



The Family Connection

Important Dates

November 1 Second Payment for
Half-Day Pre-K, Pre-K PLUS
& Parent/Child Classes Due

November 1 **Deadline for Kids' Club
November Extra Care**

November 6 Teacher Professional Day
All Programs Closed

November 15/16 Elementary ½ Days
Extra Care Available for Kids' Club

November 21 Elementary ½ Day
Extra Care Available for Kids' Club

November 22-23 Thanksgiving Break
All Programs Closed

EC Program Calendar . . .

Please check the Parent Board at your child's location for specific dates of operation. Each month check this newsletter for **Important Dates**. Let us know if you have any questions or need clarification. Program calendars are also available online at our website.

Please note the Northville School District is closed on Tuesday, November 6th. All Early Childhood programs and the EC office will be closed on this day. Staff will be participating in Professional Development.

From the Coordinator . . .

The new school year is underway! This time of year is always exciting in our classrooms as children are learning about their classrooms and school routines.

I'm also excited to share that we've officially made the transition from Main Street to the newly renovated Old Village School. A huge thank you to all of the staff that worked tirelessly to set up their new classrooms. We appreciate the family's patience and understanding with the delays we encountered. It's been very exciting to see the children investigate their new spaces and I've enjoyed talking with so many families throughout the process. The building and classrooms are amazing and the community will have an opportunity to visit during the Community Open House & Ribbon Cutting which is being planned for Sunday, November 11th from 1-2 p.m. Please watch for details.

This year we will also venture into the Self-Study phase for our NAEYC Accreditation Renewal. The Self-Study process requires programs to discern and document program practices and then determine how to improve them if necessary. Family feedback is an important component and a survey will be provided to seek your input. We will be in the Self-Study phase most of this school year before moving into the Self-Assessment phase, and then into the Site Visit phase next fall.

~Eileen Freeman

Did You Know???

Per our Parent Handbook, during some school breaks and half-days, Kids' Club is available by **SPECIAL SIGN-UP**. The email link is sent to you via your Kids' Club teacher and is also available on our website.

earlychildhood.northvilleschools.org

Please pay attention to Extra Care deadlines. A minimum number of students are required & space is limited. An afternoon snack will be provided and parents will need to provide a healthy lunch.

November Kids' Club Extra Care . . .

Extra Care is available on the half-days of November 15th & 16th and November 21st. To sign up, please complete the on-line registration form sent to you by your Kids' Club teacher. Children are only expected if they have been signed up for Extra Care. The link is also available on our website.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ozuW3VhRah4yL50UundHtwRG_SvwJm6dcylzNpQc6D1I/viewform?edit_requested=true

Deadline for registering and dropping the Half-Days is November 1st.

Minimum enrollment required to provide Extra Care on all half-days.

Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs

EC Office is located at Ridge Wood Elementary School on 49775 Six Mile Road, west of Ridge Road.

Phone: 248-465-2550

Fax: 248-465-2561

Email: ECTeam@northvilleschools.org

Website:

earlychildhood.northvilleschools.org

Key Fob Protocol . . .

Please be aware that for all **elementary** school Full-Day Pre-K and Kids' Club families, fobs are only activated from 7:00 – 8:45 a.m. and 3:45 – 6:00 p.m. They are not active during school hours.

At Old Village School key fob access is available from 7 – 9:30 a.m. and 3 – 6 p.m. at three of the four entrances (two on Main St., one on west end of building in back). If you need access any other time you will need to enter through the main entrance (door in back at east end of building). Parent fobs will work at that entrance from 7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

EC Staff Development . . .

Each year our staff are trained in Bloodborne Pathogens and Universal Precautions, Epi-Pen® & AED administration & the Michigan Child Protection Law. All Head Teachers & many support staff at each location are certified in First Aid & CPR.

Head Teachers from all our programs: Club Mid, Kids' Club, Parent/Child and Half-Day, Pre-K PLUS, School-Day & Full-Day Pre-K, meet in collegial teams on a regular basis. This time provides opportunities for collaboration and sharing ideas.

Payments . . .

The second payment for all Half-Day Pre-K, Pre-K PLUS and Parent/Child programs is **due by November 1st**. Please refer to your invoice for the specific amount due.

Releasing Children. . .

DHS Licensing rules require us to release children only to persons authorized by the parent. Please remember:

- Prior written authorization from parents must be on file before releasing to the identified person.
- Photo identification must be used to verify a person to whom the parents have given written authorization to pick up their child.

We appreciate your support with adhering to these requirements.

Program Openings . . .

--Full-Day Pre-K @ Ridge Wood, Monday – Friday available

--Half-Day Pre-K 3's @ Thornton Creek

The highest compliment we can receive is your referral to family and friends.

School Closing Information

All Early Childhood Education and Extended Day Programs will be closed whenever the Northville Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather or other emergency situations that may arise. Announcements for school closings are sent out via robocalls, ListServ as well as to local TV and radio stations.

Visit the NPS website to subscribe to Listserv.

What's Too Scary? (naeyc for Families)

As Halloween approaches, Marilou Hyson, PhD, former associate executive director at NAEYC, talks about young children's fears. Much of Marilou's research and writing has focused on early childhood emotional development.

What is too scary for children at different ages?

Each child is different, so it's difficult to give hard, fast rules about what may be overwhelming for all children at different ages. The most important thing a grownup can do is to know an individual child and watch for their reactions to potentially scary images and situations. Pay attention to what they seem very worried about, avoid, or talk about, which can be clues that something is scary. Parents are often surprised by what frightens their child.

Special tips about handling fears related to Halloween.

Halloween has become a kind of adult holiday (which was not at all true a few generations ago), and with adults and teens dressing up as figures from horror movies and going to extremes to scare other adults (a harder task than scaring a little kid), we need to make sure there is a firm line against violent/bloody/gory and generally horrific images. Not just because they are "too scary" but because they do not represent the values or images that we want our children to be exposed to.

Pretend play is children's main way of making sense of their world. Through play, children can master fears and difficult experiences by reinventing them in a playful way. If Halloween can be another opportunity for children to engage in well-supported pretend play, then it has the potential to support children's development.

