

Dear Parents,

I thought you might want to know a little about a program that teachers are learning about and will be using with the children.

The Friendship School has been implementing the Bingham Prosocial Behavior Program since last year and will continue again this year. This program was developed by the Child & Family Agency of Southeastern CT. The purpose is "to increase the social and emotional abilities for children so they can get along well with others as the basic foundation for their development in later years."

The Friendship School is one of many schools that combine this method with their ongoing curriculum. The teachers are supported by two coaches, Rick DeMatto and Gwen Lakowsky, who are available to assist in integrating five keys skills into their classroom. The key skills which children need to have for successful interactions are: kindness, self-control, emotions, respect and cooperation.

An important part of this ongoing program is family participation. This collaboration offers the consistency necessary to strengthen the skills mentioned. Please stay informed as to what your child's teacher is incorporating in the classroom. The teacher will be able to offer suggestions of activities and/or language to encourage prosocial behavior at home. Your cooperation will support and enhance the skills being implemented in your child's classroom. The partnership between home and school will only benefit your child. The skills acquired throughout the year will enable your child to be more successful with all social interactions.

If you have further questions, please contact me at school or Rick DeMatto / BP Learned at 442-1797 ext. 1515.

Thank you and enjoy the weekend with your children.

Kathy

From the Nurse's Office

Thank You to all who have donated clothes to the nurses' office for students to borrow. If anyone has borrowed clothes at home, could they please be returned for others to use? Also, we accept donations throughout the school year. Also, for students who need clothing changes often, be sure they have an extra set of their own clothes in their classroom. The supply in the nurses' office runs out quickly.

Parents please make sure that the school has updated phone numbers to reach you if your child needs you. Students who experience vomiting, diarrhea, or fevers at school must be picked up to go home. Not only are they contagious to their friends, but they are not in shape to participate in school activities, and become very unhappy in the nurses' office when waiting a long time for family to come for them.

Lori

Library

Volunteers are needed to help with the Fall Book Fair (October 30-November 8)(clean up date). Please stop by the office to sign-up. The sign-up sheet lists the days and time slots needed. Thank you in advance for your efforts.

Marie Streimer

~ School Based Health Center ~

- ❖ The goal of a School Based Health Center is to ensure that students are both physically and emotionally prepared to take advantage of their daily educational opportunities. The School Based Center is staffed by a nurse practitioner and a mental health clinician.
- ❖ Tina McGillicuddy is a board-certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She is available during school hours to assist students with personal health needs such as physical health assessment, preventative and diagnostic treatment, referrals to school and community services, minor treatment of illnesses and injuries, immunizations, and health education.
- ❖ The mental health clinician is Jaime Miller, who holds a masters degree in social work. She is available during school hours to assist students and their families with behavioral and emotional needs. At The Friendship School she will be accepting referrals from the school (always with the parent/guardian's permission), as well as providing consultation to classroom teachers.
- ❖ While these services can assist in early or preventative health care, they are not intended to take the place of your pediatrician, family physician, or other community source of primary health care. A parent or guardian must complete the registration form before a student may receive services. The School Based Health Center accepts registration forms at any time and blank forms are available in the School Nurse's office at Friendship.
- ❖ If you have any questions about the services offered by the School Based Health Center please feel free to contact the Director of SBHC Services at the Child and Family Agency, JoAnn Eaccarino, at (860) 442-2797 ext. 1254 or the School Based Health Center directly at (860) 447-4049 ext. 1220

Important Dates

Oct. 26 – Professional Development Day – No School

Oct. 30th through November 7th – Book Fair at TFS

Nov. 6- Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School

Nov. 8th- Nurturing Workshop for Parents(See attached flyer for more information).**