



Summer 2017

Dear Nursery Parents and Guardians,

I hope that you and your children are enjoying the warm, relaxing days of summer. I am sure your children have been busy in the sand and sun enjoying the wonders of this season. As August arrives, we happily look ahead to the new school year. For many of you this will be the very first days of your child's long, wonderful journey through school. It is certainly a joyful milestone, and I am looking forward to beginning this experience with you and your children.

Many families like to plan ahead, and I thought you might appreciate my sharing with you a list of supplies as well as some important dates to keep in mind as you look ahead to September.

Supplies for your child's cubby:

- * complete change of clothing (including underwear, socks, pants, and shirt)... please update as the weather changes throughout the year and your child outgrows his/her clothing!
- * sweater or sweatshirt
- * sun hat or cap (sunscreen if necessary)
- * soft inside shoes or slippers (must completely cover the foot and heel)... a canvas sneaker or full slipper that covers the whole foot works best.
- * small resting pillow
- * raincoat with hood, rain pants, rain boots
- * When the weather changes: snow pants, hat, scarf, mittens and snow boots

All supplies should be clearly labeled with your child's name (please remember this when new items are brought to school).

Many parents have found catalogs like Land's End and L.L.Bean to be helpful when searching for outerwear and other supplies. The supplies do not have to be there the first day of school so you don't have to feel rushed.

Important Dates

Our Early Childhood Parent Orientation will be held on **Tuesday, September 5th at 7:30 pm.** This parent meeting will begin in Bonner Hall and then continue in individual classrooms. We will discuss what to expect during the first days of school as well as a preview of the year ahead. Please bring your questions and I am sure we will have a lively, helpful conversation. It will also be a great opportunity to meet one another!

Our first day of school is **Thursday, September 7th**. During the first two days of school, the class will be divided in half and each child will come to school for only one hour. This gradual introduction has been very helpful to the children. At the orientation evening, there will be a sign up sheet to choose an hour for the first two days of school (either 8:45-9:45 am or 10:00-11:00 am). For the second week of school, the children all come together for a two-hour day (9:00 – 11:00 am) on Monday and Tuesday. On Wednesday, September 13th we will begin the regular school schedule (9:00 am -12:00 pm).

For the children participating in the Nursery Early Drop-Off and Afternoon Care Programs, they will begin on **Wednesday, September 13th**. I know this sounds a bit complicated but it has been my experience that this schedule helps the children to make a smooth transition to school.

If your child will be staying for Afternoon Care there will be an Information Meeting on **Tuesday, September 5th at 7:00 pm** in Bonner Hall just prior to the Parent Orientation meeting.

If you have any special requests or needs, please feel free to contact me or speak to me at the orientation evening.

If you have any questions or need clarity please feel comfortable contacting me via email, giumentak@waldorfgarden.org, by telephone (516) 620-5987 at home, or text or call my cell phone (516) 582-8200. You can also leave a message for me at school (516) 742-3434. During the school year, I am always available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. We can also schedule meeting times throughout the year.

If you are free, you are welcome to stop by for a few minutes and visit us in the classroom with your child on **Wednesday, September 6th between 9:00 and 11:00 am**. For children who may not have met the teachers or have not seen the classroom for a while, this can be a nice, informal opportunity to come and say hello. I will be setting up the room with our assistant teachers Abby McGlone and Ewelina Mazur and we will happily welcome visitors!

Looking forward to meeting with you and your children in the new school year!

Karen Giumenta

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