

CITY OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS



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EARLY LEARNING CENTER

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Dear parents and guardians of the ELC,

I can't believe that the summer is over and we are back in school. Welcome back, and for our new families, welcome to the family!! We are so excited for the new school year and looking forward to exciting things. We have had a couple of changes while you have been gone. We have changed some of the curriculum to match the changing needs of our students and the new recommendations that have come our way through various sources. Training took place last year to prepare for these changes. By the time our students are 5 years old we don't want them napping as they are now prepared to go to Kindergarten. For any students that don't nap or for those that do we are weaning off napping we will have various options for them. Such as quiet time, time for interventions for students that need extra help acquiring the foundations they need for Kindergarten, quiet play time, etc. We have also moved the start time for some of our classrooms. We have added some new positions and welcomed new staff.

We know you will have a wonderful year and please know that I/we are here for you if you need anything! The year will only be amazing with your help. Please consider joining the PTO as we always need help as this is a vital group to help with fundraising and providing fun activities during and after school hours for family activities. If you are interested please see me!

The parking lot situation has become very difficult as we are now at almost 400 students by the end of the school year. We are instituting new protocols for drop off and pick up. Please be considerate in the parking lot.

- As you will see we have a new parking lot monitor to help make sure that we can get emergency vehicles into our lot.
- You will not be able to "block" the parking lot.
- Please do NOT block open parking spaces, do NOT park in the handicap spaces, or block the dumpster.

- We also do NOT let you park in open parking spaces. These are for our staff. If the staff can't park and get in the building then no one is here to receive your child. This is very important. This is always the hardest part of the ELC.

- If you could park out on the side streets we would be grateful!! For drop off and pick up you can park on streets that are for resident only parking only between the hours of 7:30 – 8:30 and 1:30 and 2:30 and will not be ticketed. If you leave your car there you will be ticketed after 8:30 or after 2:30.

Also, please wait in the foyers at drop off and pick up. You can then go stand outside the classroom 5 minutes before the class begins or ends. You also must exit the building immediately after dropping your child off.

This is very important to us and for the safety of all. The boy's and girl's bathrooms are for the students to use with their classrooms only. If you, or your child, need to use the restroom before school they are available on the first floor near the gymnasium.

I have included the September Calendar of important dates and events for you to help plan. I will do this each month as we move through the school year. We hope you like what we have put together for you for the year.

We have or will have installed state of the art J-Touches in every classroom by October of this year. This is a very important learning tool for your child especially if they are visual learners. Please know they are not playing video games with this device or with the chrome books or iPads we have. These are used only for educational reasons. In the student handbook it has a space for giving permission to use electronic devices. Please make sure to give permission or your child will not be able access our curriculum to the full extent possible and impact her/his learning!

I wish you all a great school year and look forward to greeting you all at the door in the morning. Sometimes in a crazy hat or tie! ☺

Have fun,

Peter Dolan

Peter Dolan

Principal