



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Early Learning Center News

February 2018 Edition



Fall Enrollment at the ELC

Enrollment packets for current students who will be returning are due Friday, March 2nd. On Monday, March 12th we will be reaching out to those on the waiting list to fill open spots. Thanks!

The season for fall 2018 registration is upon us! If you plan to enroll your child at the ELC for the upcoming 2018-19 school

year (starting September 3, 2018), all families must complete a new enrollment packet and submit a \$65.00 annual registration fee in order to secure their child's enrollment. **Please note that in order to be registered for the next school year, Laurie Fournier must have the \$65.00 annual registration fee (\$100.00 family limit) and the child's enrollment information.**

Packets should be returned directly to the office. Once we have your child's enrollment packet and annual registration fee we will be able to make plans to place them in their appropriate classroom for the next school year. Once all is in place on our end, we will send you a confirmation email with the child's schedule.

February Family Play Date in the KidZone



Join other ELC families and have some KidZone fun on Saturday, February 24th from 8:30-10:30am. This is a great way to meet other families, or to make a plan to get together and play!

SAY CHEESE!



Photo Policy at the ELC

At the ELC, with family permission, we use photos in lots of different ways to celebrate the accomplishments of the

children. These include photos for portfolios, anecdotal notes, and Class Dojo posts. This is all done with sensitivity and respect to children and their families. As family members it is tempting to come to school and take pictures of the children at work, they are so cute! However, out of respect for our policies and procedures around photos of children, please do not take pictures of the children and share them with others while they are in our care at ELC. Thank you!

PSA: Flu Information

The cold and flu season is in full swing and is widespread in Massachusetts. *There are ways to fight back and help avoid those dreaded sick days!*

The number one thing to do is to frequently WASH HANDS!!!

Here are other ways to stay healthy and keep our school healthy:

- **Get vaccinated against the seasonal flu!!!**
- **Teach your children to wash their hands** often with warm water and soap.
- Remind children to **cough or sneeze into their elbow**-not their hands!
- **To help avoid catching viruses, teach your children not to share personal items** like drinks and unwashed utensils. When people are ill with a virus and do not wash their hands well, the germs stay on the hands and then spread to food, drinks or to objects

and, eventually, to other people's hands and mouths.

- Try to avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth with your hands.

For more information about how to care for yourself or a loved-one with the flu, please refer to the information from the Centers for Disease Control and Massachusetts Department of Public Health to learn more.

- <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>
- <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/flu-information-for-the-general-public>

Lastly, if your child is showing signs of illness or the flu such as a fever over 100 degrees, aches, chills, runny nose, please refrain from sending them to school and check with your child's pediatrician. Per our sick policy, children can return to the ELC when they are symptom and fever free and able to keep up with the daily routine of the classroom. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping to keep the ELC a healthy place to come!



Early Learning Center Aquatic Safety Session Reminders

ELC Aquatic Safety Sessions are one of our programs that distinguishes us from other

early childhood centers. It is a wonderful opportunity for children to learn about water safety and the beginnings of becoming an independent swimmer! Our teachers put a great deal of effort into these sessions weekly to ensure that they run efficiently and safely. Wondering how you can help?

Here's how:

- **Children who are swimming must be at school no later than 9:00am on their swim day.** This allows us to plan the group make-up, how many trips need to be taken to Emilson, and how many lessons will need to be taught by Emilson Aquatics Staff. **If your**

child is not at school by 9:00am on their swim day, they will not be able to swim on that day but will stay back with a preschool teacher engaged in activities.

In order to ensure that our lessons run smoothly and in a timely manner, we cannot make exceptions to this rule.

- **Send your child to school with their bathing suit on under their clothing.**
- **Clearly label all of your child's belongings.**
- **Place underwear, pull-ups, swim diaper, and towel in the labeled swim bag that was provided by the ELC.**

Thank you for helping to make our Aquatic Safety Sessions a Success!

Set the Stage for Good Behavior Every Day!

- **Use Teachable Moments:** Talk about the good behavior you expect or see around you whenever you're together. The message will sink in more when you are both calm and relaxed.
- **Follow a Routine:** Knowing what to expect helps your child feel safe and confident.
- **Give Your Child Choices:** These should be simple, safe choices (what clothes to wear, what games to play).
- **Aim for a Balance of Active and Inactive Play:** Limit your child's screen time to 2 hours of educational content a day (or less). Any more than that will take away from his or her time for active, energy-burning play.

