



Newsletter – January 2010

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Upcoming Events

- ◆ **Feb. 5:** Valentine's Dance, 6-8 p.m.
- ◆ **Feb. 9:** General meeting, 7-8 p.m.; 2s and 3s class meetings 6:30-7 p.m.; 4s class meetings, 8-8:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Feb. 15:** Presidents Day, no school
- ◆ **March 2-11:** Parent-teacher conferences
- ◆ **April 2:** Spring break, no school.
- ◆ **April 12:** School resumes

Message from the President

Dear friends,

Happy New Year! I hope 2010 is a blessed year for you and your family. So far, it has been a great year at CCNS! We have launched our new website (www.ccnssl.com). This site was designed and created by Melissa Nelson-Stippich (mother to Sadie, 4B). We hope it better characterizes the fun, energy and philosophy of our preschool. If you haven't already done so, please pay the site a visit (and share it with your friends). There is a wealth of information, from food handling guidelines to the calendar to a description of a typical day. Our hope is to link the parent handbook so that beginning in fall 2010, we will be entirely paperless.

Finally, mark your February calendars now and plan to attend our second general meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 9. Class meetings for 2- and 3-year-old classes will begin at 6:30 p.m., followed by the general meeting at 7 p.m.



Parents from the 4-year-old classes will meet from 8-8:30 p.m. following the general meeting. At the class meetings, teachers will share important information about the last half of the school year. In the general meeting, we will discuss co-oping, upcoming events and registration for next year. There are some changes to discuss as we seek to improve our school and our education of your preschooler, so don't miss the meeting!

Amy Hall
President
CCNS

Air Quality Statement

The following is the statement made earlier this month by the CCNS board regarding air quality.

At about this time every year, the issue of air quality comes up. Last year, the CCNS board revisited our policy, and the board reaffirmed that going outside was at the teacher's discretion.

Each class is designed to have outside time at the end of the day. On bad air days, just like bad weather days, the teachers will probably

shorten the outside time. If we are the worst in the nation, we will probably stay inside. Last year, we had one day where Salt Lake City had the worst air in the nation and we did not go out on that day.

We cannot let some children stay inside, as the other co-oper is cleaning, and the other one should be outside helping and on potty control. As stated before, concerned parents are welcome to pick up their children early from outside. As to date, we have never had a parent do so.

Nondiscrimination Policy

Earlier this month, the CCNS board adopted a nondiscrimination policy:

CCNS admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally

accorded or made available to students of the school. Neither does CCNS discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of educational policies, admissions policies, and scholarship programs.

Kitchen Updates

The CCNS kitchen has a new small appliance for co-ops to use: a griddle. If you as the snack parent are adventurous enough to try making pancakes, grilled cheeses or quesadillas, the griddle is a much easier and a larger option than using a pan on the stove burners. Remember to not leave the griddle unattended while plugged in and/or hot, and to wash it by hand after you are done.

One other kitchen reminder is a request from Stephanie regarding the dishwasher. When running the dishwasher, morning co-ops should set it to "light wash," which takes about 40 minutes to complete the cycle and ensures clean ups and pitchers are available for the afternoon classes.



Winter Playground Safety Tips

By Joe Gillespie

Winter brings new ways for kids to enjoy the CCNS playground. But it also brings new safety concerns for which co-ops should be on the lookout when overseeing kids on the hill and the play equipment.

- Remind kids sledding/snowboarding on the hill to walk around the sidewalk to get back to the top instead of taking the stairs.
- Encourage kids who aren't sledding to be careful on the sidewalk at the bottom of the hill. Two kids on a sled given a mighty push can slide past that sidewalk and take someone out. (Adults should remember this precaution, too.)
- There is no climbing on the hay bales, especially when they are covered with snow and are slippery.
- Kids should not throw snowballs at each other or near the building. Snowballs are difficult to resist, but a better place to throw them is at the wooden fence behind the basketball court (make it a game if possible, challenging kids to hit a certain part of the fence).
- Keep a close eye on kids climbing the curvy ladder on the playground set. Though each rung has an anti-slip strip, winter boots – especially wet winter boots – aren't the best footwear for climbing the ladder.
- As always, there is a three-kid limit to the swing.
- Both Terry and Stephanie made this suggestion not only for co-ops, but also for parents on the playground watching their kids play: Be proactive in helping kids out, whether it be with getting gloves on, pushing a sled down the hill, or reminding them to play safely. Simply because it's not your co-op day doesn't mean your help isn't needed. Our community, and our children, thrive on this cooperation.

3A Field Trip to Hogle Zoo



Photos this month by Cherise Udell and Joe Gillespie