



# November & December 2009 Newsletter



## **Little Stages Holiday Closings:**

(2009/2010 Holiday Schedule)

- We will be closed on Wednesday, November 11th in observance of Veteran's Day.
- Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th for Thanksgiving.
- We will have a 3pm early closing on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
- We will be closed on Christmas and New Year (December 25th and January 1st, 2009).

## **Belated Birthday:**

Special Belated Birthday Wish to **Yan Fischer** in our Pre-K classroom who turned 4 years old on October 21st.

## **Housekeeping Issues:**

Thank you to all our families who volunteered to chaperone us to Hamilton Farms last month. We had a great time aside from some bees who were overly friendly. Nonetheless, the children enjoyed themselves. Looking forward to next year's farm trip! Big Thank You to all of our families who took the time out of their busy weekend to attend our Annual Parent/Staff Meet and Greet. We had a great turn out and discussed many key issues. Also, door code has been changed and distributed for your reference. Pictures and other pertinent information will be posted on the website really soon, so please visit and sign up at [www.littlestages.com](http://www.littlestages.com)

## **In Summary, here's what you are happy about from the mini-survey:**

Really good, wonderful and great overall experience, friendly, loving, supportive and caring staffs, flexible hours, organized center, teacher/child ratio, personalized attention, trusting that my child is happy and safe, diversity of children and curriculum (music, French program, library, school trips), good teacher feedback, reading readiness, small/homely space, students leaving well-round and well-prepared for kindergarten.

## **Here are your concerns from the mini-survey:**

Wants more communication from teachers, and instant notification when child is not well, not enough time to respond to administrative request, continued daily sheet, staff changes and staff shifting, outdoor activities in the winter, going to the library, variety of toys and games, more variety in food program, small size of center, more use of technology (i.e. website, email) and less use of paper (consistent effort to Go Green), more potty breaks,

## **Here's what we have done so far to let you know that we're listening:**

We've requested a more diverse menu and by next month it will improve. Contract with Leslie's Café, & delivery will now include quarts of 2% organic milk for children 2 and older and whole organic milk for children under 2 yrs of age. Quicker administrative responses, improved and better communication with parents when children are ill while in attendance. Requirement of staffs to diversity toys and activities daily for children. Better and continued individualized feedback from teacher's daily sheet, Ms. Janita and Ms. Eryn (new hired teachers in preschooler classroom) for more consistency. Creating parent's group email to improve use of technology and quick notification and less paper notices. Continued improvement on website to post forms & pertinent up-to-date information, contract with Leslie's Café for less check writing (Tuition Express forms to be distributed to some families).

Again, we thank you always for your continued support of our mission to continue providing you with great child care services. As stated at our Meet and Greet, we discussed administrative charges (review your monthly tuition invoices), upcoming trips and parties (TBD) website update, staffing, progress reports, NAEYC accreditation updates, and classroom sizes. As you know, we may not be able to do it all at once or at all (i.e. classroom size changes). However, we will try and make the best of our space, try to recruit dedicated staffs, better communications. We look forward to a great school year with many wonderful growing stages with your little ones. Until next time!

## **November & December Birthdays:**

Sharis Walthour turns 3 on November 1st, Yasmine Nganga turns 2 on November 17th, Sullivan Plitt turns 1 on November 20th and Farrah Andre turns 3 on December 1st. **Little Stages Birthday Hugs and Kisses to each of you.**

## **Welcome to Little Stages family:**

Tenzin Dolma joined us in our Pre-K classroom last month (October).

## **Reminder:**

Please supply us with a **complete change** of clothing (shirt, pants, socks, onesies and underwear) for your child. Also, if any clothing goes home soiled, please send us a replacement on the following day.

## **Save The Date:**

SOPAC Education Performances of \$12 per show/per person. All performances are 60 minutes without intermission and multi-show discounts will be available for us when attending/scheduling all three performances. More details (permission slip) will follow...

- Encore of the New York Theatre Ballet of **The Nutcracker** on Thursday, December 3rd at 11am
- Eric Carle & Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia of **The Very Hungry Caterpillar** on Monday, December 14th at 10am.
- Theatreworks USA of **Charlotte's Web** on Monday, March 1st at 10am.

