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**January 2015**

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Hinsdale Community Preschool



A Parent CO-OP School Since  
1942



**THE  
CIRCLE  
TIMES**

## Director's News



Welcome 2015!!! I hope you all have had a wonderful start to the New Year and are feeling refreshed and ready for the next half of our school year!

December 2014 was a very busy month for our children and staff! In the classroom we all enjoyed hearing about the different family celebrations and traditions our families celebrate. We truly loved singing for our parents, grandparents and friends at our holiday sing-a-long! We collected pajamas for the Hinsdale Junior Women's Club which benefited so many children and we collected 144 non-perishable items for the Hinsdale Community Services. Thank you to all who donated to these wonderful organizations.

The first half of our school year has brought us together as a school, community and classroom family. We have created new friendships and acquired many new skills. We danced, sang wonderful songs and enjoyed the warm and inviting environment the teachers set forth each and every day. As we move into the second half of the school year we continue to enjoy watching your children blossom, grow and solidify the new skills they are learning as well as nurture those wonderful friendships.

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## Important Dates

Jan 5 – Open Registration  
begins 9:00am

Jan 9 – Classroom Work  
Party- evening

Jan 10 – Classroom Work  
Party 9:00am – 3:00pm

Jan 19 - NO SCHOOL – Martin  
Luther King, Jr. Day

Pajama Week : January 26<sup>th</sup>

### Parent & Me:

Monday, January 26

**Senior, Junior & Jr/Sr**

**PM:** Thursday, January 29

**Just for Me:** January

30

Feb 5 – Winter Board  
Meeting, 7:00pm – Blue  
Room - All Parents Welcome!

Feb 5 - Parent Education – **All  
I Need to Know Before My  
Child Starts Kindergarten**

**A Kindergarten Parent  
Panel-** HCP Blue Room,  
8:00pm

Feb 16- NO SCHOOL –  
Presidents' Day

Feb 23-Final Enrichment  
Tuition Payment Due

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We have many events happening within the next couple of weeks here at HCP. Registration for prospective families has begun. As I welcome prospective parents into our school, I am very proud to present our classrooms, our philosophy, our highly educated staff and our wonderful sense of community to them. It is my hope that they will find HCP a warm and inviting home for themselves and their children. Giving tours and educating families about our school is one of my favorite parts of my job as a Director. We have so much to offer and I love showing off our school!

As you and your child or children transition back into the classroom from our holiday break, please remember that your child may have a bit of separation anxiety. This is a normal reaction for a child after a long break from preschool. It is helpful to stick to routines and get a good night's sleep for both children and parents!!!

May 2015 bring good health and lots of time to play to our HCP families! Happy New Year!

*"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year."* Ralph Waldo Emerson

~ Ms. Ann Marie

## Thank You!



Many thanks for such a successful food pantry collection!!

Our 2014 holiday sing-a-long was a wonderful celebration!!! Thank you all for your donation to the food pantry! Our families collected over 144 food items that were donated to the Hinsdale Community Service Food Pantry!

## Parent Education Event: *All I Need to Know Before my Child Starts Kindergarten*



**February 5, 2015  
8:00pm – HCP Blue Room**

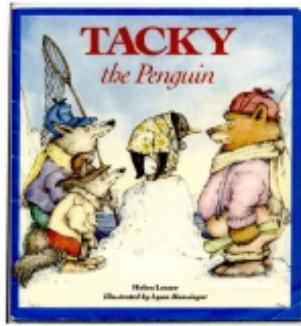
Mark your calendars for an interactive Parent Ed. Event to be held on Feb. 5th at HCP. This parent education event will highlight a panel of HCP parents who have children who have completed kindergarten. They will be here at HCP, at your disposal, to answer any questions you might have about getting your child ready for kindergarten, from a parent's perspective. The presentation is open to all families, as our goal in bringing our children to preschool is to prepare them to succeed and thrive in elementary school.

You can never be too prepared for such an endeavor! A survey will go out to all families prior to the event to gather questions for the panel. Please join us at HCP on **February 5th at 8:00pm in the Blue room** for the Kindergarten Readiness Parent Panel. Please RSVP to Rosemarie Gianni at [rmspeech@yahoo.com](mailto:rmspeech@yahoo.com) or Ms. Ann Marie at [directorhcp@aol.com](mailto:directorhcp@aol.com)

***Empower your child by giving him/  
her a choice  
and a chance. Let them learn to make  
their own decisions, when  
appropriate,  
and learn to trust their feelings***

## Great Books!

This is a BookWorm  
Enrichment Class  
favorite!!



Tacky the Penguin by Helen Lester  
Tacky the adorable penguin who is the star of this book marches to the beat of his own drum. He lives with a group of proper penguins, Goodly, Lovely, Angel, Neatly and Perfect. Although they put up with Tacky's antics, they think that he is a very silly penguin. Until one day when hunters are determined to catch penguins to get rich, it is Tacky who saves the day with his very un-penguin tricks. This fun loving tale proves that being a unique individual is indeed a gift. Wonderful, fun illustrations depict the emotion in the character's expressions beautifully! Helen Lester continues the fun with more Tacky books in this series. Check out the rest of the Tacky the Penguin series at [www.HelenLester.com](http://www.HelenLester.com).

*Ann Marie Berlino*



## Mother Goose and Friends! *Save the Date*

All HCP families are invited to register for "Mother Goose and Friends" **Sunday, April 26 at 2:00 at the Hinsdale Community Library.**

HCP and the Hinsdale Community Library have come together to welcome storyteller Mary Jane Haley as "Mother Goose" and her interactive puppet friends for an hour of nursery rhyme fun!

This is a wonderful opportunity for our young children and their families to celebrate April's National poetry month and embrace the classic rhymes that have been in our hearts and schools for years.

Attendance is free. Please register to attend through the Hinsdale Community Library, as spaces will be limited."

## HCP Sweetheart Night



**February 12, 2015 – SAVE the DATE**  
**6-7: 15 pm-**

Drop off your child for a fun night of baking in their pajamas! The children and teachers will bake, read a story and enjoy warm cookies and milk. Don't let your child miss this experience! There are only 4 spots left. Please email Ms. Ann Marie if you would like to reserve a spot. Cost is \$25.

## Board News



### Reminder:

*February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm will be the next Parent Board meeting. All board members are expected to attend and parents are highly encouraged to attend.*

**We need you!!** I hope you had an enjoyable holiday break with your families. It was wonderful to have the kids home but after a nice 2 week break, we're excited to head back to school.

I would like to thank those parents that have expressed interest in volunteering for next year's parent board; it is greatly appreciated, though we are still in need of some additional volunteers. Many of our experienced board member's youngest children will be moving on to kindergarten next year and I would like the knowledge that these member's possess shared with the incoming volunteers before the official spring vote at the parent's board meeting. Having volunteers early helps to ensure a smooth transition and will provide some hands on training to next year's board while the current board is still here at HCP.

I am asking that you consider your volunteer commitment for next year. If you are interested in serving on next year's Parent Board or would like to continue in the position that you currently hold, please contact me at [alinemcgivern@hotmail.com](mailto:alinemcgivern@hotmail.com) or Ann Marie at [directorhcp@aol.com](mailto:directorhcp@aol.com). Either of us would be more than happy to discuss any of the positions that are available next year. Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and I hope that you have a wonderful second half of the school year!

Also we have been advised that Mark Oliverio, our current Vice President, and his family are leaving HCP due to a relocation. Mark and Liz have been very active members of HCP and will be missed. We truly appreciate all of the time and service they both have put into HCP over the years. We wish them the best of luck with their new move. **Aline McGivern, President**

## REGISTRATION NEWS!!



**OPEN REGISTRATION began January 5<sup>th</sup>!** Please share this date with friends and family looking for a preschool for next year. The closest to the January 5<sup>th</sup> date they submit their paperwork and fees the better chance they will get in securing their child a spot for next year. If you know someone who would like more information about HCP, please forward them my email address...

[Annamarie.pionke@gmail.com](mailto:Annamarie.pionke@gmail.com) or Ann Marie, our director... [directorhcp@aol.com](mailto:directorhcp@aol.com).

## Ask the Director!



### “Just Playing”

~Unknown Author

When I’m building in the block room,  
Please don’t say I’m “Just Playing.”  
For you see, I’m learning as I play,  
About balance, I may be an architect someday.

When I’m getting all dressed up,  
Setting the table, caring for the babies,  
Don’t get the idea that I’m “Just Playing.”  
I may be a mother or father someday.

When you see me up to my elbows in paint,  
Or standing at an easel, or molding and h aping  
clay,  
Please don’t let me hear you say “He is just  
playing”.  
For you see, I’m learning as I play.  
I just might be a teacher someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle or  
Some “playing” at my school,  
Please don’t feel the time is wasted in “play”  
For you see, I’m learning as I play!  
For you see, I’m learning as I play!  
I’m learning to solve problems and concentrate  
I may be in business someday.

When you see me cooking or tasting foods,  
Please don’t think that just because I enjoy it,  
It is “Just Play”.  
I’m learning to follow directions and see the  
differences.  
I may be a cook someday.



When you see me learning to skip, hop,  
run, and move my body,  
Please don’t say I’m “Just Playing.”  
For you see, I’m learning as I play.  
I’m learning how my body works.  
I may be a doctor, nurse, or athlete  
someday.

When you ask me what I’ve done at  
school today,  
And I say, “I just played.”  
Please don’t misunderstand me.  
For you see, I’m learning as I play.  
I’m learning to enjoy and be successful in  
my work.  
I’m preparing for tomorrow.  
Today, I am a child, and my work is play!

- Ms. Ann Marie