



Northfield Nursery School

1401 South Maple Street

Northfield, MN 55057

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www.northfieldnurseryschool.com

February 2008

What's happening?

NNS Parent Board

President

Marianne Moser
645-6715

Vice-President

Gina Ledman
645-6883

Treasurer

Lisa Kelley
663-6081

Secretary

Krista Sorenson
663-0503

Registrar

Tanya Jackson
645-0501

Volunteer Coordinator

Kristy Campbell
663-1811

Special Events

Ellen Trotman
645-8249

Director

Deedee Stevens-Neal
645-8286

Even though February is a short month, we have a tremendous amount of activities planned. Here are our plans for each of the learning centers:

Art - peanut butter play dough, heart foldovers, "sewing" hearts with yarn, printing valentine bags, dipping chalk in liquid starch to draw, sponge painting over doilies, valentine collaging, drip painting with eye droppers, beading hearts with red and white beads, catching yarn on coarse sand paper, car painting, bubble wrap printing, and creating a trash tower

Cooking - baking pretzel letters

Blocks - cars and car rug, big trucks, and then farm animals

Dramatic Play - pet shop, then regular housekeeping

Discovery - shadow screen, tornado tubes and fountain, smelly jars, followed by shells and magnifying glasses

Sand - sand wheels with cups, shovels and funnels, and finally, wet sand with castle making supplies

Water - shredded paper with plastic dogs, red soapy water with whisks, water with measuring cups and water wheels, and then washing housekeeping dishes

Music & movement - Chino blocks and maracas, followed by tap shoes, scarves, and rain sticks

Our Featured Author/Illustrator

The author/illustrator for the month of February is Ezra Jack Keats. Keats was born as Jacob Ezra Katz on March 11, 1916. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, the third child of Benjamin Katz and Augusta Podgainsky. Jacob showed artistic ability from a young age and sold his first painting at the age of eight when a local store bought it as an advertisement. After high school, Jacob won three scholarships to art school. Unfortunately, he was unable to attend because he had to support his family. He worked during the day and took art classes at night when he could. During his life, he worked as a mural painter for the Works Progress Administration, as a comic book illustrator, and as a camouflage designer in the United States Air Corp.

He illustrated his first children's book in 1954 for author, Elisabeth Hubbard Lansing. In 1960, he authored and illustrated his own children's book, My Dog is Lost. In 1963, Keats won the Caldecott Medal for the most distinguished picture book for The Snowy Day. In all, Keats has authored and/or illustrated more than 85 books for children. Keats passed away on May 6, 1983.

The author/illustrator for the month of March is Margaret Wise Brown.

Please Remember:

- To bring your child's bag every day.
- To put a safety pin or clip on your child's bag for important notes.
- To label your child's bag.
- To check your child's locker daily for artwork and notes.
- Bring a coat, hat, mittens, snow pants, and snow boots, all labeled with your child's name.

Thank you!

Valentine Exchange

On Wednesday, February 13 (for the MWF AM classes) and Thursday, February 14 (for the TTh AM classes and the M-F PM classes), the children will be exchanging valentines with the other children in their class.

If your child attends NNS in the morning, please have your child bring 10 valentines with only your child's name on them. If your child attends NNS in the afternoon, please have your child bring 13 valentines with only your child's name on them. (Example: from Deedee). **Do not address the valentines to any particular child**, as it is difficult for your child to read these names and then find the correct friend.

Waste Management Green Team

Waste Management has a program where various youth organizations help to advertise their recycling program and help to monitor the green recycling bins at Econofoods and Cub Foods. In exchange, Waste Management gives the organizations \$15.00 for every ton of mixed paper that is recycled for the three-month period. Northfield Nursery School has been fortunate to be named as a green recycling team for the months of February, March, and April. For spreading the word about recycling and for monitoring the recycling bin at Econofoods, we will be given between \$500 and \$1000 for the nursery school. Please do your part and recycle the following paper products:

- Newspapers
- Phone books
- Magazines and catalogs
- Hardcover and soft cover books
- Construction paper, coloring books
- Junk mail
- Paper of all colors
- Envelopes
- File folders
- Boxboard (e.g. cereal boxes)
- Greeting cards and wrapping paper
- Corrugated cardboard
- Pop/beer cartons

In-house Registration for the 2008-2009 School Year

Everyone should have received paperwork for you to register your current student or other eligible children for next fall's classes. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and only current families are given preference before the public registration begins. Some classes have traditionally filled quickly, so make sure that you take advantage of this pre-registration process. Make sure that you return your paperwork, along with the \$50 registration fee, to the NNS Registrar, Tanya Jackson, by Wednesday, February 20. All current families and the general public are welcome at our Open Houses on Thursday, February 21, from 5:00-7:00 PM and Saturday, February 23, from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Please tell your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances to come check out our nursery school. Then, public registration will be held on Saturday, March 1, from 9:00-11:00 AM.

Trash Wanted!

We will be creating a trash tower the week of February 25 through 28 so we would appreciate your contributions. Please send: cardboard tubes from toilet paper, paper towels, or gift wrap; round containers such as Pringles or oatmeal cans; small boxes and lids; 35mm film canisters; round metal and plastic lids from frozen juice/dinner roll canisters; and any other creative trash you have!

Wish List

- Doilies for crafts
- Envelopes
- Salt
- Alum
- Food coloring (Neon!)

Bear Cave Days

On Monday, March 3, and Tuesday, March 4, we will be setting up a "bear cave" in which the children can crawl and read bear books by flashlight. We will also be having some bear-themed art and activities.

We need one adult to volunteer for each class time to be in the bear cave reading books to the children. If you would like to help us out in the classroom, please contact your child's teacher and let her know. Thanks in advance!

Upcoming Events

2/6	Waste Management speaker in AM and PM classes
2/7	Waste Management speaker in AM classes
2/13	MWF AM class exchanges valentines
2/14	TTh AM and M-F PM classes exchange valentines
2/15	Spanish lesson for the PM class
2/18	No School Public School Workshop Day
2/19	PM class to Sibley Elementary for Fourth grade Reading Buddies
2/20	PM class's 100 th day of school!
2/20	In-house Registrations due
2/21	Open House 5:00 - 7:00 PM
2/22	PM class to Sibley Marsh
2/23	Open House 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
2/25	Trash Tower creation all week
2/29	No School Public School Workshop Day
3/1	Public Registration 9:00 - 11:00 AM
3/3 & 4	Bear Cave Days
3/5, 6, 7	No School NNS Parent/Teacher Conferences

Thanks to...

The Northfield Nursery School's cleaning committee who spent some time in January spiffing the place up. Thanks to our custodian, Margie Brockton, who shampooed all of our carpets on a Sunday afternoon. Thanks to Shannon Tassava, Nicki Hallcock, and Salina Caldes who gave up three hours on a Tuesday morning to come wipe down shelving and put all of the furniture back where it belonged. Thanks also to Erin Glover, Jen Hoernke, Emily Monaghan, Robyn Durand, Jessica Organ, Lisa Weis, Michelle Williams, Joelle McGaffey, Anna Virnig, and Tammy Seymour, who all took toys home to clean and disinfect.