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Subject: Newsletter
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Hello Families and Friends at CLC. As winter is winding down, of course that means that spring is just around the corner! Infact it will begin today and we will arise to the first day of Spring. Although the temperatures and climate in the month of March is variable here in New York we have some nice things to look forward to as we move through this school year. Personally it is very hard for me to believe that I have been here at CLC for such a length of time. It was at this time last year (approximately) that I was merely a "candidate" for this position. I hope that I have been supportive to you my CLC colleagues, families and friends. So much goes on when so many lives are woven together. As one who strives for harmony , happiness and health in the environment we share I realize as with everything in life there is a juggling and a highly delicate balance. Some times it is inevitable that the balance can and will tip at varying points. I know certainly I try to do what is right for the many and given this leadership role I will at times despite my intentions alter this balance. I do know that given the trust we have in place since I began that you all understand that I am trying my very best and that sometimes even that may not always be right for everyone. I for sure am my own strongest critique! I also know that as I am working forward, I am sure that whatever I do that it is done in the spirit of caring and making things work. We may seem to be a little place compared to others but there is and continues to be much to do, for me as director and for us all as part of this larger community. I am looking forward as I continue to write this 411 to you!

As always I am warmly and truly yours,

Lori

Have You Remembered Your Auction Donations?

Have you heard that our auction will be ONLINE this year? Well of course you have! It will take place during the last two weeks of April. What will we auction? Oh, plenty of wonderful items from friends, neighbors and of course from those you have donated to the school via contact with Heidi Julavits who is overseeing this part of our "less stress" auction plan. I know that the deadline for sending information regarding your two items was supposed to be on February 26th and as of yesterday I noticed that Heidi had given a

"FINAL" notice in an attempt to get things moving along. however if you have not done this yet, PLEASE send your donation form to clcnycuction@gmail.com. The forms were e-mailed to you and if for some reason you do not have one we can just resend or pick one up at the front desk, fill it out and leave it there! This is a VERY IMPORTANT part of making this successful without stressful! You may otherwise send a donation in cash of \$250.00. When you have given Karen or I the check or deposited it into the box outside of the office please also e-mail Heidi. It is also advisable that even if you do not have the check yet that you advise us if in fact this is your choice.

New Tiles Finally Here

The tiles are here now and awaiting placement into the Red Room and let the "fun"draising begin. I will need the help of those of you with excellent handwriting for inscriptions and others of you to help with designs. I know there are artists amongst us and this will apply to your work time at the center. Please let me know who can assist. Check your e-mail and your school mailboxes for the forms in order to make your pledges! I have spoken just today to Jaque Guillet (Red Room) who has told me that the room can be done over a weekend. We will likely need some assistance moving furniture and other things before the installation begins. I made a decision today to have the tiles done and add in have the tiles painted after they are in. I just have a feeling that if we do not get them in that this could go on and on and the room will not take shape as we had aspired for it to. I am thinking that we can have an event at the school and then the tiles can be decorated. If that's the way they get done then they must get done. Again thanks to Charley Roden (Yellow Room-Ella's dad) for schlepping them over to the school for me on a day when he also helped out in the Purple Room! Any other suggestions on this. Remember the tiles are being sold in sets of four colors @ 40.00 per set. The Tiles are displayed outside of the Red Room on the Book Shelf. and you have many choices as to how to decorate them or have them designed and decorated for you. PLEASE join in making this a lasting memory.

Door Bell in Safety System Enroute

I am sure you have noticed that as you enter there is now a chime that accompanies your entrance or exit. That alone is helpful to us at the front. We have Charley Roden (Yellow Room) working on the wiring and still require our "Tech" parents to help with installing the software. Please contact Karen or I to arrange a time that will work as we are very flexible.

Technically Speaking

There are continuing plans in the works to have our computers become wireless so that our office can be more of a community room and less like "computer central". My aspiration is to have more seating and places to relax for staff. I also now have a color printer which is a fax machine as well integrated with my computer however it is also a fax machine and I do not have the set-up complete as it needs to hook up with our phone lines that are cable phones . HELP! Our fax machine in the outer office near Karen's desk is old and worn as well as inconsistent and this one is much newer but not working yet as it is not local to the cable modem. Help would be appreciated.

Contracts for Next Year

It is now the time when Karen and I are in collaboration with the CLC Board mailing contracts to new, returning and sibling families . We have only raised tuition by 3% which is much lower than other centers in our area. Those of you returning please be mindful of the contract and the need to return them promptly. If you have any questions or concerns please call to speak with me. I would like to have them returned to the office by April 6th. Also if you have fulfilled your Parent Participation piece for this year your new contract will reflect this. Those who have not can contact me and I will find ways to assist you in fulfilling this contractual agreement. The varying ways are listed in the initial agreement and I can help to find other ways such as assisting with the up and coming events.

Yoga For Parents and Staff

Although the Yoga for Parents evening was enjoyed by a small group the feedback was quite wonderful. If parents are interested as some expressed, Jill could continue this work and I would be happy to provide Childcare . I enjoyed the time with the children. The staff as well is doing yoga together which has been on Thursdays. Many thanks to Michiko (Red Room Parent) who has provided art lessons with "found objects" during that time along with Hui Ge our substitute teacher.. If any parents are willing to help in the after school this would allow one afternoon where more of the staff could participate. Let me know if you can help. The sessions are from 4:15-5:15.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Books arrived as our break began. I have had a chance to look through the variety of available books and they are many and varied. There is profit to be made and I will need help during the week of the sale. This is to take place the last week in March in the Recreation Room at 100 LaSalle Street. There is some set-up involved and vending to customers. We will need to work out scheduling for parents to work during the fair . Please let me know when you are available. Since it is a large space children will be able to be with parents as long as they are supervised. I will work out the details and there will be postings to support scheduling. We will raise funds in terms of books sold. I will advertise with our community and at Morningside Gardens. Friends of CLC families are welcome as well as incoming families who will be notified. I cannot open this event to the general community because of constraints in regard to security as well as the fact that there are small supplies of books and there will likely be a need for reorders and pickups at a later date (not far after the close of the sale) . Please let me know if you can help. Again this is another way in which to offset your 4 Hours of work for the good of the center.

POSTPONEMENT

I have decided to postpone the tentatively scheduled "KINDERGARTEN WORKSOP" as we are still completing the enrollment process as well as the kindergarten enrollment for this next year. This will likely occur in April and I will keep you posted . This event is for the parents of children with 2003 birth years. I would like to combine this with a Family Event as I had thought initially for March 21st. (Hmm today!!) When the date is decided it will include a Nutrition Workshop which will be hands on , fun and include EATING! SPRING FAIR UPDATE-

SAVE THE DATE There are many things we will do together as the Spring nears. We have set June 2 with a rain date of June 3rd for the Spring Fair. Volunteering for work on that event will also contribute to your participation hours. The Social Committee should begin Gearing up for this event! We need ideas and volunteers! This will be fun and should be a great time and a GET-Together Opportunity!

Parent Teacher Conferences

On March 30th, 2007 the center will be closed and parent conferences will be scheduled throughout the day. Sign-up sheets will be posted outside of your child's class this week. If that day is not workable for your family there will be slots available as per the parent Calendar that should accommodate your schedule. Please make every effort to conference with your child's teachers in order to have an updated sense of his/her progress. Formal reports will not be issued at this time however this is a good time to discuss next steps and continue the excellence in communication that we strive for.

Well for now this is all the 411 I have at my grasp! Everyone stay well. Please stop by to see me when you are around or call for an appointment so we can catch up!

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