

September 5, 2014

Dear Walden Green Montessori Families:

As our week comes to a close, I want to share that we have had an incredible start to the school year. It has been a thrill to walk into the classrooms and see all the enthusiasm and positive energy at work. Your children seem genuinely happy to be back at school in this terrific learning environment. I have heard from a number of staff who have also expressed what a good “feel” there seems to be in the air as we start up this new school year. Last year we had a number of changes to our curriculum, to our focus and to the structure of our school that I believe will pay off handsomely this school year. Thank you for being a part of this exciting change here at Walden Green. Please read below to keep well informed of all that is happening here at school.

Grace and Courtesy:

This year our school-wide focus is a rather simple one – “grace and courtesy”. Maria Montessori built her entire educational philosophy on the simple idea that a learning environment should be a strong community that is built on kindness and respect. This week all of our students spent time in their classrooms discussing what makes a community strong and how we can positively impact our fellow learners. Please take a moment to ask your child about these conversations that they have been involved in this week. You may wish to write them down and post them on your refrigerators as good reminders at home too.

Parent’s Night Out:

Please join the Parent Involvement Committee, The Foundation Group and several staff members at Old Boy’s on Tuesday night (September 9th) at 6pm for a simple social gathering. This is a great opportunity if you are new to the school or if you just want to meet some fellow Walden Green parents. It should be a great time.

New Email Addresses:

Over the summer David has been incredibly busy updating our technology and shifting our email accounts. We have experienced a few errors with emails not shifting to the new addresses. Please take a moment to adjust the accounts you have on file – it will be quite simple. I will use my own account as an example.

markneidlinger@waldengreenschool.org - old address
markneidlinger@waldengreen.org - new address

All you need to do is remove “school” from the address.

Band and Orchestra:

Yesterday we held a meeting for families of students 4-8th grade that were interested in participating in the band or the orchestra. We had a great turnout but would like to extend it to any other families that were not able to attend. This year we are moving to a “pay to play” model and are moving the time periods to afterschool hours so that our students benefit from a full day of academic instruction.

If you are interested in your child participating in the band or orchestra or if you are willing to assist in a scholarship program, please contact me or Amy at:

amyvanderlawn@waldengreen.org

Digital Calendar:

I am thrilled to announce that Walden Green Montessori now has a year-long calendar that you can access via our website or even download on your smart phone. This calendar list holidays, special events, board meetings, PIC meetings, Foundation meetings and teacher conference dates. The link is listed below.

https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=wgcalendar@waldengreen.org&ctz=America/New_York

Lastly, Walden Green still has enrollment space available. If you know of a family that would be a great fit for Montessori, please send them our way.

Sincerely,

Mark Neidlinger
Principal