



December 2015

KIDS' CLUB

Newsletter

December Calendar

- 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools
- 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools
- 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools
- 23 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools. Payments and any schedule changes for January must be submitted by 12/23/15. Drop-In sign-up for January opens at 1:00 PM 12/28/15.
- 24 & 25 KIDS' CLUB IS CLOSED for the Christmas holiday.
- 28-31 December Vacation: KIDS' CLUB is open 7:00 AM-6:00 PM vacation week. Children should bring a lunch and a beverage each day. Breakfast is available until 8:30 AM and snack will be provided at 3:00 PM each day.

January Calendar

- 1 KIDS' CLUB is closed New Year's Day.
- 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools
- 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools
- 15 No-School Teacher Workshop Day - KIDS' CLUB open 7:00 AM - 6:00 PM. All children must bring a lunch and a beverage. Snack will be provided.
- 18 KIDS' CLUB IS CLOSED for MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY.
- 20 $\frac{3}{4}$ Day for all public schools

- 25 Payments and any schedule changes for February must be submitted by today. Drop-In sign-up for February opens at 1:00 PM 1/26/16.
- 27 ¾ Day for all public schools

WHAT’S HAPPENING DURING DECEMBER VACATION WEEK?

There is still room in our upcoming vacation week program. The more the merrier!! Please contact the KIDS’ CLUB office to sign up. Some of this week’s activities will be.....

Monday - 3-5 will be handcrafting fleece pillows today! K-2 will be playing Universal Dodgeball and we’ll also be creating assorted holiday crafts including *Paper Penguins!*

Tuesday - Pajamas and Pancakes Day: Wear your pajamas today. Really! (Send along a change of clothes for your child if you wish.) Join us for a pancake breakfast UNTIL 8:30! Requested movie for 3-5 is “A Muppet Christmas” (Rated PG) 3-5 will also make *Eskimo Snowball Cookies*. K-2 will be viewing “The Snowman” movie (Rated G) and playing *Snowman-in-the-Middle*. We’ll also play (our favorite) parachute games!

Wednesday - *Rainbow Glitter Slime* will be one of our Science/Craft activities in K-2 today. 3-5 will be creating mint shapes and making playdough (We love getting our hands dirty!). We’ll also bake *English Muffin Pizzas*.

Thursday - We’re celebrating the New Year! Let’s make 2016 glitter necklaces and play *Guardian of the Pin*. Later, we’ll have *Scooter Races!*

Friday - KIDS’ CLUB IS CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR’S DAY

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PLEASE STOP BY OUR GROWING LOST AND FOUND TO SEARCH FOR ITEMS YOUR CHILD MAY HAVE LEFT BEHIND! KIDS’ CLUB periodically donates unclaimed LOST AND FOUND items to needy causes.

KIDS' CLUB



Winter Policy Reminders

DELAYED OPENING OF SCHOOL: If there is a delayed opening of the schools, the KIDS' CLUB Before School program will open as follows:

1 hour delayed opening of school – KIDS' CLUB opens at 8:00 AM.
90 minute or 2-hour delay - KIDS' CLUB will open at 8:30 AM.

Drop-In space may be available. Families must call the morning of for availability. There are no refunds for Scheduled Care or Drop-In Care for absences on these days.

SNOW DAYS: When the Bedford Public Schools are closed due to snow **KIDS' CLUB will be closed** as well. If your child is scheduled for care on such a day, you will receive a credit on the following month's tuition bill.

EARLY CLOSING OF SCHOOL: When schools are dismissed early due to weather, KIDS' CLUB will inform parents, via e-mail and phone calls, of any changes in our normal schedule. In addition, any such change will be put on our outgoing phone message on 781-275-5427. Factors in making this decision include maintaining legal staff/child ratios and keeping staff and families safe when commuting to and from KIDS' CLUB. There are no refunds for Scheduled Care or Drop-In Care on these days.

CHILLY WEATHER IS UPON US!

Outdoor play is extremely beneficial for growing children and we provide the opportunity for your children to be outside daily, even during the winter months. Mittens, hats, snow pants, and boots that will keep the children warm and dry are essential for outdoor play. Often we find that children arrive without the **outdoor clothing and well fitting boots** necessary to spend important, healthful play time outside. KIDS' CLUB has a very limited amount of used clothing items for the children to borrow and these items are quickly loaned out most days. As a result, many children must go without. Also, we strongly urge our families to send along an extra change of clothing for their child, including socks and underwear, to be stored in their cubby "just in case". As always, be sure to **label your child's items** for easy identification as they sometimes become misplaced.

A CHILDREN'S CELLPHONE POLICY REMINDER

The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care is urging each child care program to enforce a policy to address the use of cell phones by children during program hours. Please familiarize your family with our policy below. Feel free to contact the KIDS' CLUB office with any questions.

Children's Cell Phone Policy:

For reasons of privacy and for the safety of all attending KIDS' CLUB, the use of personal cell phones by children, including text messaging, camera features and any other visual or audio recording device is not allowed at KIDS' CLUB. Children who bring cell phones to KIDS' CLUB are expected to store them in a backpack, book bag, or cubby. If a child wishes to call their parent from their cell phone, they must do so with staff permission and from the main office. Children who do not adhere to this policy will have their cell phone confiscated by the KIDS' CLUB staff to be returned to a parent upon their arrival at the end of the day. Parents needing to speak to their child(ren) during KIDS' CLUB operational hours are asked to call the office at (781) 275-5427 and they will be put in touch with their child. As always, any child that wishes to speak to his/her parent is welcome to ask permission from a staff member who will see that they are allowed to call their parent.



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A GENTLE REMINDER TO KIDS' CLUB FAMILIES



Informing your child's school of a change in your child's dismissal routine should be followed up with a call to KIDS' CLUB. The public schools do not contact KIDS' CLUB with such information and your call to KIDS' CLUB, before the children arrive by bus, is required in order to avoid a \$5.00 No-Call fee.

KIDS' CLUB COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

KIDS' CLUB will continue to accept items for the *Town of Bedford Food Pantry* in an effort to help replenish their supply for the holidays. Currently being requested are large bars of soap, large tubes of tooth paste, toothbrushes, and large bottles of shampoo.

KIDS' CLUB will also be collecting donations for the *Billerica Cat Coalition* during the next few months. Cat food, gently used towels, cat toys, and the like can be given to Ms. Charlotte or put in the "Kitty Basket" on the foyer table. Thanks to all those who contribute to this worthy cause. The children are learning so much from these projects. Thank you for your kind donations!



A HOLIDAY THANK YOU

So many of our families and friends have generously provided donations of all kinds during recent months. As a self-supporting program, operating in the currently challenging economic environment, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of those who have contributed to KIDS' CLUB.



KIDS' CLUB WISHES
ALL A SAFE AND HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON !!!

