



## Ground Hogs, Celebrations, and Registration!

As our thoughts turn to spring, February brings many activities to keep us occupied as we wait for the first warm days. We watch for the ground hog's shadow, send loved ones our warmest thoughts and salute two presidents on their birthdays. In addition, there will be **NO SCHOOL** for mid winter break **February 19 through 23**.

In February, we will be planning for the September 2018– June 2019 school year. Preschool registration for our currently enrolled tuition program families begins the week of February 26. All other registrations for tuition programs begin March 3 with a special opportunity to register early during our Preschool Community Open House. This event will be held on Saturday, March 3 from 11:00 am—12:00 pm at Farmington Community School and from 12:00– 1:30 pm at Alameda. This event is for parents in our community who would like to learn more about our school and the programs we offer, so be sure to let your friends and neighbors know to come and check us out! Grant program registration will not begin until Mid-April, but families are more than welcome to come during the open house to tour the school.

If your child will be five on or before September 1, please register your child for kindergarten during the week of **March 5– March 9** (except for the STEAM program). Information on kindergarten registration can be obtained from the school where your child will attend kindergarten. Kindergarten is an important step in your child's education. Be sure to register on time, attend orientation events (Kindergarten Round Up is scheduled for May 4 for most Farmington Public elementary schools) and complete the necessary paperwork so your child has the best start in the big world of elementary school!

### Important Reminder

Due to the current security measures in our district, always be prepared to show a photo ID and enter through the **FRONT DOORS ONLY!**

Staff and parents are not allowed to let anyone enter through the side entrances.

Also, please remember to call about your child's absence/late arrival by 9:00 am or as soon as you know.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Mark Your Calendar:



- ☺ **Health & Fitness Family Night @Alameda– See flyer for details.**
- ☺ **Policy Committee (9:30 am) and Parent Meeting (10:00 am)–2/9–** Topic: Help! My Child Won't Listen! Continental breakfast and childcare available with your RSVP.
- ☺ **No class for Rooms 1, 3, 4, 5, & 7PM– 2/15**
- ☺ **Mid Winter Break– NO SCHOOL- 2/19 through 2/23**
- ☺ **Tuition preschool registration begins for the 2018-2019 school year for current families- 2/26**
- ☺ **Table Talk for Head Start and Blend parents and guardians-2/28– 2:45–3:45 pm**



### Spotlight on Curriculum- KDI (Key Developmental Indicator):

**36. Measuring–** Children measure to describe, compare, and order (smallest/medium/largest) things.

#### Link to home:

- So, you want to teach your toddlers and preschoolers about weight, but you're at a loss. All you need is a kitchen scale and whatever objects your children want to weigh. For example, set a kitchen scale on a table top and instruct your little ones to gather anything that they want to weigh from around the house like toys, books and clothes. Take turns placing each item in top of the scale. When your children see that something weighs more than something else, make a point of talking about the differences in weight. Play a game where your children have to put things into different piles by weight and weigh the items to see if they are correct.
- If you measure your children against a door frame or on a measuring chart, take it a step further by showing them how to measure different things around the house. For example, get out different measuring tools like rulers, a measuring tape and a yard stick and walk around the house with your children to find different things to measure. Discuss which things have similar measurements. Consider taking a trip outdoors to measure items in the natural world.
- Take your child with you to the store the next time you need to buy fruits or vegetables. Allow your little one to fill the bags with the fruits or veggies and show her how to place the bag on the scale in the store to weigh them. Call out the weight so that she can understand that each weight has a corresponding number. Then the next time you are at the doctor's office for your child, make sure to bring it to her attention when she has to get weighed. She might find it funny that even she has a weight just like the fruits and veggies! Talk to your child about how different people can weigh different amounts.
- Need to measure in a real-life situation? Instead of measuring them yourself, allow your child to measure them first so that he gets the point that exact measurements are important.

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## Farmington Community School

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Accredited by the  
National Academy  
of Early Childhood  
Programs



### \*\*\*\*\* \* Coming Up Next Month \* \*\*\*\*\*

**"Come Dance the  
Night Away!"**  
**Thursday, March 1**  
**6-7:30 pm**  
**AND**  
**"March is  
Reading Month"**  
**Family Event**  
**Thursday,**  
**March 8**  
**6:00-7:00 pm**

### Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

In efforts to be kind to our Earth, we ask that you bring **clean** recyclables to your child's classroom. Many items, like yogurt containers, coffee cans, bottle tops, magazines, etc. can be reused for storage, art projects, math and science activities, and much more! Please contact your child's teacher to find out if there are any specific items they need for their classroom.

### Mission Statement:

The Farmington Early Childhood Centers will provide high quality programs that nurture and stimulate our multi-cultural population. This will be accomplished in a safe, healthy, challenging environment that promotes life-long learning, responsibility, and respect using developmentally appropriate play-based curriculum.

## Promoting Financial Wellness to Kids of All Ages

Parents sign kids up for swim class, teach them how to ride a bike and show them how to cook, but how many teach their children how to effectively manage finances? It's never too early to start and how you teach your kids about money will depend on the age of your children.

Some ideas to consider:

- **Stuff Costs Money-** Have your kids help you purchase items at the store to see the exchange of money for goods and/or services.
- **Start an Allowance-** It is up to you if you want to associate the allowance with specific chores.
- **Wants Versus Needs-** Talk about the difference between the things we need (healthy food and shelter) versus things we want (a new toy or candy).
- **Teach Children to Give-** If your children have a special interest, such as animals or the ocean, talk to them about donating some of their allowance to a related charity. Match their contributions.
- **Show Your Child a Simple Budget-** Identify common expenses versus income for an average month.
- **Create a Virtual (or Real) Lemonade Stand-** Talk with your children about what they would need to start a lemonade stand. Ask questions to encourage critical thinking.

Not only can kids benefit from learning how to manage finances, adults can also improve their knowledge and make healthier financial decisions.

## Other Valuable Lessons

- **Do teach your kids about money but don't burden them with adult finances.** Kids have enough worries of their own without having to worry about how bills will get paid.
- **Teach your children how to be safe with money and other valuables.** Having their own cash can be a novelty for kids and it can be a harsh lesson to be victimized or exploited.
- **Before your child earns money, on their own, discuss exactly what the expectations will be for saving and spending.** If it is truly their own money, is it OK for them to spend it how they wish?
- **Use your child's financial mistakes as opportunities to learn a lesson.** Rather than bailing them out or taking over control of their finances, empathize with them when they haven't budgeted enough or made a bad purchase and explore what could be done differently next time around.
- **Look for opportunities to teach delayed gratification.** Teaching children to put off immediate rewards for greater rewards in the future will set them up for future success, financially and otherwise!

Adapted from the Ulliance "The Life Advisor" newsletter, January 2018

## EMERGENCY CLOSING PROCEDURES

**Inclement Weather**— As part of the Farmington Public School District, Farmington Early Childhood is included in the decisions regarding school closings. The decision to close schools because of weather is made in cooperation with state, county and local authorities. The decision is normally made prior to 6:00 am, but it may have to be made later if there is a sudden change in weather or road conditions. For school closing information, check the Farmington Public School District web site at [www.farmington.k12.mi.us](http://www.farmington.k12.mi.us) or tune in to one of the following radio or television stations:

**RADIO** – 760AM, 950AM, 95.5FM, 101.9FM      **TV STATIONS** - Channel 2, Channel 4, Channel 7

You can also sign up for the **District listserv** to receive email notification.