

November 24, 2014

Dear Walden Green Families:

On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to thank you for your commitment to our fine school and to the Montessori philosophy. We are encouraged by our parental partnerships and by the growth and development that we see each day here, within our students. Among the many, many things that we all can be grateful for this Thanksgiving week, your belief in Walden Green Montessori is certainly not overlooked.

Wishing you and yours a lovely long weekend together.

Sincerely,

Mark Neidlinger
Principal
Walden Green Montessori

Thank you to so many parents:

Walden Green is fortunate to have so many parents who are lending their time and talents to assist us here at school; it truly makes a difference in creating the environment we all want to see for our students. Thank you to the parents that come as guest readers, who donate books and book cards to our evolving library, who stand on the sidewalk helping to greet our students and families, who organize fundraisers, who design our signage and website, who tutor and attend board meetings, who financially support families with school fees, who help on field trips and so, so much more. If you are looking for a volunteer experience, please contact your child's teacher or myself, we would be happy to partner with you.

Holiday Greenery:

Please remember that all greenery items will arrive next Friday, December 5th for pick-up. Thank you, as always, for your support of the Foundation which, in turn, supports our students in countless ways.

Remind 101:

Most families have already signed up, but if you haven't there is still time. Please follow the simple instructions listed in last week's newsletter.

November 19, 2014

Dear Walden Green Community,

In an effort to streamline our communications I have just registered for "Remind 101".

Remind 101 is a super easy and free tool for group communications. I will plan to utilize this only for school closing information and for major items that happen after hours that I think you need to be aware of. It works like this:

In the event that I need to close school due to inclement weather, I can send one text to the entire community. Everyone's phone number remains anonymous. The benefit of this is that you get to stay in bed and get informed of a closure without having to rise, shine and turn on the TV or radio. If you sign up for this free service you will get direct messaging sent via text message or email message. If you are not interested in receiving this information you can still find closings listed on the wzzm13 weather site.

Please follow the easy steps below:

For text messages:

in the "to" line enter: **616.425.5828**

In the subject line, please enter: **@mrneidli (that is Mr. NEIDL)**

You will receive a message back prompting you to enter your first and last name (your phone number remains anonymous from my end). After you have done so, you will receive one more message that makes it ready for use.

For email notification:

In the address line of a new email, enter: mrneidl@mail.remind.com

I hope this is helpful to all of us in streamlining our communications. In the event that I need to cancel school, I will first call WZZM then secondly, I will send out this group text. Here's hoping we don't need to do so as much as last year!

Sincerely,

Mark Neidlinger
Principal
Walden Green Montessori

Lice:

I have heard from other schools and all of us are experiencing a rise in head-lice cases at the moment. Please take this long, upcoming weekend as an opportunity to check your children's hair closely for lice and/or eggs. In order to end this trend, all of us need to pitch-in and do our part. Walden Green does hold a "nit-free policy".

Holiday Assemblies:

Thursday, December 18th is not only our last day before the winter break, but also the day of our school holiday program. Please plan to attend the events below:

11:15 – Band and Orchestra Concert

1:15 – Kindergarten through Third Grade Performance

2:15 – Fourth Grade through Eighth Grade Performance

Winter Gear:

The storms, last week, were a strong reminder of what lies ahead for our students and ourselves in the wintery months ahead. To help us help your children, please send them to school with a warm winter coat, scarves, hats, boots, snow pants, gloves or mittens. Should you need any assistance in securing these items, please do not be afraid to contact Patty, Vickie or myself, we will be delighted to make some connections for you.

Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, November 25th – Last day of school prior to Thanksgiving

Friday, December 5th – Greenery will be delivered

Monday, December 15th – Board Meeting

Thursday, December 18th – Holiday Programs and Last day before break

Parent Surveys:

During conferences each of you received a parent survey, which was copied on a blue sheet of paper. If you have not filled this form out and returned it, please do so as soon as possible. There is a wicker basket right next to the office door where they can be placed. I am always looking for input and take it quite seriously so please do not hesitate to drop me a line with suggestions you may have along the way, that can help make Walden Green an even better place to educate your children.