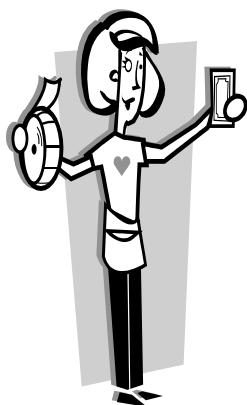




It's Never Too Early...



...to think about the Aldrich Carnival and Raffle. Last year, the raffle was a great success thanks to everyone that donated items and bought tickets. At this time, we are asking you to think about donating something special to the raffle.

Personal donations last year ranged from wonderful product baskets from at-home sales people to gift certificates to cash donations (that we used to purchase motorized kids cars).

If you would like to donate a new item to the raffle, please take it to the front office with your name and an estimated value of the prize. Please address it to KatieAnn McKee, raffle chair.

Winter Parent Outreach

The Aldrich Education Committee is excited to announce the Winter Parent Outreach:

Brain Gym®

February 26th, Tuesday, 7pm

stressed??

Stress inhibits our ability to experience life fully and joyfully. Many of know that we should release stress, but that seems easier said than done. Participants in the workshop will learn how to notice the stress response in the body and how it affects our ability to think and respond gracefully. Learn 4 activities to do anywhere/anytime to alleviate the negative effects of stress.

Since 1990, Brain Gym® has been selected annually by the National Learning Foundation as one of today's leading technologies in education. Lisa Anderson, M.S., is an elementary teacher and licensed Brain Gym® Instructor/Consultant in Rochester. Lisa is one of five international recipients of the 2007 Teaching Through Movement Award from the Educational Kinesiology Foundation.

This event is free and attendance is limited to 50 people. Sign-up by the office today!



Aldrich has an Open Door



Have you visited your child's classroom yet this school year? Remember that you are always welcome! Check with your child's teacher to choose a day that works for all of you!

Join us for the “Aldrich Olympics”



Annual Carnival May 3rd, 2008



In celebration of the summer olympics in Beijing, this year’s annual carnival will be entitled “Aldrich Olympics” and is sure to be a fun family event. The date is set for Saturday, May 3rd from 10am-2pm.

The carnival is the school’s largest fundraiser! We are planning a tour around the world for your family as your children play! We will have giant inflatables, fun childrens’ carnival games inside and out, lunch, a raffle with many prizes, and a bake sale. To make the carnival a success, we need many volunteers in many capacities. Opportunities to help exist on and before May 3rd. If you know you would like to help with this exciting event, please contact Travis Dynes at 319-8660 or travis.dynes@gmail.com.

The “Aldrich Olympics” is a great way for us to come together as a school and a community! We have been blessed with outstanding weather for a few years now and hope for another sunshine filled day! Look in next month’s newsletter for more information on volunteer and donation needs!

Our current carnival wish list includes the following:



- ★ Primary/White Table Coverings
- ★ Cash Donations
- ★ Raffle Prizes big and small
- ★ Pop/Snacks for the Volunteers the day of carnival
- ★ **We want to create a truly international atmosphere** and we could use any items from other countries, especially flags, posters, fabrics or interesting items. We promise to take good care of them and return them after carnival if you put your name on them.

If you are able to donate items when we get closer to the date, please leave them in the office. Thank You!!

Aldrich Staff - “Thank you for helping our children grow!”

Staff Appreciation Week at Aldrich Memorial Nursery School will be March 3 – 7, 2008. The theme chosen for the week will be, “Thank you for helping our children grow!” All of the staff at Aldrich does so much to contribute to the growth of our children and we hope that they know how much we appreciate their dedication and hard work all year long!

On March 3rd and 4th, the Board of Directors will hold a luncheon for the Staff in gratitude for their efforts. The luncheon will be given on behalf of Aldrich parents and the Board of Directors. .



Valentine's Party

This year's party was full of games, stickers, crafts, cookies and COOKIE MONSTER! The children had a great time.

Thank you, volunteers, for making this event a huge success!



LITTLE CHEFS PART 2

This 6 week mini course will start the week of March 3rd on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:00-3:30.

The class is open to students in our 3 year old classes and up.

Please see the office to register, space is limited.

SEEKING ENTHUSIASTIC INDIVIDUALS

The Aldrich Board of Directors is already planning for the next school year. We are currently accepting applications for the Board of Directors to fill positions for next school year on our three standing committees: Personnel, Education and Finance.

We are looking for motivated individuals from Aldrich and the Rochester Community to donate their time and expertise to our school. Serving on the Board is a very rewarding experience. We are happy to extend an invitation to all interested parents to apply for a position.

If you are interested in applying, application packets with information about the Board's responsibilities are available in the office. If you are interested, but unable to pick up a packet from the office, we can put one in your child's cubby. Please contact Marla Kruse, 285-5197 or ellamnopea@charter.net or the office with any questions you may have. Thank you for considering a position on the Board of Directors.

Application packets are now available in the Aldrich Office!

Breakfast at Applebee's

Thank you to all families who volunteered and/or attended the Applebee's Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for Aldrich.

We had great turnouts for volunteers and families attending the event! It was fun to see a restaurant busy with kids at every table. Everyone got a wonderful breakfast of pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice, milk, and coffee.

If you missed it this year, the success of it will insure your chance to join the fun next year.

Parents' Night Out

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have helped at the past events.

The kids have had a blast, and the volunteers have seemed to enjoy the night also.

Keep a look out in your cubbies for future dates.



COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

Oxbow Park Programs

BLUEBIRD WORKSHOP – February 16 at 3:00
FEED THE OTTERS – February 16 at 3:00
OWLS – February 23 at 1:00
ANIMAL TRACKS AND SIGNS – March 1 at 1:00
MAPLE SYRUPING – March 8 and 15 at 1:00
CHILDREN’S ZOO TIME – March 22 at 10:00am
RAPTOR FEEDING – March 29 at 3:00

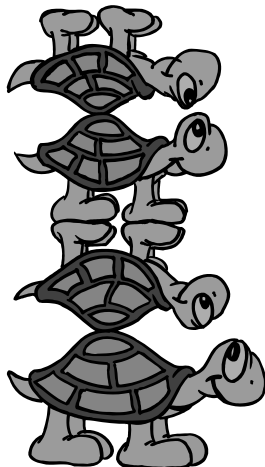


Child Care Resource and Referral Activities

STORY TIME –February 14, 9:15-9:50am; Golden Hill Elementary School (followed by parent discussion group)
PARENT DISCUSSION GROUP: “LITERACY FUN: LITERACY IDEAS TO DO AT HOME”
10 – 11am; Golden Hill Elementary School
6:30-7:03pm Northrop Education Center
“I LOVE TO READ” FAMILY NIGHT; February 21, 6:30-7:30pm; Rochester Public Library

Other Community Events for Families:

Wednesday Storytime – Barnes & Noble (Apache Mall) or Great Harvest Rochester Public Library
Wednesdays 6:30pm – 3-5 year old Story Time
Thursdays 10:00am – Stories for Toddlers and Twos
Feb. 23 at 10:30am – Family Film Program
Rochester Art Center
First Saturday of each month- An array of free family-friendly activities
Free Thursdays at the Rochester Art Center



UPCOMING ALDRICH DATES

Feb. 18	No School – President’s Day
Feb. 26	Parent Outreach – “Brain Gym” at Aldrich 7:00pm
Mar. 2008	Watch for Aldrich Summer School information
Mar. 3 - 7	Staff Appreciation Week
Mar. 21	Parent-Teacher Conferences – no school for children
Mar. 31-Apr. 4	Spring Break - No School

Parenting on Purpose

Necessary Conversations and Purposeful Parenting:
Requirements for Success at Home and in Life

Ada Alden, Presenter

Sunday, March 2nd

4:00 p.m.

Calvary Episcopal Church

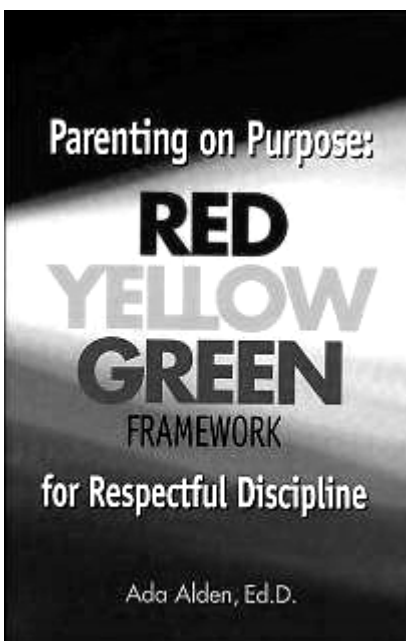
111 3rd Avenue S.W. (across the street from the Mayo Clinic)

Free will donation (suggested \$5/family)

Ada Alden has been working with parents for nearly 30 years and holds advanced degrees in education and behavior analysis.

Ada holds a doctorate from The University of Minnesota and is a nationally certified family life educator. She consults with school districts, working with teachers on parent involvement and effective teacher-parent relationships.

Ada has provided training for Head Start staff, child care provider, parents and staff from both the corporate and medical fields. She reviews parenting books and writes columns for local newsletters and newspapers.



The **Red, Yellow, Green** Framework is a way to think about parenting in order to raise a cared for, self-reliant child.

It is a systemized approach to common sense, which provides a way to deliver direct and clear messages, establish necessary rituals and routines, and communicate family values, benefits and expectations.

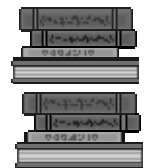
This concept will help adults who want to be purposeful and present in the lives of children. Applying these insights promotes success both at the kitchen table and in life.



Aldrich Teachers' Favorite Books

Be sure to check out these popular favorites recommended by our teachers!

- Mrs. Sokol: Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See? by Bill Martin, Jr. & Eric Carle;
The Itsy Bitsy Spider by Iza Trapani
- Mrs. Tweed: The Hat by Jan Brett; Chicka, Chicka, Boom, Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.; The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- Mrs. Burfeind: Big Hungry Bear by Don & Audrey Wood
- Mrs. Battista: Bunny Cakes by Rosemary Wells; Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley;
Little Quack Books by Lauren Thompson
- Mrs. Fleming: I'm Sorry by Sam McBratney; If You Give a Mouse a Cookie (series) by Laura Numeroff;
Love You Forever by Robert Munsch
- Mrs. Steege: The Mitten by Jan Brett; The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle;
Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
- Mrs. Newhall: Mouse Paint by Ellen Walsh; Owl Babies by Martin Waddell; The Napping House by Audrey Wood
- Mrs. Dyer: Little Blue and Little Yellow by Leo Lionni; Sylvester and the Magic Pebble by W. Steig
- Mrs. Heintz: Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown; Corduroy by Don Freeman; Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Bill Martin, Jr.
- Mrs. Prybilla: Eric Carle books, especially The Very Hungry Caterpillar & The Very Busy Spider;
Jan Brett books, especially The Mitten, The Hat, & Honey, Honey, Lion
- Mrs. Hermes: 50 Below Zero & Andrew's Loose Tooth by Robert Munsch (she recommends most Munsch books);
Stand Tall Molly Lou Melon by Patty Lovell
- Mrs. Khan: Millions of Cats by Wanda Gag; Corduroy & Beady Bear by Don Freeman
- Mrs. Kane: Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson; Gingerbread Baby by Jan Brett; Peter's Chair by Ezra Jack Keats



Also check out these "hidden treasures", which are not as well-known, but highly recommended!

- Mrs. Sokol: I Like Me! by Nancy Carlson; Put Me in the Zoo by Robert Lopshire
- Mrs. Tweed: Knuffel Bunny (series) by Mo Willems; Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus (series) by Mo Willems;
Click, Clack, Moo, Cows that Type by D. Cronin
- Mrs. Battista: Humbug Witch by Lorna Balian
- Mrs. Fleming: All the Places to Love by Patricia MacLachlan; Do Like a Duck Does by J. Hindley
- Mrs. Steege: Stranger in the Woods by Carl R. Sams, Jr.; Sadie and the Snowman by Allen Morgan;
Way Out in the Desert by T.J. Marsh
- Mrs. Newhall: Big Al by Andrew Clements; Apple Trouble! by Ragnhild Scamell
- Mrs. Dyer: Peace Book by Todd Parr; Over in the Meadow by Ezra Jack Keats
- Mrs. Heintz: Who Took the Farmer's Hat? by J.L. Nodset; Mr. Cookies Baker by M. Wellington;
Chickens Aren't the Only Ones by Ruth Heller
- Mrs. Prybilla: Boom Chicka Rock by John Archambault; A Case of the Stripes by David Shannon;
The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything by Linda Williams
- Mrs. Hermes: Charlie the Caterpillar by Dom DeLuise; Pickle Chiffon Pie by Jolly Roger Bradfield;
Because I Love You & You Are Special by Max Lucado
- Mrs. Khan: The Mitten by A. Tresselt; Elizabeth's Doll by Bodeen; Mighty Tree by Gackenbach;
Baby Bird's First Nest by Asch
- Mrs. Kane: The Mitten Tree by Candace Christiansen; Mousekin's Golden House by Edna Miller;
The Lion and the Mouse by Bernadette Watts

