

ERDMAN NEWS

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish all our Erdman children, families and friends a happy, healthy 2008!

KINDERGARTEN READINESS EVENING THURSDAY, JANUARY 17 – 7 TO 8:30

A panel of current Scituate Kindergarten teachers and reading specialists will discuss with parents expected readiness skills, easing the transition to Kindergarten, basic curriculum and suggestions for supporting your child socially and academically. Bring your questions to this

IMPORTANT AND INFORMATIVE EVENING FOR PARENTS OF ALL 3'S AND 4'S.

COORDINATED BY THE PARENT ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

CLASS ACTIVITIES

December was a short but busy month. All classes were happily involved making special gifts for their families and enjoying special projects and snacks with their parents. This month the cold weather will give us a chance to explore winter science and art. The Threes and Fours will learn about winter birds and make several birdfeeders for home and school. (Life Science #16 – Observe and describe seasonal changes in animals lives) The 4-day class will continue exploring transportation and begin number themes. (Math#2-Connect quantities of items and actions to numbers) The MWF 4's and MTTH 4's will be working with numbers and creating a winter scenes on their bulletin boards. In the four year old classes children become familiar with letters and their sounds in many ways. At meetings, letters (scrabble tiles, for example) are chosen from a bag. The letter is identified by name and sound and children brainstorm words that they know begin with that sound. The letter is brought into classroom activities. We have many alphabet games, puzzles and manipulatives available to everyone to reinforce letter names and sounds. All classes read and compose their own books to strengthen the concept of letters forming words and words having meaning. Each Four year old has an individual journal to draw in and to practice writing their name and familiar words if they choose to. Our

goal is to expose children to the concepts of letters and numbers and give them plenty of hands-on opportunities to use and talk about them. As they move on to Kindergarten these ideas will be familiar to them and they can expand on their knowledge as they are ready. The Threes will explore water, snow and ice in the sensory tables and watch the changes from solid to liquid and back again. (Physical science#19-Explore, describe, and compare properties of liquids and solids) They will work with colors and shapes along with their winter science, art and language activities.

REGISTRATION

Registration for September 2008 is underway. Erdman families, current and past, may register this month. Extra applications are available in the Office. Please remember that your \$50. nonrefundable registration fee must accompany your application. Classes fill up quickly. All current students will have a place for next year and we will TRY to honor your first OR second choice if your application is in the office by **January 31**. New families may register beginning on February 1. If you have friends who are interested in the school please suggest that they attend the **Open House for prospective families on Saturday, January 12 from 10 to noon**, or ask them to call the office to request information and arrange a visit.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Fours Parent Conferences** will take place this month. Look for signup sheets outside your classroom.
- Week of 1/14– 1/18 will be **Scituate Public School Kindergarten Registration**. Please know that you are under no obligation to register your child during this week. You may register anytime during the winter, spring or summer. If you are unsure about sending your child wait until you have made a decision that you feel is right, but be sure to register your child for the 4-day class **now** if you are considering another year at Erdman. The upcoming 4's conferences will give you teacher input into this decision.
- Monday, January 21 – NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Day

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Please remember that we follow the Scituate schools "Snow Day" cancellations. NO SCHOOL in Scituate means NO SCHOOL at Erdman. A ONE HOUR delay means a ONE HOUR delay at Erdman. A TWO HOUR DELAY MEANS NO SCHOOL at Erdman. NO MORNING OR AFTERNOON KINDERGARTEN SESSION MEANS NO MORNING OR AFTERNOON CLASSES AT ERDMAN. Listen to WATD (95.5FM), WBZ (1030AM), WJDA (1300AM) or TV channels 4, 5, and 7. You may call the Scituate schools NO SCHOOL number at 545-8787 or visit the Scituate schools website scituate.k12.ma.us for up to date information. Please remember that it is your responsibility to listen for school closings or delays as there will not be anyone at Erdman to answer your calls. Please always use your best judgment about bringing your child to school if the weather is bad.

REMINDERS

- Please **LABEL** all your child's **outer clothing and boots**. Many children (3s and 4s) do not

recognize their belongings and many snowpants are identical.

- **Snowpants and boots are always a necessity at Erdman** even if there is no snow on the ground they keep your child warm and dry. **We love to play outside every day that is above 20 degrees.**
- In the classroom layers of clothing will help keep your child warm. **Slippers** are great to put on for classroom use when wet boots come off. Once we have snow, extra dry socks in your child's school bag will be greatly appreciated.
- Helping your child learn how to put on and take off outerwear is a big confidence booster. We encourage independence at every age.

PARENT ACTIVITY COMMITTEE

A very special thank you to Michelle Dwyer for coordinating the donation drive for Carolina Hill and to all the generous people who filled the boxes many times over with much needed items. The staff and residents thank you! The bake Sale was also a big success thanks to organizers Heather Jarrot and Amelia Dockendorff and all our wonderful Erdman bakers. Next PAC meeting will be held at Erdman on Thursday, January 24 at 7PM. All are welcome.

ANNUAL CLEAN SWEEP

Saturday, Feb. 9

PAC will be looking for parent volunteers to help with their annual "Clean Sweep". Parents will meet the morning of Feb.9 and give Erdman a little mid-year refresh. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Dana Blanks for more details. Thanks!

WISH LIST

Small pieces of soft wood for woodworking.
Small boxes for Fours projects
Do you have interesting stuff?
Please ask us – we could probably use it!

THANK YOU

