



# Monona Grove Nursery School Newsletter December 2014

*Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself.*  
*John Dewey*

Thank you to everyone who bought books at the Book Sale, and attended our pajama party. It was a blast! We especially want to thank our teachers who volunteered to come in and read- Patrice, Sherri, Diana, Cori, and Jodi to run the sale. Overall, the booksale netted us \$370 in Scholastic dollars to purchase items from the Scholastic catalog. In previous years we have bought the Toddler Time Book shelf, a rug for 4K room and the listening station that all our kids use to listen to our books on CD. We are still pondering what to buy this year.

A huge thank you also to Tiffani Roltgen for organizing our first ever Fired Up Pottery fundraiser on November 23. Together, our community raised **\$636** for MGNS. We all had a blast- and we appreciate all the work Tiff put into this event, and all the board members who came to help supervise, and all the families who participated. Doing it again next year!

## OPEN HOUSE!

Do you know a friend or neighbor who would like to come to MGNS next year? Our Open House for the 15-16 school year is Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-1:30. Please send folks our way! Remember that if a new family puts your name on their application, we send you a gift card to our favorite coffee shop! Yum!

From Margo, our Advertising Coordinator:

### **Raffle and MGNS Open House: Saturday, January 24th, 2015 from 10:30-1:30**

*Please help us spread the word and let potential MGNS families know about our open house in January. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet teachers, see classrooms and experience why MGNS is the fantastic preschool that we all love! If you know a family interested in toddler time, preschool or the 4K program, please send them our way and you could win a prize! There are 2 ways to get your name entered in the raffle. Either pass out cards and have the potential family come to the MGNS open house with your name written on the back of the card. OR, take an MGNS yard sign and place in front of your home. So easy! And there isn't a limit to how many times your name is entered into the raffle. A winner's name will be drawn after the open house, Saturday, January 24th and will receive an MGNS spirit package!*

*Yard signs and cards will be available starting in January. Thanks for your help!*



# The MGNS Garden!

Our Garden Committee is beginning to gear up to work on our raised bed boxes for the spring growing season. Our board President, Alison Downey, has graciously offered to head up this committee and will be contacting people who are willing to serve. Interested? Contact Alison at [BoardPresident@mgns.org](mailto:BoardPresident@mgns.org) And a message from Alison:

Our garden committee is looking into ways to ask for donations of materials from businesses, such as Menards, Home Depot, or one of the landscaping/garden centers in our area. Do any of our parents have any experience doing this? Or a connection to one of these businesses that would help us in our quest to make the best possible garden & garden area for our kids?? If so please contact Alison Downey at [boardpresident@gmail.com](mailto:boardpresident@gmail.com) or 335-7324



**Toddler Time Session 2** Starts the first full week of December. We have room in our Thursday Late Class, and would love to see you! Remember that if you take two classes in a week, your second class is  $\frac{1}{2}$  price.



**Lunch Bunch Session 2** starts Tuesday, January 6. If your kiddo is enjoying lunch bunch and you have not yet signed up for session 2- please do so asap! **See the flyer in your bag next week for a second semester discount!**

## Meet this month's featured MGNS Board Member!

*Hi! My name is Sara Jorgensen and I am on the fundraising side of things here with MGNS. Most of you probably met me earlier this year at the parent meetings. This is my first year on the board, but certainly not my first year with the school!*

*I have three daughters, ages 5, 3 and 2, who have all gone through the toddler time program and will continue to cycle through preschool as well as 4k here.*

*Currently, my oldest daughter Amelia is in the 4k manatee class, and my daughter Nora is in the seahorse class. My littlest one, Julia, is soon to follow next year! She is very anxious to follow in her big sisters footsteps...and we can't wait for her to do so as well!*

*By being on the board, I have learned so much about our wonderful school and staff! Our kids are truly lucky to attend such a great school. The staff, students and parents here are amazing. We wouldn't be half the school we are without all of us working together. Through the fundraising efforts, we are able to do some neat things for our kids and the school! We are always open to suggestions and feedback, so let us know if you have any.*

*When I am not shuttling my kids to and from school, I do work two days a week in an orthodontic office. I have a great job that allows me a nice balance of work and home life. Other than that, I really enjoy reading and any quiet time I can get!! Let me know if there is anything I can do for you or if you have any questions about MGNS or fundraising. I look forward to being able to meet more of you! I am excited for another great year here!!*

Our board has recently had a conversation about safety and emergency plans. If your family needs a resource for making a family emergency plan, here is an option suggested by one of our board members.

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/ready>



We are getting to the time of year when inclement weather may cancel school. Monona Grove Nursery School closes when Madison Public Schools close. Please watch your TV or Radio for school closings and watch for the Madison Public Schools. If MGNS is not closed, please use your own discretion when the weather is bad. Don't travel if you don't feel safe!



We talk a lot here at MGNS about ensuring that our students have appropriate social and emotional competence. Please check out this article about the importance of this in preschool, and what to watch for in your child.

<http://getreadytoread.org/early-learning-childhood-basics/early-childhood/understanding-social-and-emotional-development-in-preschoolers>



Our parent coop bulletin board is available to all coop members to advertise home businesses, things for sale, playgroups, babysitters, carpools, whatever....



We sure do have a lot of train lovers at our school. Kids are always building train tracks in our classroom. If you need a good family activity this season, don't forget to check out Olbrich Gardens:

<http://www.olbrich.org/events/holidayexpress.cfm>



When your child is sick, they may not return to school until they are fever free without medication for 24 hours, and have not vomited or had diarrhea on a regular diet for 24 hours.



Please remember to stomp off snow and ice on the mats inside the door. Our floors can get wet and slippery in the winter!



Please label all coats, sweaters, mittens, hats, backpacks, and anything else your child brings to school. Show your child where the labels are placed so they can find their own things easily. *Remember Oliver's Labels is a year long fundraiser...*[www.oliverslabels.com/mgns](http://www.oliverslabels.com/mgns).

Lost and Found Box is in the office, on the cart with our parenting library. Missing something? Come check it out.

### **Check your Calendar!**

Penguins Saturday at School 9-10 am Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Holiday Break- December 20<sup>th</sup>-January 4<sup>th</sup>

Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> No School-MLK Day!

January 24<sup>th</sup>- Open house for Potential New Families

January 26<sup>th</sup>- Enrollment for 1516 for CURRENT MGNS families- 8 am

February 2<sup>nd</sup>-Enrollment for 1516 for NEW MGNS families-8 am