Welcome to the 2019-2020 School Year!
The new school year is off to a great start! Children are acclimating nicely to their new classrooms and teachers as they participate in our September early learning themes, “All About Me,” “Classroom Routines,” “Families,” “Apples.” If you have any questions about the start of the school year, please do not hesitate to reach out to Maureen at mmelone@ssymca.org at any time.

Welcoming Week:
As part of the YMCA Welcoming Week, an annual campaign in which community-based organizations like the Y host events that bring together immigrants and U.S.-born residents from all backgrounds to get to know one another and work together for the common good, resulting in stronger, more cohesive communities, the ELC will be hosting a Coffee and Conversation with the Directors on September 18th from 7:30am-8:30am. Stop by and say hello, and grab a cup of coffee! Last year the Y collectively hosted more than 800 Welcoming Week events reaching tens of thousands of people! In the words of one Y event organizer, "Friendships were born, bridges were built and communities were strengthened."
**Pizza Friday at the ELC:**

ELC will offer the option of pizza, water, fruit/veggie, and goldfish on Fridays. The cost will be $5.00 (cash only, exact change preferred, or see the office/front desk during the first week of the month to pay ahead for one month for $20) per child with each child receiving 2 pieces of pizza, a veggie/fruit side, and water. The procedure will be as follows: On Friday morning please check off your child’s name as “paid” in the lunch column of the classroom sign in sheet. This is very important so we order the correct amount of food! If your child is marked “paid” the classroom teacher will know that they will be participating in the Pizza Friday lunch and they will be counted in the lunch order. Put the $5.00 (or your paid ahead ticket with your child’s name inside of the envelope on the classroom clipboard).

**Secret Facebook Page:**

Join Us on Facebook! Stay in the loop and get reminders for the ELC and join our “secret” Facebook page. To join please email Patty Cummings at pcummings@ssymca.org and she will invite you to join. Be sure to give Patty the email address you have linked with your Facebook account. You will be emailed a link to follow in order to join. You cannot join by searching for the page.
**ELC Picture Day with Guidepost Studios:**
Kate from Guidepost Studios will be back once again to take our school pictures. Picture days will be September 26th and September 27th. We will be sending out a schedule of picture day as well as permission form soon.

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**Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming Important Dates at the ELC:**

1. Coffee and Conversation Wednesday, September 18th 7:30am-8:30am
2. ELC Picture Day with Guidepost Studios Thursday, September 26th and Friday, September 27th (schedule and permission forms to follow)
3. ELC Professional Day- Closed Monday, October 14th
4. First Family Advisory Council Meeting Wednesday, October 9th at 5:00-6:00
5. Back to School Nights (Adults Only) Wednesday, October 16th Thursday, October 17th

**Important Points of Interest:**
*Please contact Maureen if you would like to join our Family Advisory Council. This council is instrumental in helping to guide our decisions regarding our Early Learning Center programming. Our first meeting will
be held on Wednesday, October 9th, and meets the second Wednesday of every month from 5:00-6:00pm.

*All questions regarding billing should be directed to lfournier@ssymca.org or 781-264-9444.

*Aquatic Safety Sessions will begin September 24th. Please look for swim information and permission slips to come home in the coming weeks.

*Please label all items with children’s first and last names. This helps us be able to return lost items quickly.

*There are still spaces in our Fee Based Gymnastics sessions if you are interested.

**SSYMCA Family Farm:**
Stop by the Farm on Saturday September 21st at 1:00pm to meet Farm Director Nina Rowgosky and let your children show you around the Farm and what they love about visiting out there.