

Newsletter

January 2020



Happy New Year, Aldrich families! I hope you and your family enjoyed a wonderful break. As I'm writing this, it is still 2019 and I'm wondering how long after New Year's Day it will take us to burn out on the song "Roaring Twenties." Has it already happened?

January is a busy and exciting month for Aldrich as we start enrolling for the next school year. Remember that if you are planning on returning to Aldrich next year, you must complete the reenrollment process. The first day to reenroll is January 8th. We typically enroll about 100 families the first day, so popular classes fill quickly.

This month you will also be receiving an invitation to the 75th Anniversary Gala in March. Formal, adult nights out are a blue-moon occasion for Aldrich. The last one was held in 2005! This event will be a celebration of the rich legacy and community at Aldrich, and we hope that many of you will be able to join us.

As always, we are grateful to be your partner in education.

-Jessica Paolini, Director

Aldrich Dates to Remember

- Jan. 6 & 7:** Enrollment Packets for 2020-2021 School Year sent home with currently enrolled families
- Jan. 7 & 8:** Library Check Out
- Jan. 7 & 8:** Timeless Art Enrichment Class begins
- Jan. 8:** Priority Enrollment for Aldrich families begins!
- Jan. 14:** Open House at Aldrich for Prospective Families 6-7:30pm
- Jan. 15:** Last Day of Priority Enrollment
- Jan. 16:** Open Enrollment begins for families new to Aldrich
- Jan. 20:** MLK Day- Aldrich Staff Development, No School
- Jan. 21:** Aldrich Board Meeting 7:30pm
- Jan. 30 & 31:** Pajama Days at Aldrich!
- Feb. 17:** President's Day, No School

Will your child be absent from a session at Aldrich?
Please call the office or let your classroom teacher know!

Kitchen STEAM Enrichment Class



Begins February 4/5 and runs through February 25/26

Art, math, and science can all be found in the kitchen, from painting with Kool-Aid to fun experiments with kitchen ingredients. Join us as we explore all the fun we can have in the kitchen!

Children must be at least 3 years old by September 1, 2019 to participate in Enrichment classes. Classes run from 1:00-3:30pm on Tuesdays or Wednesdays and there may be options to extend the afternoon with either Lunch Bunch or Kids Club. Stop by the office to enroll; the fee for these 4 week classes is \$75. Enrichment classes are a great way for your children to continue to learn and grow while at Aldrich!

Outdoor Play at Aldrich

Because outdoor play is an integral part of our curriculum, we try to play outside every day. The amount of time outside will vary on the weather. Unfortunately, the weather is sometimes just too cold for us to safely play outdoors. We follow these guidelines to determine if we will play outside at Aldrich:

- For 3-5 year old classrooms, if the air temp is 0 degrees or colder or if the wind chill is -10 degrees or colder, the children will remain indoors.
- For 2 year olds classrooms, if the air temp is 10 degrees or colder or if the wind chill is 0 degrees or colder, the children will remain indoors.

The temperature is checked shortly before the children would normally go outside using the KTTC Website or the KTTC Weather App. We refer to the "Feels Like" temperature to make decisions. The graphic to the right is what the KTTC Weather App looks like. The temperature on the app will vary by location, be sure yours is set to "55901."

Please help the teachers by ALWAYS dressing your child appropriately for outside play. Warm winter coat, snow pants, winter boots, hat and waterproof mittens make the cold days more fun to play in!



Pajama Days

Children are invited to wear their pajamas to school on **Thursday, January 30 and Friday, January 31!** Breakfast snacks will be served, bedtime stories read, and even the teachers and other staff will be wearing their pajamas! If children are uncomfortable wearing their pajamas to school, they may wear their regular clothes. However, you might just bring their pajamas along in case they change their minds when they see their friends and teachers in pajamas.

Registration for 2020-2021



Registration for next school year begins on Wednesday, January 8th for current and past Aldrich families (including children of Aldrich alumni!) with priority given through January 15th. Registration packets will be handed out to all current parents on January 6 & 7. In order to register for next year, families will need to turn in a completed enrollment form along with a registration fee (\$60 per family) and an Immunization Record (new students only). Some classes fill up quickly, so be sure to return your paperwork and fee early to secure your first choice. All children of present and past families, returning and new, will need to register. See below for some of the new offerings for next school year!

Registration for families new to Aldrich will begin on January 16th! Please encourage your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to visit Aldrich for a tour! We will have group tours available on Tuesday, January 14th from 6-7:30pm. Otherwise, visitors are always welcome to schedule a tour during the school day to visit while classes are in session. Encourage new families to contact the office at [507.289.3097](tel:507.289.3097) to schedule a tour or visit our website for more information at www.aldrichschool.com. Current families are our best source of advertising, so thank you for spreading the word about us!

Program offerings for 2020-2021:

For 2 years olds (2 by September 1, 2020)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings (can be combined for 5 Mornings)

For 3 year olds (3 by September 1, 2020)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings or Afternoons (can be combined for 5 Mornings or 5 Afternoons)
- 2 FULL Days and 3 FULL Days (9:00am- 3:30pm, can be combined for 5 FULL DAYS)

For 4/5 year olds (4 or 5 by September 1, 2020)

- 2 day and 3 day Mornings or Afternoons
- 5 Mornings
- 4 Afternoons (Monday through Thursday) – **NEW THIS YEAR!!!**
- 2 FULL Days and 3 FULL Days (9:00am-3:30pm, can be combined for 5 FULL Days)

Extension Opportunities for 3, 4 and 5 year olds:**

- Early Bird (7:30-9:00am)
- Lunch Bunch (11:35am-12:45pm)
- Kids Club (3:30-5:30pm)

Parents can choose which day(s) each week they'd like their child to attend these extensions throughout the school year.

****Extension sessions** will only be offered if we meet the minimum enrollment requirements.

Early Childhood Screening Reminder

If your child is at least 3 years old, please call 328-4004 to make a **FREE** appointment for a comprehensive developmental screening at the Northrop Building, 201 8th St. NW. The screening staff will check your child's vision, hearing, growth, immunization status, and developmental skills. Please take advantage of this opportunity provided by Rochester Public Schools! The screening gives you information about your child and community resources, and is not a "readiness test" for kindergarten. **Rochester Public schools do require this screening prior to entrance into kindergarten.**



News from the Board



A heartfelt **thank you** to all the families that donated items to our Channel One Food Drive and donated toys to our Toys for Tots Toy Drive! Your generosity particularly overwhelmed the team picking up toy donations. They asked multiple times what our secret was, and it's no secret-- Aldrich just has a beautiful community of generous families.

We hope this experience opened the door to wonderful conversations with your children about the spirit of giving.



Your dinner is your donation!

Come on over to the **Crooked Pint Ale House** off Commerce Drive in Rochester this **January 27th** between 4 and 8pm to enjoy one of their 33 beers on tap or try the best Juice Lucy in Minnesota and help us raise money for Aldrich School!

Simply present the voucher (it **MUST** be a paper voucher) and 15 % of your total bill (even includes adult beverages!) will go back to Aldrich!