



October 2006 Newsletter



From the Director:

Dear Playhouse Families,

The first month of preschool has flown by for us. There's been so much learning and growing going on at The Playhouse. Most of the children have worked through their separation anxiety and have bonded with their teachers and internalized their daily schedule. These rituals and routines help to ease their discomfort as they say "so long" to mom and dad. I can relate to the feelings as I recently moved my parents from their in-law apartment in Holliston to Summerville Assisted Living in Framingham. The cycle of life is challenging at any age. Congratulations to all our parents who walked through the separation process in September. It's a major accomplishment!

If you have any concerns or just want to touch base with your child's teacher, please schedule a conference time any Friday morning. The sign-up sheet is posted as you enter our preschool.

Finally, thank you for the donations from our Wish List! We appreciate the much needed supplies and hand-me-down books and toys. You are so thoughtful!

Happy Halloween,
Ida

Family Visiting Nights

Don't forget to sign up for visiting night on October 23rd if you're in the toddler room and October 26th if you're in our preschool classes. Anyone in your family is welcome to attend. The sign-up chart is posted on our front door.

Halloween Celebrations

Children are welcome to bring or wear their costumes on October 30th and 31st. If you'd like to send in a spooky treat or snack, please check for allergies with your child's teacher. Have a safe and fun Halloween night.

Family Photos

If you haven't done so already, please send in a family photo (pets too) for us to hang in our classrooms. It's often a comfort to a child who's missing mom or dad to look at and hold a picture of their family. Also, help yourself to pictures on our bulletin boards at any time. We'd love to share them.

Toddler/Preschool Lunches

Just a reminder: Due to severe allergies, peanut butter is not an option for lunch at our school. Some parents have found a delicious soy butter to use for PB+J sandwiches. Contact Erin Mahoney for more info.

Tuition Update

Due to increases at the bank, the returned check fee will be changed to \$35 as of October 13th.

Toddler Program

Dismissal time can be one of the more chaotic times of our day. Last spring, we dismissed the toddlers into the church hallway and we'll reinstate this procedure as of Monday, October 23rd. Parents can take a left through the double doors and enter the toddler room to collect their children. Please supervise your child's whereabouts once you're reunited at 12:00. We would like to avoid the toddlers traveling into the preschool space. Thanks for your cooperation.

Several toddlers are about to turn 2.9 and may be ready to transition to the preschool class. Please talk with your child's teacher to make a plan for January. Questions and concerns are welcome.

NAEYC Update

This year, Miss Margaret is organizing and keeping us on track to apply for NAEYC accreditation. The National Association for the Education of Young Children created an accreditation system over 20 years ago to help improve the quality of education and care provided in programs for young children. This task requires an incredible amount of money, time, and paperwork but we know the Playhouse will achieve the 10 standards set by the association. This is a team effort on our part, with parents filling out a questionnaire too. We'll keep you posted as to how things are progressing.

Our Pets

Your child may have told you that our guinea pig, Fudge, has died of old age. Miss Marie buried him in our yard under beautiful mums and a large rock. You may pay your respects at any time.

Also, Brownie is available to visit your home for the weekend. Please reserve your time as you enter our school. I'll pack his suitcase and get him ready