



TFS Newsletter

Kathy Suprin
Director

Tricia Metsack
Assistant Director

November 4th, 2011

Dear Parents,

At The Friendship School we always look for ways to provide instruction in a natural setting, as though we just happened to discover something exciting and want to share that with the children. Teacher's lessons are planned and specific, which is often referred to as intentional, with our curriculum goals for the grade level in mind. In addition, we want the lessons to seem a natural part of what the children might be doing at their age, with a little "vitamin packed" new information, which might be vocabulary, creative expression, physical movement or social skills development. For this reason, we've been developing our outdoor play area into an outdoor classroom, where children can play and learn. There is a team of teachers which is working very diligently to model our outdoor areas in the style of a Nature Explore Classroom, a collaborative project of the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Educational Research Foundation. All of the teachers and instructional assistants will be supporting this effort and we hope that parents will become involved as well. In the next few weeks The Friendship School will become one of two schools in Connecticut and one of a hundred in the country that have certified Nature Explore outdoor spaces. I will tell you more about our Nature Explore outdoor space as it is being developed and certified. For more information in the meantime, you can read about Nature Explore classrooms at www.natureexplore.org. When you are visiting the school, take a look outside and see if you notice the areas we've identified for certain types of activities, such as the building area, the digging area, the music area and the water play area. It's coming along very nicely.

Enjoy the weekend with your children!
Kathy

Picture Retakes are Monday, November 7th.

Please remember to return your entire portrait package on or before picture day if you would like a retake. If your child was absent or did not have their photo taken please ask your teacher or the office for an order form.

Please feel free to take advantage of our website for school information. You can find our staff list, breakfast and lunch menus, the school calendar, weekly newsletters and other important info and updates. The website can be found at: www.thefriendshipschool.org

FFO NEWS:

Box tops:

Please collect box tops all year long
Register at www.boxtops4education.com

WINTER COAT DRIVE:

We are collecting clean gently used, or new winter coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, and mittens for the month of November. Boxes for collection are located in the foyer as you enter the school. We appreciate any donations.



Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday

NOVEMBER 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2 FFO Meeting 6pm	3	4
7 Picture Retake Day	8 Professional Development Day <u>NO SCHOOL</u>	9	10	11 Veterans Day <u>NO SCHOOL</u>
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23 <u>1:40pm EARLY DISMISSAL</u>	24 Thanksgiving Holiday <u>NO SCHOOL</u>	25 Thanksgiving Holiday <u>NO SCHOOL</u>
28	29	30		