



P.O. BOX 97, HARTLAND, VERMONT 05048

## HARTLAND COOPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

November 2015

*“There are two things to aim at in life; first to get what you want, and after that to enjoy it. Only the wisest of mankind has achieved the second”.* Logan Pearsall Smith in *ExchangeEveryDay*

### THANK YOU

**School Families** – for participation in the optional Original Works fundraiser

### WEBSITE FOR PARENTS

NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) has a monthly newsletter for families that includes articles on research based topics of children’s learning such as kindergarten readiness, sleep, transitions, etc. Check it out at [families.naeyc.org](http://families.naeyc.org)

### GENTLE REMINDER

We’ve been asked to remind families that it states in our parent handbook that younger siblings should not accompany family aides on classroom aiding days. These days are meant to be a special time for your preschooler and you and there are safety and distraction issues when younger siblings are present.

### SNOW/ICE DAY SCHOOL CLOSINGS & DELAYS

Our school closes for snow days whenever Hartland Elementary School closes. Information about school closings can be heard on local radio stations by 6:30 a.m. Some examples are XL 92 and KIXX 100.5. Hartland Elementary School records a message on its phone after 6:30 a.m. (436-2255); you can also get a link to Hartland Elementary School from the HCNS website ([www.hcnsvt.org](http://www.hcnsvt.org)). If Hartland Elementary School has a delayed opening HCNS will delay the start of classes to 9:00 a.m. If school at HES is cancelled on the day of a HCNS board meeting, the board meeting will also be cancelled or postponed.

### HARTLAND CHRISTMAS PROJECT

HCNS will be participating in the Hartland Christmas Project again this year. This project, which has been around for over 30 years is sponsored by local churches, schools, businesses and individuals working together to assist Hartland families in need during the holidays. Families submit a list of needs and wants to organizers; then those who are able purchase the items on the list. Our school will be assisting some families. **We hope to have paper ornaments placed on our classroom walls so that families can pick them up before the Thanksgiving break.**

HCNS families may take ornaments; purchase the gifts listed on the ornaments and then bring all gifts to HCNS **unwrapped, with the paper ornaments securely attached.** We plan to have the children help with gift wrapping. **Gifts listed on the ornaments should be new.** Other ways to help include donating used winter clothing in good condition (no shoes or underwear please) and gently used household goods, toys and games. **Used car seats cannot be accepted.** Personal care items and nonperishable food items will also be collected. Food items especially needed include canned meats, spaghetti sauce with meat in it, peanut butter, canned vegetables and fruits, powdered milk, instant and brewing coffee, hot chocolate, and hot cereals such as oatmeal or cream of wheat. Personal care items requested include bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, tooth

paste and brushes. Laundry soap, dish detergent, toilet paper and paper towels are also gratefully accepted. **We hope that each child can bring in one food or personal care item – there is always a great need for these items.** We will have boxes in each classroom to collect food, used clothing and household goods, and personal care items not on the family wish lists. We are planning to deliver our school's donations to the Hartland Brick Church with the children in the afternoon class. We feel that participating in the Christmas Project is a meaningful way for children to take the perspective of others and to begin to realize that giving to others is a part of the true spirit of the season. **All gifts and donations must be brought to HCNS by Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup>.** We'll deliver them to the church on Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>

#### **SCHOOL AT MRS. HARRIET'S HOUSE**

School for both the morning and afternoon classes will be held at Mrs. Harriet's house on **Thursday December 10<sup>th</sup>** (Snow Date: Tuesday December 15<sup>th</sup>). We will make and eat holiday goodies, and have some outside time (sledding if weather permits). Drop off and pick up will be at the usual times and **at Mrs. Harriet's** house on this day. Directions will be provided as the date get closer.

#### **HOLIDAY PARTIES**

Holiday parties will be held on **Thursday December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30a.m. for the morning class** and **at 3:00 p.m. for the afternoon class** (Snow Date: Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> at the same times). Parents and siblings are invited to join us for holiday gift unwrapping, songs, games and finger plays. We will post wish lists (before the Thanksgiving break) for supplies, materials and other items needed for the classrooms. **We ask that each child bring in a present for the school.** The present should be wrapped and have your child's name on it. Please talk to your child about how the present is for everyone at the school. During the holiday parties the children will unwrap the presents they have brought in. **We strongly request that you do not bring gifts for the teachers!** Instead we'd appreciate your participation in the Hartland Christmas Project and gift giving to the classrooms.

#### **NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS**

We hope that you follow the blogs (<http://hartlandmorningexplorers.blogspot.com/> and <http://hartlandafternoonexplorers.blogspot.com/>) to view photographic and descriptive chronicling of our classroom and outdoor activities. For photos only you can view the Hartland Cooperative Nursery School Facebook page.

We'll finish up before the Thanksgiving holiday break with preparations for the harvest and stone soup celebrations. When we return we will spend the three weeks before the December holiday break learning about hibernation and different holiday celebrations, going to the Hopkins Center theater performance and reflecting on it or on the story read in class, making holiday gifts for families and participating in the Hartland Christmas Project.

We expect that we'll have a visit from a STARS ECERS assessor sometime before the December holiday break. We are trying to be especially proactive about handwashing and other sanitary practices before this visit since they really look closely at this. Thank you in advance for your help reinforcing this on aiding days. Things to concentrate on: following the proper handwashing procedures (on posters near the classroom sinks), washing hands for the suggested 10 – 15 seconds time and with **warm** water, washing hands **after** as well as before snack; following standard procedure for table washing and sanitizing and sink sanitizing. If you are unsure about your role please ask us.

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Meeting: Nov. 9th, 2015

Attendance: Val Raney, Eric Krivitzky, Harriet Dumas, Nikki Raney, Karen Cote, Bethany LaHaye

### Agenda:

1. Approval of the last month's meeting minutes-motion approved
2. Treasurer Report-
  - a. \$42 from RLG
  - b. \$180 from Bake Sale (+616)
    - b.i. 3 families need to pay their buy-out option
  - c. \$31.50 from cash we received for the apple orchard
  - d. Net Gain- 5487.10, due mostly because of the grant funding for this half of the year
  - e. We got a tax insurance credit back ~\$100
  - f. See Profit and Loss Statement from Val for more details
  - g. Checking acct: \$950.91 Savings \$31,580.96
3. Admission Report
  - a. Likely a new student in the 3-yr program
    - a.i. Making our new enrollment to: 11 three year olds, 13 four year olds
  - b. Advertising- We need to market our school out to the nearby communities
4. Director Report
  - a. Parent-conference schedule is here and ready for families to sign-up
    - a.i. Planning to use a questionnaire for families to fill out to focus on goals and growth for all children
    - a.ii. Focus more on social-emotional growth for the 3yr old class
  - b. Focusing on the STARS renewal
    - b.i. Main application done by the 17th of November
    - b.ii. Need an ECERS visit done as well (*Update: Request has been submitted*)
  - c. Some cleaning slots are yet to be claimed
    - c.i. 5 families are left to be signed up
  - d. Met with VCPC grant people
    - d.i. Great reviews from them
    - d.ii. Harriet will contact Dana to write the Press Release and 100-word description of the grant (*Update: This has been written and submitted to our VCPC contact*)
  - e. Theater Shows
    - e.i. The 10 o'clock start time was tricky for returning on time
    - e.ii. The next time will be an earlier start (9:15), Dec. 4th
      - e.ii.1. Dropped off at school for 8am, picked up at 11am
    - e.iii. February 11th the show will start at 10am which will create a problem for the time between am and pm class
      - e.iii.1. \*Review and finalize decision by next board meeting
5. Fundraising Report
  - a. Original Works

- a.i. Orders are in, and will be submitted by the end of the week
      - a.ii. HCNS will receive a percentage of the profit made
    - b. Silent Auction
      - b.i. Will not happen this year
      - b.ii. Should we have another activity during the Winter Fest, hosted by Hartland Rec
    - c. Tip Top Pottery
      - c.i. Sip and Paint
        - c.i.1. One option:
          - c.i.1.a. Amy Robb- Reduce studio fee by \$10, get app. and wine donated
          - c.i.1.b. 24 seat maximum, \$75 per ticket
        - c.i.2. Another option:
          - c.i.2.a. Bethany will look into other options and see how we can tap into other people to help us out and have fun at the same time
        - c.i.3. March/April time frame
6. Additional Items
  - a. Outdoor Classroom guidelines
    - a.i. Weather Chart was brought in by Val to look out
    - a.ii. Should we change the day of the week for Outdoor Fridays?
      - a.ii.1. Some felt yes, depending on the weather
      - a.ii.2. Some felt it should stay a specific day of the week, to keep with consistency for the children
    - a.iii. Harriet will touch base with Hartland Elementary School as to their regulations
    - a.iv. Nikki will create a Google form asking for family input to help guide us in making a decision
  - b. Committee to form: Update of HCNS by-laws
    - b.i. Nikki will make an additional Google Form asking for parent interest in joining this committee \*Val will help\*
      - b.i.1. Add a blurb at the top explaining Act 166 to gain more parent interest, and helping to understand the impact on HCNS
  - c. Check-in times
    - c.i. It is a non-issue at the time being
  - d. Make a mailing list for past alumni- Val will research how to do this
  - e. Nikki will collect the recycling
  - f. Karen will make a reminder note about healthy snack choices

Board Meetings to Come:

December 14<sup>th</sup>

- g. February 11th the show will start at 10am which will create a problem for the time between am and pm class
  - g.i.1. \*Review and finalize decision by next board meeting

January 11<sup>th</sup>

February 8<sup>th</sup>  
March 14<sup>th</sup>  
April 4<sup>th</sup>  
May 9<sup>th</sup>  
June 6<sup>th</sup>

## **SONGS AND FINGER PLAYS**

### **Helping and Sharing Song**

(Afternoon class)

People are for helping 1, 2, 3.  
People are for helping, don't you see?  
If you fall and hurt yourself or scrape your knee,  
I will come and help you 1, 2, 3.  
People are for sharing 1, 2, 3.  
People are for sharing, don't you see?  
If I have a toy for play and you have none,  
I will share my toy with you 3, 2, 1.

*(Ask your child to show you the sign language for help, share and play)*

### **Turkey Dinner**

*(Frere Jacques tune)*

Turkey dinner, turkey dinner,  
Gather round, gather round.  
Who will get the drumstick?  
Yummy yummy yumstick.  
All sit down, all sit down.

### **The More We Get Together**

*(Have your child show you the sign language for more, together, happy and friends)*

The more we get together, together, together,  
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.  
'Cause my friends are your friends,  
And your friends are my friends.  
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.

*(We sometimes like to sing this to the people and things in the room!)*