

## Conferences and Registration for 2010/2011

### Important Information

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back! We hope you had a wonderful Holiday and we wish you all a very Happy New Year! We are very excited to see all of our friends again, and we look forward to all the exciting times that are ahead of us in 2010.

#### **Conferences:**

As you know, we will hold Parent/Teacher conferences on January 20-22. Please check your calendars carefully to see what day your conference will be. On January 26, only the 2 - day 3's classes are conferencing, so all other classes that meet on Tuesday's will be in session. Kindergarten enrichment classes do not conference and will meet on Wednesday and Thursday of conference week.

Southminster Nursery School will be closed on January 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day and also on Tuesday, January 19 for a teacher work day. This day is scheduled to allow the teacher's time to prepare for your conferences.

#### **The Purpose of a Conference:**

It is my hope that you will find conferencing with your child's teacher a rewarding experience. It is your opportunity to talk with the teacher and find out how your child is doing both socially and cognitively. It is a chance for you to learn how they have adjusted to their time away from you and how they are coping with social situations. For example, do they take on a leadership role from time to time? How do they respond when demands are put on them? Please keep in mind the younger the student the more general the conferences will be. You will find that with the younger children we will focus more on their social growth and their ability to follow directions. Our goals for each class and each child are different due to the developmentally appropriate practices and philosophies we incorporate into our program here at SNS. Certainly, the conversations will sway more towards academic readiness as your children progress through the program but even then, we stress how important their social interactions are. Also, please remember that during your conference your teachers may make recommendations to you as to which program you should choose for your child for the following school year. Discuss with them why they feel your child would be better served in one program over another program. Your child's teacher is very much in tune with what your child's social and academic needs are. Certainly, if this is in conflict with what your first choice may be for your child, use this time as an opportunity to discuss this issue with your teacher. Your thoughts and concerns regarding your child's education are always very important to us. Together we will work as a team to make the right choice for your child.

We expect our conferences to be a very positive experience for our students, our parents and our teachers and we hope you leave with an even better understanding of how truly special and unique your children are.

#### **Registration:**

Registration will begin on Tuesday January, 26<sup>th</sup>. All in-house families are welcome to turn registration forms in beginning Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. Anyone enrolling in our 2's, 3's, or Pre-K classes may place their registration forms in the box provided in the Nursery School office. **Both the 3-day 4's class and the 4 day 4's class will require a mail-in registration that must be postmarked on, but not before Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>. We recommend getting your registration forms in the mail on this date.** Only the 3 day, or 4 day 4's classes need to do the mail in. If you are enrolling siblings in the program and they are not being enrolled in either of the 4's classes you may put their forms in the box in the office.

The Four –year- old classes are the only classes that will require a mail in registration with the postmark of January 28th. All other classes may be registered by simply dropping your registration form off in the basket provided in my office. First choices are almost guaranteed in all but the Four year old programs. Confirmations will be sent home. Open registration begins on Monday, February 1. Siblings of previously enrolled students may register beginning Friday, January 29, as well as church members and children enrolled in Southminster Child Care. All registration will be open to the public beginning Monday, February 1. Registration forms will be put in all your boxes by Friday January 15 and will also be available on the website on or shortly before that date, as well.

Please remember, all in house students are guaranteed a spot in the program. The only situation that could arise is that perhaps you may not get your first choice where the 4 day 4's class is concerned. If the 4 day 4's class is your first choice please keep a few things in mind. First, be sure to make a second choice, that choice is guaranteed. Second, be sure to mail your registration form in and have it postmarked on January 28<sup>th</sup> and no earlier. Please also note all first choices are always honored during in house registration for all other programs. The only class where a second choice will be used is the 4 day 4's class.

Please, as always, if you have any questions call or stop by my office anytime. I am always available to answer your questions or concerns relating to any matter regarding our programs.