



February 2024

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PARENT NIGHT TOPICS

February Parent Night topic is as follows:

February 1: Toddler Groups
(Sue, Synath, Angie, and Shae)

- Setting Limits

February 8: Preschool Groups
(Tami, Kirsten, and Ellie)

- Setting Limits and Re-do's

February 15: Kindergarten

- Physical Health and Nutrition (Rachel Kao)

PAC (Parent Advisory Council)

Our advisory council is a group of parents, who help make decisions about Paidea, organize special events for the school and provide support to Sarah. The next meeting will be Tuesday, **February 20th, from 4:45-5:45 pm**. This meeting will focus on and our year-end celebration, Paidea outings, parent playdates, and family tradition spotlights.



UPCOMING DATES

Friday, February 23: Paidea CLOSED - Teacher Appreciation Day

Saturday, May 4: Spring Clean Up Day 9:30-11 a.m. – watch for details

Saturday, May 18: Spring Clean Up Day – *rain date*

Thursday, May 30: End of Year Family Picnic at Richard Walton Park, Oakdale from 5:45-6:45p.m.

Monday, May 27: Paidea CLOSED-Memorial Day
Thursday and Friday, June 6 & 7: Paidea Closed for In-Service

Monday, June 10: "Camp Paidea" begins

Wednesday, June 19: Paidea CLOSED- Juneteenth
Thursday, July 4: Paidea Closed-Independence Day

Tuesday, August 27: Last day of Camp Paidea
Wednesday-Friday, August 28-30: Paidea CLOSED - Teacher Inservice

Monday, September 2: Paidea CLOSED – Labor Day

Tuesday, September 3: First day of school year programming



TUITION INCREASE

Effective **February 5th**, our annual tuition increase will begin. You should have received a confirmation note from Jen. Please refer to our *Weekly Fee Schedule* posted on our website or ask us if you have any questions. Paidea will continue to offer a ten percent sibling discount and our vacation policy will continue as usual.



FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

Feb 15: The Science Crew

Feb 29: Wee Bop Music



VALENTINE'S DAY

Each classroom makes different plans to recognize and celebrate this special day. Please check with your child's teacher about that room's plans.



BAKE SALE

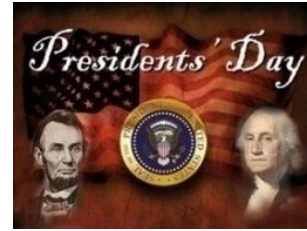
The Kindergarten classroom will be hosting a bake sale to save the rainforest on Wednesday, February 14 in the front lobby from 7:30-9:00am and again from 3:30-5:30pm. This is a cash only event to allow math opportunities for the students. What a great way to support learning, save the rainforest, and get a sweet treat for your valentine!



2024-2025 Kindergarten Registration

If your child will be entering Kindergarten next fall, we want to encourage you to learn about Paidea's program. There will be an in-person informational meeting on **Thursday, February 15th from 5:00-5:45 pm in the Kindergarten classroom**. Information packets will be sent out electronically and are available in paper form if preferred to those that are interested. The deadline for registration is March 4th. The spots will fill up on a first come-first serve basis.

After March 4th, we will be advertising outside Paidea if there are spaces remaining in the room and will be opening the spots up to appropriate pre-k students. If you need additional time after March 4th to decide, please let Sarah know before that deadline. If you would like a registration form, please email the office.



PRESIDENTS' DAY

Paidea will be open as usual on Presidents' Day, although there is no Kindergarten. Please let us know if you need care for your kindergartner so we can determine staffing for this day.



PAIDEA'S WINTER WEATHER

POLICY: (Although it seems inapplicable this year 😊)

Paidea will close whenever School District 622 (North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale) closes DUE to snowfall or extreme icy conditions. Please know Paidea does not close due to cold.

The closing announcement will be on Paidea's voicemail system by 6:00 a.m. the day in question. Parents can call 651-714-8646 after 6:00 a.m. to verify whether Paidea is closed. **IT IS EACH PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK THE RECORDED MESSAGE OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO DETERMINE IF PAIDEA WILL BE CLOSED THAT DAY.**

Here are some other ways to learning more about winter weather closings:

- Check Paidea's website for an update
- Check Paidea's Facebook page for an update
- Follow ISD 622 on Twitter – handle is @isd622



SUMMER AND FALL PLANS

We sent out pink forms requesting your attendance plans for both summer and fall. We appreciate your support with this as we use this information to plan staffing and enrollment availability. *Forms are due Monday, February 12.*



THANK YOU FOR HELPING US STAY HEALTHY

This has been a challenging season with the many different germs and illnesses that have been circulating around our community.

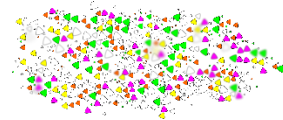
We want to thank you for monitoring your child's symptoms and keeping them at home if they are ill to help stop the spread. I know this poses an inconvenience and we want you to know that it is appreciated. You're the best!



REVIEWS PLEASE

Please consider helping us spread the word about our program. This helps us keep our enrollment full for the foreseeable future. When I ask new families how they found Paidea, many refer to Google and even reviews from several years ago impact their decision to choose us!

We have found that our greatest source of marketing is reviews on Google, Yelp, Great Schools, Facebook, etc. *If you have an extra minute, please consider sharing your experience at Paidea on one of these platforms. Thank you to everyone for your help in referring people to Paidea.*



SARAH'S CORNER

This Minnesota winter has been easy on us so far! I hope you are all taking advantage of the opportunities to get outdoors, take in the fresh air, soak up the sunshine, and play!

I'd like to highlight the benefits of outdoor play for your children in the winter:

- Outdoor play boosts the immune system and reduces the spread of infection
- It promotes physical development and well being
- It allows for an opportunity to practice self help skills and independent dressing
- It encourages the use of the whole body by offering a space to run, jump, and exercise key muscle groups
- Play increases large muscle use through activities such as climbing, swinging, and running
- It provides children the opportunity to exercise and stretch their imaginations through social outdoor play
- Outdoor play offers new opportunities for socio-dramatic play and winter-themed games due to the physical changes to the outdoor environment
- It promotes emotional health benefits such as self-confidence and the ability to assess potential risks
- It is a distraction from technology and offers a FUN alternative

It is great for adults too:

- Outside play exposes us to sunlight and keeps vitamin D levels up
- It challenges unfamiliar muscles and helps us burn off excess sugar
- It offers a mental health boost as endorphins are produced throughout exercise and play
- It provides another opportunity for a fun way to connect with our children and our inner child 😊