

Plainfield  
Park District

# Newsletter

## Fall~2009



### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Nov 13         | Picture Retakes at St. Johns                                 |
| Nov 19 & 20    | 4 & 5 year old Feast Days                                    |
| Nov 23-27      | No Classes Thanksgiving Break                                |
| Dec 17 & 18    | Holiday Programs & Pot Luck at St. John's (more info inside) |
| Dec 21         | Winter Break Begins  |
| Jan 4<br>Jan 5 | Classes resume after break                                   |
| Jan 18         | No Classes MLK Jr. Birthday                                  |
| Jan 19         | No Classes Teacher's Institute                               |
| Feb 1          | All Program Family Festival No Regular Classes               |
| Feb 2          | No Classes Teacher's Institute                               |



## Fall Events



It sure has been a great start to what is shaping up to be an exciting school year! It was so awesome to see so many returning friends and also so many new friends who joined our program. The staff is happy to be back at work teaching your children in the manner of learning through play. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful staff at Great Adventures!

October was National Fire Prevention Month. We are extremely lucky this year to have children in our program whose parents are firefighters. Thank you to Mr. Lovell, Mr. Tarnowski and Mrs. McGowan for so kindly giving their time to teach us all about fire safety.

We did stop, drop and roll and watched the firefighters dress in their gear. We tried to teach the children not to be afraid of the mask...and that it was just a Mom or a Dad underneath! The kids also received a coloring book to remind them of this important community visitor.



The Halloween parties were Spook-tacular!! The children had so much fun at their class parties and parade. The candy was abundant and the costumes were darling! Thank you to all of our room party parents who put in the time and effort to make these parties successful!!



## Holiday Program & Pot Luck

A tradition at Great Adventures is to host a Holiday Program and Pot Luck in celebration of the upcoming holidays. The children work on their songs from November until the big day in December when they assemble in the church and perform all their holiday tunes for you to enjoy. After the performance, we all retreat to the Karin Johnson Hall at the church where we feast on all of the food that has been so kindly provided by you, the families of our participants. Watch for a sign up sheet near each of your classrooms so that we can make sure we have enough variety of foods and beverages for our Pot Luck. After you and your family are done eating, drinking and visiting, you are free to leave and start the Winter Break.

The schedule for the programs and pot lucks is continued on the next page. Feel free to call the office at 815-254-2992 if you have any questions or concerns.

# 2009 Holiday Program Schedule

## All Holiday Programs and Pot Lucks will take place at the St. John Facility

If your child attends the Tues/Thurs AM program at the St. John Facility, your program time and date is: 9:15am Thurs. December 17th.

If your child attends the Tues/Thurs PM program at the St. John Facility, your program time and date is 12:30pm Thurs. December 17th.

If your child attends the Mon/Wed AM program at the St. John Facility, your program time and date is 9:15am Fri. December 18th.

If your child attends the Mon/Wed/Fri AM program at the St. John Facility, your program time and date is 9:15am Fri. December 18th.

If your child attends the Mon/Wed/Fri PM program at the St. John Facility, your program time and date is 12:30pm Fri. December 18th

If your child attends the Tues/Thurs AM program at the Streams, your program time and date is 12:30pm Thurs. December 17th.

If your child attends the Mon/Wed/Fri AM program at the Streams, your program time and date is 12:30pm Fri. December 18th.

If your child attends the Mon/Wed/Fri PM program at the Streams, your program time and date is 12:30pm Fri. December 18th.

**\*\*Please note that all Streams participants will be having their programs in the afternoon at the St. John Facility regardless of whether they attend regular classes in AM session or PM session\*\***

## Classroom Tips

- ◆ When picking up your child, please wait in the foyer area until you are directed to go to your child's classroom. The children get distracted when they see parents in the hallway.
- ◆ Be sure to check your child's bag after every class for any papers that may come home. There are many projects and also important notes that may need your attention.
- ◆ "Parent Talk" is the last 5 minutes of class time on the last day of your child's program week. Thursday for Tues/Thurs participants....Wednesday for Mon/Wed participants....and Friday for Mon/Wed/Fri participants. This is a great opportunity to come in early to hear what your child has been doing the past week. It's also a time that the teachers will pass along important school information.



## Friendly Reminders

For safety reasons, please remain in your vehicle when dropping off your child in the morning. Just make sure they are unbuckled in their safety seat as you approach the teacher. This makes for easier access to get out and start our day!

Participants must be picked up at 11:45 am or 3:00pm. A late pick up fee of \$20.00 will be charged if your child is picked up more than 15 minutes past departure time. In addition to the \$20.00, a \$5.00 fee will be charged for each additional five minute increment that the child is not picked up. The fee must be paid by the following class day before your child will be admitted back in to the classroom.



On your child's snack day, he/she may choose **ONE** of the following items to bring for their Show & Tell: (please do not bring in multiple items as our time schedule does not allow)

- A short story book
- A picture (Photograph or Drawn)
- A favorite CD
- A small toy that fits inside their Great Adventures bag
- A small item that your child is interested in (i.e. Baseball card, trophy, award etc.)



We are asking that you do not send your child to school in snow boots. We have found that since the parking lot and sidewalk are adequately plowed, the boots become an issue with taking off and putting on. Plus we have had incidence with children forgetting regular shoes to put on for the school day and also with leaving their boots behind in the classroom. We would hate for it to snow on their day off and they don't have their boots at home to go out and play!!

Please make sure your child has a change of weather appropriate clothes in their school bag. Sometimes there are accidents with the potty or with the water from the sink splashing. It's nice that they have their own clothes to change into. Make sure you include underwear and socks.

If your child has to change, we will put their wet clothes in a plastic bag and let you know.



If your child will be absent, please call in to the office at 815-254-2992.

Thank you!!

## We're on the Web

Go to

[www.plainfieldparkdistrict.com](http://www.plainfieldparkdistrict.com)

and click on "Programs & Events" and then on "Great Adventures". This will bring you to our web page where we will post pertinent program information as well as upcoming special events and registration information and forms to download.

In addition to the above, you can also now view your child's classroom monthly calendar or the current newsletter. These are in PDF form so you may also print them out if you need a replacement. Calendars will be updated on the first of the month and newsletters will be updated seasonally.

### Great Adventures

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**PLAINFIELD PARK  
DISTRICT**

[www.plainfieldparkdistrict.com](http://www.plainfieldparkdistrict.com)



## *Picture Retake Day* *Friday, November 13th*

Picture retake day will take place at St. John Lutheran Church on Friday, November 13th beginning at 9:15am. If you would like your child to have their picture retaken, please bring them into the building, accompany them to see the photographer and then take them to class. If it is not their class day, you are free to leave once their picture has been taken. Make sure you bring in your original picture packet to return to the photographer.

If you have any questions about picture retake day, please call us in the office at 815-254-2992.



## *Pay it Forward*

Teaching children to be caring, giving individuals to those who are in need or less fortunate is a wonderful lesson that will carry them through adulthood. The holiday season is a time of year that brings many opportunities to help us teach that lesson. Great Adventures would like to help the non-profit organization “The Staff of Life Storehouse” so that they may give families a nice holiday. To do this we will be having a food/toy drive from now until December 11th. Please drop any non-perishable food items, toiletries, paper products and any kind of new toy, to the boxes in the foyer.

“The Staff of Life Storehouse” has been able to help up to 200 families with groceries for a week, a holiday dinner and a toy for each child in the family. The organization also looks for volunteers to help deliver items to families. If this is something you or your family would be interested in, please see Miss Leslie in the office for the contact person and phone number.

Thank you for your kindness!!

