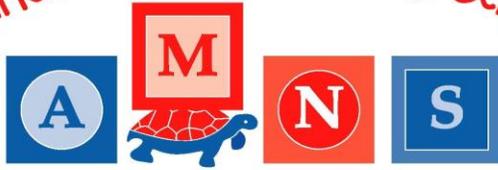


Aldrich Memorial Nursery School



NEWSLETTER

For The Good Of Children

November 2018

A Note from our Director

It has been wonderful to see so many of you outside of the traditional school day in the last few weeks! Whether your family came out to Sekapp Orchard, enjoyed Fazoli's Family Meal Night, marched in the Pumpkin Parade, or celebrated Fall Festival, your enthusiasm for and support of your child's school is valuable to your child's education, vital to our school community, and so appreciated by all of us at Aldrich!

As the weather turns colder, rest assured that your children will still have the opportunity for outdoor play EVERY DAY there is not heavy rain, the temperature is above 0°F, and the wind chill is above -10°F.

Fun fact: When my family moved to Minnesota, I had to be taught what children are supposed to wear outside to stay dry and warm during Minnesota winters! Aldrich teacher JoAnn Michlig was the first to teach me the song we often sing here at Aldrich to teach children (and sometimes parents!) what they need outside. It is sung to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes," and goes:

Snow pants, boots, jacket, hat. (Jacket, hat!)
Snow pants, boots, jacket, hat. (Jacket, hat!)
*We always put our **mittens** on last.*
Snow pants, boots, jacket, hat. (Jacket, hat!)



(Yes, I included the words just in case there are any other new-to-winter families reading this. ☺) When I think back to that first winter in Minnesota for my family, I thank goodness for sweet songs and gracious teachers willing to help the frazzled mom who was learning as she went!

My hope for your family is that Aldrich can be there for you as well, to offer support, validation, education, or encouragement whenever you need it. Thank you for being an Aldrich family!

Jessica Paolini

Child-centered doesn't mean child-run, and warm and responsive early childhood settings are not the opposite of intellectually oriented ones.

-Erika Christakis



#thealdrichway

Aldrich Dates to Remember

- November 6 & 7: Library Check Out
- November 7-16: Channel One Food Drive
- November 8 & 9: Picture Retakes (11:30am-12pm, 12:45pm-1:15pm)
- November 13: Aldrich Board Monthly Meeting, 7:30pm
- Nov. 13 & 14: Library Book Due Dates
- November 15: Give to the Max Day!
Give to the Max Happy Hour at Cambria 4-7pm
- November 15: RPS Kick Off to Kindergarten Open House
- Nov. 15 & 16: Fire Drills 10:30 a.m. & 3 p.m.
- November 21-23: Thanksgiving Break (No School)
- Dec. 24-Jan. 2: Winter Break (No School)



Is There School Today?

While we generally follow the same calendar as Rochester Public Schools, there are a few days which differ. If in doubt about our school schedule, check the calendars listed on our website at <http://aldrichnurseryschool.com/calendar-newsletters.html>. We hope that this will be a quick and useful tool for you.

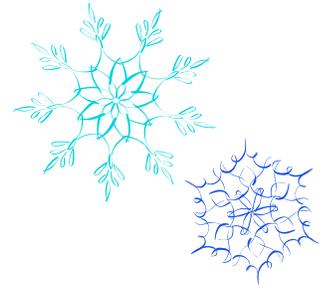
RPS Kick Off to Kindergarten Open House



Have a child who will be starting Kindergarten next fall? Rochester Public Schools will be hosting their Annual Kick Off to Kindergarten Open House on **Thursday, Nov. 15th** from **4:30pm-7:00pm** at **Mayo High School**. It is a great opportunity to learn more about Kindergarten in the Rochester Public Schools. Adults and children are welcome to attend Kick Off to Kindergarten for information and activities. Registration is not necessary. For questions, contact PAIIR at 328-4020.

Winter Reminders

Winter weather will be here any minute! Below is some helpful information and reminders as we brace for another MN winter.



Closures:

- If Rochester Public Schools are closed, Aldrich will be closed.
- If Rochester Public Schools begin 2 hours late, Aldrich will be closed in the morning only. Lunch Bunch will still be available.
- If Rochester Public Schools dismiss early, Aldrich will close in the afternoon, and Kids Club will be cancelled.
- There are many ways to find out if we will be closed due to weather. They include: local news websites and television channels (KTTC, KAAL, KIMT), the Aldrich website at www.aldrichnurseryschool.com or the Aldrich Facebook Page. Always use your own judgment about driving and the weather situation. If you are not comfortable driving, feel free to stay home.

Illness:

- If your child has a fever, he/she should remain home for at least 24 hours after his/her temperature has returned to normal without fever reducing medication.
- Parents are required to notify Aldrich within 24 hours when a child is diagnosed as having a contagious disease or infestation. Parents of children who may have been exposed to an illness at school will be notified by a note in their child's cubby or via e-mail.
- Your child should be kept home for at least 24 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhea.
- Your child should be able to participate fully in school, including outdoor play. Otherwise, please keep them home until they are well and able to fully participate.

Clothing:

- Please make sure your child has a hat, **mittens**, **snow pants**, **boots** and a **warm coat**.
- It is encouraged to have an extra set of clothes in their backpack for whatever spills or accidents could occur at school. (Now is a great time to exchange the shorts for long pants!)
- Remember to put an extra pair of shoes in your child's cubby to wear inside.
- Label all pieces of removable clothing and footwear.



Parking Lot Safety

The colder Minnesota weather may tempt parents to leave cars running while dropping off or picking up Aldrich students. For safety reasons, please remember to:



***Turn off your car** while you drop off and pick up your Aldrich student.

***Bring in ALL children to Aldrich** while you are away from your car.

***Hold your child's hand** while you are entering and exiting Aldrich to prevent children from running into traffic in the parking lot.

We appreciate your cooperation for the safety of all of our Aldrich students and their families.



New WeeKidz Traverse Climbing Wall in Playroom 2!

We are excited to begin introducing children at Aldrich to our new climbing wall in Playroom 2! Indoor climbing is one of the fastest growing activities today. It simultaneously develops coordination, strength, flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. Additionally, important life skills like problem-solving, goal-setting, perseverance, inner confidence and patience can all be encountered while climbing.

Library for Children & Adults

We invite you to visit our library, read together with your child, and borrow a book for yourself as well! Reading aloud helps children...

- Acquire early language and communication skills.
- Develop positive associations with books and reading.
- Learn that words represent sounds and concepts.
- Understand cause and effect, exercise logic, as well as think in abstract terms.
- Increase their attention span - a crucial skill for kindergarten and beyond.
- Build a stronger foundation for school success.

Many classrooms make monthly visits to the library to check out books, but also please feel free to borrow at other times during the month or stop in and read together when you get to school early. If you choose to check out a book, kindly remember to return your books about a week after they come home so they will be available for someone else to borrow.



News from the Board

Together We Grow



Aldrich is once again participating in **Give to the Max Day!**

What is **Give to the Max Day?**

Give to the Max Day has turned into Minnesota's giving holiday. It is a special 24-hour period to highlight the work and worth of nonprofits and schools all across Minnesota, and a day for generous Minnesotans to give back what they can to the causes and organizations that mean the most to them. And as a bonus, GiveMN offers thousands of dollars in prizes to provide a little excitement and help donors make their dollars go farther. Your online Give to the Max Day donation will be eligible for random drawings to have extra money added for Aldrich!

This year Aldrich is raising funds to update our outdoor classrooms!

There are 3 ways to participate and Give to the Max at Aldrich:

1. Attend our Happy Hour Event:

Thursday, November 15 from 4-7pm
Cambria (located at 400 S Broadway #105, Rochester, MN 55904)
\$10 suggested donation
Cash bar with light appetizers

2. Give now at:

<https://www.givemn.org/organization/Aldrich-Memorial-Nursery-School>
(All online donations are entered in a chance to receive matching contributions and prizes for Aldrich!)

3. Participate in the Aldrich in-school "Together We Grow" competition.

Compete with fellow Aldrich classrooms with a goal to raise \$200 from each room. The classroom that raises the most money will have Ms. Michelle baking time! Envelopes will be available at the desk and on classroom doors. Drop envelopes in the tuition drop box.



Channel One Food Drive

Aldrich will be hosting a food drive for Channel One from **November 7th through 16th**. Food drive collection barrels will be located near the main entry and room 9. Please think of others while you are grocery shopping and help us meet our goal of 300 pounds of food! Any type of non-perishable item is welcome and appreciated (Please no glass items). Thank you for your support! Your donations will make a huge difference in the lives of others.

Here are some examples of the most requested items:

- Meats, Fish and Protein – canned tuna, ham or chicken, beef stew, chili, peanut butter, canned/dried beans
- Fruits and Vegetables – 100% fruit juice, canned fruits and vegetables, instant potatoes, fruit preserves
- Complete Meals – pasta & sauce, boxed meals, hearty soups
- Grains – cereal, rice
- Hygiene products – shampoo, deodorant, soap, diapers, toilet paper, feminine hygiene, toothpaste
- Cooking Basics – flour, sugar, and cooking oil
- Gluten-free items

Let Aldrich help with holiday gift card shopping!

**Buying a gift? Stopping for gas & groceries?
Out to dinner? Use SCRIP cards and SUPPORT
ALDRICH!**



Our scrip gift card order is coming soon! When you order gift cards through the Scrip program, Aldrich earns a percentage at no cost to you. For example, if you spend \$25 for a Gap card, it is worth \$25 to you, but Aldrich gets 14% of the card's value.

Order forms with a large variety of gift card choices will be sent out to all families very soon! Cards will be delivered in mid-December, before Winter Break. Thanks for remembering Aldrich for your holiday shopping!