



## From the Director by Patti Harford

Another month has flown by and now we're in the thick of winter. We have made it past the shortest day of the year called the winter solstice on December 22<sup>nd</sup> and so now we're going to be having longer days!

Thank you for your timely submissions of the 2007 Family Surveys. The Program Committee will tabulate and share the results. Cinnamon Street's teachers are always looking for suggestions and opportunities to improve their teaching practice.

The news from Congress regarding spending on early childhood education and related issues;

- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers - \$100 million increase
- Child Care and Development Block Grant - no increase (*this grant funds the NH Childcare Scholarship Funds and the tuition assistance for ECE college courses for our teachers*)

Congratulations go out to Jenn Moses for completing her first college

course on Early Childhood Education. On that note, Jenn has returned to the 'Little Bear' room in the full time Childcare Assistant position effective December 24<sup>th</sup>.

More congratulations to James Akerman the Vice President of the Cinnamon Street Board for writing and securing a grant for \$500.00. This grant will go towards the purchase of seven hand sanitizer stations that will be placed at the entrances of classrooms and the main doors to help prevent the spread of germs. Thank you to the

## Little Bears by Heidi Pill

First of all we would like to welcome back Jennifer. She has been an awesome support in our classroom. She has been working on furthering her education with infants and toddlers and is very eager to become more involved.

Each of us are working on individual developmental checklists for your children. If you are interested in seeing what your child is learning, check the board next to our sign-in sheet. We are working hard everyday on art projects and activities that develop fine motor skills. So, come on in the classroom and

check out all the children's hard work.

We also have a wish list posted on the board. We have tons of neat activities planned but just a little short on supplies and so any donations would be much appreciated.

We would like to thank all the parents who donated food for Emma's going away party, she will be sadly missed. There have been a few changes in the teachers schedule's but just be patient and it should be all set soon. Liz and I would like to thank you to all our parents for the surveys.

We appreciate the feedback since it helps us to be better teachers.

## Panda Bears by Lyndsey Boulton

Winter is the time of the year when children typically exercise the least. Luckily for us at Cinnamon Street we have been taking part in a wonderful music program called YouthBeatz. Every Monday and Thursday Rich Regione leads a drumming class in which the children learn basic beats, rhythms and melodies while moving their bodies to the sounds. First, they all carry in their own chair to drum on, then Rich starts the children out by "warming up their muscles" and follows up with some simple aerobic and stretching exercises before they begin the actual drumming.

Once they are warmed up Rich teaches them some different beats and lets them make up some of their own. They take turns drumming on different sized buckets and listening to the different sounds they make as well as drumming on their chairs. The children are learning to work together as a band for the culminating performance which will be sometime in mid-February.

"Through music and movement activities a child:

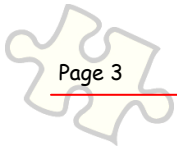
- Becomes sensitive to beauty and harmony
- Validates creativity, individuality, and self expression
- Reinforces auditory, visual, and comprehension skills
- Explores and differentiates

- Practices listening skills
- Expands vocabulary and language development
- Explores large and small muscle movement
- Develops awareness of the body and how it works and moves
- Has an opportunity to release energy and express emotions
- Develops positive feelings about being part of a group
- Has the opportunity to be both a leader and a follower."

*-Early Education Curriculum by Hilda L. Jackman*

Remember that at home you and your child can make homemade instruments using simple household items. Pots, pans and recycled cardboard or plastic products work great for this. Remember you can always make music outside too!

"Rich Regione leads a drumming class in which the children learn basic beats, rhythms and melodies while moving their bodies to the sounds."



## Newport Out-of-School Time News by Heather Blake

Some of the high-lights for 3rd quarter are that NOST is hosting a family night on January 23rd at the High School. There will be demonstrations from YouthBeatz, StarDancers Studio and Bingo for Books. We are hoping to have a big turn out and the children are excited to perform.

A new club provided by 4H this quarter is called Strengthening Families. This is a nationally recognized substance abuse awareness program designed for 10-14 year olds and their families. We also have the opportunity to have the Learning for Life Club, which teaches kids how to make healthy choices throughout your life and how to serve your community.

On a fun note, be sure to look for the NOST team at the Winter Carnival in February! We are going to

### Polar Bears

The Polar Bears have been busy this month with winter activities. They have been working together on the playground building snowmen working on their gross motor and cooperation skills. A big thank you to parents for remembering to pack your children's warm hats and gloves to keep snowman making hands warm.

Inside activities have been creating paintings with straws and paint to develop our oral motor skills like

be taking part in the Speed Cub Stacking Competition and a Dodge Ball game.

#### Just a Few

Thanks...

Thank you, to the parents, teachers and students for helping NOST. The surveys you completed help us to plan and evaluate our programs at Richards and Towle Elementary as well as Newport Middle School.

Thank you, to the school staff for supporting NOST. Your referrals and the information you provide to NOST staff are a crucial part of our program.

Thank you, to the parents for enrolling your child and paying your fees on a regular basis. Your support is helping NOST become sustainable.

#### Just a Few Facts...

Healthy snacks are

blowing and taking deep breaths. Our sensory project was a mixture of Elmer's glue and shaving cream which, when painted onto paper came out puffy for creating clouds or snow.

The new Polar Bear daily schedule has been posted outside the classroom and is listed to the right. Make sure to have your child here by 9:00 am when morning group begins.

served each day at NOST.

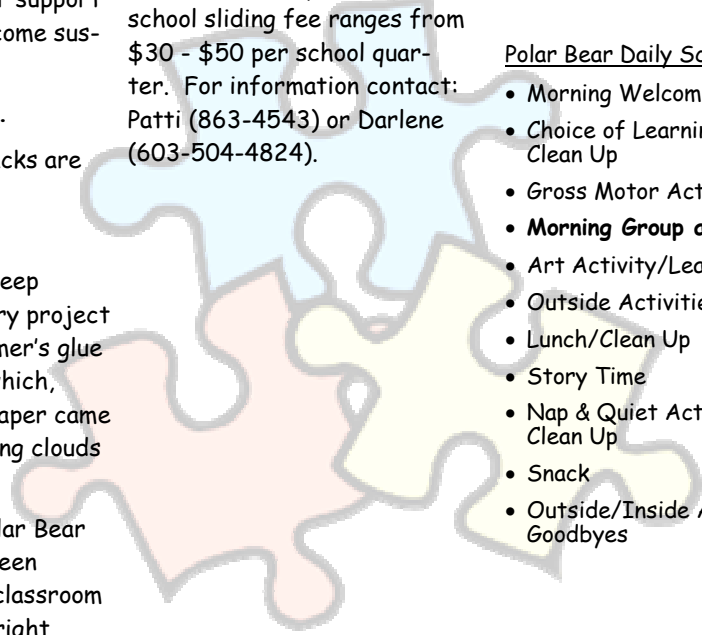
Transportation is available so if your child needs transportation home, please contact either Heather (603-504-4828) or Darlene (603-504-4824) to arrange this free service.

Scholarships are available for students between the ages of 5 - 12 for families who meet the requirements of NH's Department of Health and Human Services. For information contact, Patti or Nicki at Cinnamon Street (863-4543).

A sliding fee is available for families who do not meet NH DHHS requirements. The elementary school sliding fee ranges from \$1 - \$10 dollars a day. The middle school sliding fee ranges from \$30 - \$50 per school quarter. For information contact: Patti (863-4543) or Darlene (603-504-4824).

#### Polar Bear Daily Schedule

- Morning Welcome and Snack
- Choice of Learning areas/ Clean Up
- Gross Motor Activity
- **Morning Group at 9:00am**
- Art Activity/Learning Areas
- Outside Activities
- Lunch/Clean Up
- Story Time
- Nap & Quiet Activities/ Clean Up
- Snack
- Outside/Inside Activities & Goodbyes



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### The Officers

President - Michele Caccavaro  
Vice President - James Akerman  
Treasurer - Marcia Pirone  
Secretary - Melissa Pollari  
Member Ex-Officio - Karen Little  
Members at Large:  
Mike Pollari  
Sherri Bonfiglio  
Angela Patno

## From the Board President by Michele Caccavaro

Our December Executive Board Meeting was held on December 19<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. We enjoyed a great feast of potluck entrees and beverages and went right to work. Our finance committee report showed another strong month with the help of our recent fundraising efforts. Thank you to all of you who bought or sold pizzas and Square 1 Art Projects. Karen and David Little were happy to report that they purchased the Ice House plaza building and are our new landlords! A new lease is forthcoming. The Littles are long time supporters and board members of Cinnamon Street. Karen is currently an ex-officio board member. The board expressed their gratitude and eagerness to get moving on a Capital Campaign. Cinnamon Street would like to be bale to purchase the building from the Littles within the next 3-5 years.

The board also discussed the enrollments and programs currently offered at the elementary schools through the NOST program.

Our next meeting will be January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Please let Patti know if you are planning on attending and need childcare. As always, there is time at each board meeting to discuss any issues or concerns from parents or staff. We hope to be discussing the results of the Program Committee's family survey. Thank you to all of the family members who took the time to complete this very important survey. I am pleased to announce the winners of the Shaws Gift Card raffle in conjunction with the survey completion were the Pollari Family!

## Announcements

It's taking some time but I am starting to get to know some of the parents and kids in the center.

There have been some billing questions for some people but I think everyone has settled in with all the changes with invoices so we are up and running.

Remember that all payments for each week are due by Tuesday noon of that week to avoid late charges.

-Nicki Stoodley

Have you reviewed your Family Handbook and returned your signed forms to the office?

Chances are running out to purchase your raffle tickets for the handmade Cinnamon Street quilt! The drawing will be at the next Executive Board Meeting which you are all welcome to attend January 16th

-Patti Harford