcoming Events & Important Dates!

**January 15, 22**

**Full Day Discovery Days**

**Friday, February 23**

**Annual Family Night (Children's Activities, Spaghetti Dinner and Basket Auction)**

**NOTE...***We will NOT follow Lincoln Public School's Calendar, but most vacation days and ALL EMERGENCY weather closings of LPS announced on the radio will be observed by our program. If LPS is not in session we will follow the Catholic School weather closing announcements.*

## Spring Session Dates

**Febr. 19 .....** No School (Presidents' Day)

**Febr. 23.....** Family Night (evening)

**March 1.....** Open House

**March 12-13 ....** No School (Spring Break)

**March 21-22 ...** Parent/Teacher Conferences

**March 30 .....** Community-Wide Family Event featuring Jazz-a-ma-tazz with Hayes Greenfield and his ensemble from New York City (evening)  
**(Note date change)**

**April 5-6, 9.....** No School

**May 25 .....** Family Picnic

**May 28.....** No School (Memorial Day)

**May 31 .....** Last Day of Infant/Toddler and Preschool Session

**June 6 .....** Last Day of Kindergarten Discovery Days Session

**DAYS LPS IS NOT IN SESSION THAT WE WILL OFFER FULL DAYS FOR KINDERGARTNERS:**

**January 15, 22**

**March 14, 15, 16**

*Color Newsletters and Program information can be found on-line ...*  
**[www.firstplymouth.org](http://www.firstplymouth.org) or [dimensionsfoundation.org](http://dimensionsfoundation.org)**