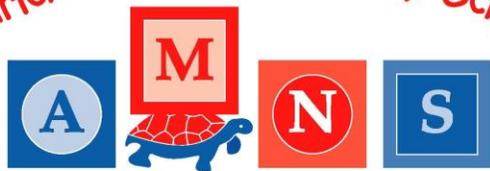


Aldrich Memorial Nursery School



For The Good Of Children

NEWSLETTER

October 2018



Hello Aldrich Families,

Can you feel it? The end of construction is near! The new library space opened this week, and it has been such a joy to see children enjoying time together with their loved ones in that room. The most rewarding part of our remodel and construction has been watching your families breathe life into these beautiful new spaces. We have appreciated your patience and flexibility as we've asked you to adjust to wet paint, loud noises, and limited parking. We are so excited for you to enjoy the benefits of this big project. As our time in a construction zone comes to an end, we are looking forward to new beginnings in classrooms 1-3! Our goal is to move the two-year-old classes into their new space over Fall Break, the long weekend in mid-October.

The next update we're looking forward to here at Aldrich is a refresh and renewal of our outdoor classrooms. If you would like to be involved in the planned enhancement of our natural learning environments, please send me an email!

Fall is a magical time when you're with a young child. Enjoy these weeks of crisp air, changing leaves, and blue skies.

For the good of children,

Jessica Paolini, Director



Why Play?

"Play is often talked about as if it were serious relief from learning. But for children, play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood."

-Fred Rogers

Aldrich Dates to Remember

- **October 2 & 3:** Sports Adventures Starts!
- **October 4 & 5:** School Pictures
- **October 15:** Aldrich Day at Fazoli's!
- **October 16:** Aldrich Board Meeting 7:30pm
- **October 18 & 19:** Fall Break **(No School)**
- **October 23 & 24:** Firefighters visit Aldrich
- **Oct. 29-Nov. 3:** Scholastic Book Fair at Aldrich
- **Oct. 30 & 31:** Mini Scientists Starts
- **November 1 & 2:** Parent Teacher Conferences **(No School)**
- **November 3:** Fall Festival from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- **November 21-23:** Thanksgiving Break **(No School)**



Halloween and Other Holidays



Halloween is quickly approaching, and we would like to pass along a few reminders regarding our holiday observance policies at Aldrich. Certain classrooms may have Halloween treats, stories, art, and songs. However, we do not wear costumes or masks as these can be frightening for some children.

In general, we do recognize holidays and participate in activities appropriate for the class. Preschoolers can experience overstimulation connected with holidays, so we try to keep school activities low key but meaningful. Whenever possible, we hope to incorporate the many different cultural celebrations of all our Aldrich families. We want to do this to affirm your family traditions and also provide an enriching experience for the class. Please consider sharing your family's traditions with your child's class and notify your child's teacher when you would be able to come. Anything that is special to your family is worth sharing and bolsters your child's self-esteem.

Sign Up Now for MINI SCIENTISTS 4 Week Enrichment Class

Curious about the world around you? Come join our class for a chance to explore through science! Children will have the opportunity to do hands-on experiments, test their hypotheses, and learn about science all while having fun. We will investigate many different topics, including our bodies, animals and insects, and our planet. This experience is tailor-made to spark a passion for the amazing world of science!



Classes will begin on Tuesday, October 30th and Wednesday, October 31st and will run for 4 weeks from 1:00-3:30pm (There will be no class the week of November 19th.) There may be options to extend the afternoon with either Lunch Bunch or Kids Club. Children must be at least 3 years old by Sept. 1, 2018 to participate in enrichment classes. The cost of this fun enrichment opportunity is \$75. Stop at the office by Friday, Oct. 26th to sign up!

Library Open

The new space of the Helmholtz Memorial Library at Aldrich is now open! There are comfy spots to sit and enjoy a book or two with your child before or after their class session. Research has shown that reading with and out loud to children can improve their future educational success. Reading together also allows for a special bonding time.

Children must be supervised in the library. Please feel free to check out books throughout the school year. Books can be borrowed for up to 1 week. Directions for book check out are posted in the library. Kindly return your book on time so that our librarian can check in books for the next borrowing session.

Beginning in **November**, children will have an opportunity during their class time to check out a book on the 1st Tuesday or Wednesday of every month from the library at Aldrich. This is a great opportunity for students to pick out a book from school to read at home!



Parent/Teacher Conferences

Remember to check with your child's teachers about parent/teacher conferences. There is **NO SCHOOL on THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOV. 1st & 2nd**, which are all-school conference days. Most conferences will be held this day, but conferences will also be available on other days.

Conference time is your chance to discuss your child with the teachers. Don't pass it by! Remember that you are there to participate; be ready to share some insight about your child and his/her adjustments to school. The teachers will share more detailed information with you about their classroom and will be asking what you hope your child will experience while at Aldrich. Conferences typically last 10-15 minutes, and it is important to use the time well. We look forward to setting aside time to talk with parents about each special child here at Aldrich!

PREPARING FOR PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:

When parents and teachers work together to try and provide the best environment for learning, the child stands to benefit the most. The following are some tips on how to make the most of those precious minutes:

- **Be Prepared; Ask Questions.** Come with a list of questions or topics that you want to cover.
- **Consult your child.** Ask if there is anything he or she particularly likes or dislikes about school.
- **Share information.** Parents and teachers should work as a team. You know more about your child than anyone else, and your teacher will be grateful for the added insight.

Safety First at Aldrich!



Children's safety is a primary concern of all Aldrich staff. We'd like to offer the following reminders:

In the parking lot:

- **Drive slowly– 5 miles per hour.** Children can dart out from cars so quickly.
- Follow the directions of the one-way signs and arrows.
- Hold your child's hand from the Aldrich door to your car door.
- Do not use cell phones while driving in the parking lot.
- Be considerate of other families and other cars.

When dropping off your child:

- **Turn off your car.** For the safety of everyone in the parking lot, please do not leave your car running when dropping off and picking up children, even during the colder months.
- **Bring ALL children into Aldrich with you. Do not leave any children unattended in the car.** If you regularly have a sleeping child in the car or too many kids to bring in with you, coordinate times with another Aldrich parent to watch your kids while you come in.
- Upon entering and exiting the building, keep an eye out for any children who may be alone and near the doors. We don't want to accidentally let children outside unaccompanied by their parent or guardian. If you see a child walk out unaccompanied, please stop him or her. The child's parent will thank you.

Visitor/ Volunteer Badges

If you are going to be volunteering or visiting at Aldrich, please stop by the front desk to sign in and put on a Visitor/Volunteer badge. This helps us keep track of who is in the building in case of emergency and also helps staff identify who has checked in the front office. A similar system is used in the Rochester public schools to help staff members identify volunteers and visitors. If you'd like more information on volunteer opportunities, talk with your child's teacher or visit the front office!



United Way Campaign

This fall, many businesses will be promoting their United Way campaigns, encouraging their employees to give back to support community needs. ***Did you know that Because Aldrich is a non-profit organization, you can designate your United Way donations to go to Aldrich?*** Simply write in Aldrich Memorial Nursery School as the recipient when you make your donation to United Way. ***For Mayo Clinic employees,*** find more specific directions about how to designate Aldrich for your United Way donations by visiting <http://www.aldrichnurseryschool.com/giving.html>

We appreciate the financial support from the Rochester community!

News from the Board

FALL FESTIVAL

Join us for Aldrich's Fall Festival on
November 3rd from **10 am – 12 pm.**

Come and celebrate with games, prizes, face painting, crafts, and story time. Family and friends are welcome! This event is open to all, not just Aldrich families.

Apple cider and baked goods will be available for sale. The cost is \$7 per child, age 2 and over. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Thank you to our generous community donors:
Dunn Brothers Coffee, Hy-Vee, Great Harvest

Parent Coffee

Want to Meet and Socialize with other Aldrich Parents? Please join us for a cup of coffee and socializing at **Brueggers Bagels** every second Tuesday and Wednesday of the month after morning drop off (approx. 9:15) beginning October 9th/10th. This is a great way to meet other parents and pass the time while our little ones are at school. Kid-friendly event so please bring your other children as needed. Questions? Please contact Stacey Tovar at sltovar8896@gmail.com.



Aldrich Gives Back Event



Aldrich is giving back to the community that supports us! We are going to have the classrooms paint paper mache pumpkins and gourds. We plan to deliver them to cancer patients. These particular patients are often hospitalized for long periods of time during treatment and are away from most of their family. We will walk the halls and hand out pumpkins to patients who want to participate. We encourage children to dress up in their Halloween costumes for delivery. Parents are encouraged to participate.

When: Saturday, October 27th, at 3PM

Who: Children in costume

Where: Eisenberg building at Methodist Campus

We will meet in the Eisenberg building lobby across from the pharmacy right by the gift shop. Please RSVP with the number of adults and children to jessica.shelly@gmail.com or 419-496-1045 if you are interested in attending.

Important note: Avoid this event the day of if you are running a fever or have any signs or symptoms of cold.

Aldrich Spiritwear Coming Soon!

Show your Aldrich spirit! Aldrich t-shirts and sweatshirt order forms will be coming soon. Be on the lookout for design and color information.



Aldrich Board of Directors

The Aldrich Board of Directors is made up of volunteers interested in serving Aldrich. The Board is the leadership that determines the direction of Aldrich.

Members serve 3 year terms and also run Aldrich activities such as the fall festival, spring carnival, book fair, and picture day. Applications for the Board of Directors are accepted annually every spring.



Board Biographies

John Church: President

My name is John Church, I have two amazing boys: one alumnus and one current student of Aldrich. I am an Economist and Investment Adviser and have been in the finance industry in Rochester for over a decade. I am serving as President of the Aldrich board of directors for the 2018/2019 school year. I have pedaled my bicycle across the state of Iowa from West to East 15 times.



Carsten Earl: Development Committee

My name is Carsten. My family became involved in Aldrich while searching for something more than we had found in other Rochester pre-schools. Currently my 4 year old is attending his 2nd year here and loving every second. I spent my childhood in Oregon up until I moved to Iowa to attend Wartburg College, where I met my wife. My family moved to Rochester in 2014, just before our youngest was born. We have two children our oldest just started kindergarten. I honestly never believed people when they said time would move so fast. I grew up in a house that modeled an importance of life-long learning. I hope that as my two children grow, they too value education and learning. I

believe Aldrich is a garden to help plant these roots.

Kimberly Eversman: Personnel Chair

This is my second year on the Aldrich Board of Directors and my first as the Personnel Chair. I love that I get to be a part of supporting the amazing learning that happens at Aldrich. I work for Rochester Public Schools as the district's K-12 Equity Implementation Associate. Before coming home to the Rochester area, I was an assistant professor of education at Wartburg College and a faculty associate and research assistant at Arizona State University. While at ASU I taught courses on Early Childhood policy and pedagogy and conducted research on school readiness and child care resource availability across the state of Arizona. I received my BA in Elementary Education from Luther College, my MA in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of St. Thomas, and my Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Arizona State University. My husband, Jason and I have three daughters. Moira is 5 and is an Aldrich alum. My identical twins, Freya and Elise are 4 and loving every minute they get to spend at Aldrich this year.

Brenda Kalmbach: Family Engagement Committee

I live in Elgin with my husband, Michael and our 3 kids. This is my 4th year as a board member. Alex is 7 years old and in his third year of homeschooling. He is an Aldrich alumni. Nate is 5 years old and attends preschool in Plainview after attending Aldrich for 2 years. Lily is 3 years old and in her second year at Aldrich. She loves the playground and doing puzzles at school. Michael works for Mayo and moonlights as an author. Besides volunteering as a board member, I work a couple of days a week at ABC & Toy Zone. Mike and I are currently forming the local Navigators USA troop.

Michelle Kazos-Dailey: Development Chair

Hello, I am Michelle Kazos-Dailey and I am the chairperson of the Development committee. I have 2 kiddos (Daisy and Waylon) currently attending Aldrich in room 4 and room 8 and my oldest son Cash is an alumni, he started kindergarten this fall at Harriet Bishop. I am currently a Stay at Home Mom with a background in hospitality management and event planning. Most mornings I can be found playing with friends in our classrooms, if I can assist you with anything please let me know.

Andrea Pedersen: Secretary & Finance Committee

My husband, Cory, and I moved to Rochester about 12 years ago from the Twin Cities area. We have 2 daughters, Anna (6) and Camryn (3). Anna attended Aldrich for 3 years and is now a 1st grader at Longfellow Elementary. Camryn just started her 2nd year at Aldrich. I am a Finance Analyst with Mayo Clinic. This is my 2nd year on the Aldrich board and I am Secretary and a member of the Finance committee.

**Tanya Pool: Family Engagement Committee**

My name is Tanya Pool. I work as a nurse anesthetist at Mayo in the Pediatric and Multispecialty divisions. This is my second year on the Aldrich Board, and my first year as the Family Engagement Committee Chair. My son, Pierce (age 6) attended Aldrich for two years. My daughter Ainsley (age 5) has started her third year at Aldrich and is currently in Room 7. We have appreciated and enjoyed the depth of learning through play that Aldrich has consistently provided in all the classroom spaces.

Jeff Sabatke: Treasurer & Finance Chair

I'm Jeff Sabatke and currently serving as the Treasurer and Finance Chair for Aldrich. My connection to Aldrich is being the proud parent of three wonderful children who have, or will, attend Aldrich. My oldest son, Jackson, just graduated from Aldrich and is now in Kindergarten at Bamber Valley. My daughter, Audrianna, is currently at Aldrich and in her second year. My youngest, Jameson, is only one but he looks forward to going to Aldrich in the future. My background is in banking, having worked in the banking industry for the past 14 years. I am currently a Branch Manager for Think Mutual Bank and I have worked for Think for over 9 Years. I also have my MBA through Augsburg College. What makes me different would be my Military service. I have served in the MN Army National Guard for over 10 years and currently serve as a Captain for an Infantry Regiment (2-135 Infantry) based out of Mankato, MN.

Jessica Shelly: Development Committee

I am a new board member this year. I will be working with the development committee this year. I am so happy to be getting involved at Aldrich. My oldest is a first grader and previously attended Aldrich. I have two current students Aaralyn in room 1 and Avander in room 8. I have a Masters degree in nursing and I am a nurse practitioner at Mayo. I have always loved learning and have enjoyed watching my children fall in love with learning while attending the school. Something different about me is that I always sneeze in sets of 3 and often when sun gets in my eyes!

Katie Tofilon: Family Engagement Committee

I am honored to be joining the board this year! My husband, Andy, and I have one daughter Grace (5), who is beginning her third year at Aldrich. I have my BA in Nursing from Luther College. I worked for 11 years on the Neurology Rehabilitation Inpatient Unit, serving both adults and children, at St. Marys Hospital, Mayo Clinic. Now, I enjoy being a stay-at-home mom and volunteering in the library at Aldrich. I am excited for the year ahead!

Stacey Tovar: Family Engagement Committee

I am Stacey Tovar. This is my first year on the board. I have one Aldrich alumni that is currently a 1st grader at Folwell and my youngest just started his first year at Aldrich in Room 4. I am not a native to Rochester but have lived here for the past 10 years. I am an Inpatient Float RN at Mayo Clinic. In my minimal free time I enjoying spending time with my family, reading, traveling, and staying active. I recently joined a jiu jitsu gym where my husband and oldest son also train.

Alexander Georg von Borman: President-Elect, Development Committee

Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, my family and I have now been fortunate enough to call Rochester home for the last 7 years. This is my second year on the Aldrich Board and I am honored to be in a position to give back to a school that has been so fantastic for our son. I am an Operations Administrator at Mayo Clinic and this allows me to bring many real-world learning to the Aldrich Board. In what spare time is left I enjoy all things outdoors from the sedate pastimes of camping and hiking to more energetic trail races, marathons, and climbing trips.

