

Lake Harriet Upper Campus

November 2015

An accredited program by the MN Afterschool Accreditation Project



Minneapolis Kids

Minneapolis Community Education

HTTP://MPLSKIDS.MPLS.K12.MN.US

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Afternoon: Anita, Terry, Beau
Parent Advisory Council Rep: Rhonda Geere (Jonas' mom)

Kendama Craze Hits LHU!



Typically we don't encourage playing with pointed sticks and flinging solid wooden spheres, much less allow kids to bring toys from home. HOWEVER....we have discovered a great exception!

We started with two kendamas at Mpls Kids last year and there was little interest from the kids. Then this spring a few middle schoolers started bouncing the toy around during school and by this fall we swear half the school is playing with kendamas. We added four more to our collection and it's one of the most popular things to do in our program.

Many cautiously start trying ours and soon are scheming to figure out a way to get their own so they can play at home. It's a popular item during breakfast, lunch and recess too.



Kendama is a game of strategy and focus for ages 9+. It's been great fun watching the kids learn new tricks and how determined they are to master them. And then to see them turn around and teach their friends or offer encouragement brings learning full circle. If you have an aspiring or avid player, check out Sweets Ken Club on Saturdays 3-5pm in Bloomington. A team of 5 high schoolers lead the club and one is a former LHU Mpls Kids guy—Finn L!

Kids Against Bullying

You are braver, stronger and smarter than you think! October was National Bullying Prevention Month. Bullying is about behavior, and behavior can change. Please remind your child to treat everyone with respect. We want LHU to be a safe place for all.

The Pacer Center website (www.pacer.org) is THE resource to consult first when you want more info. Bullying behaviors can be more complex and varied than historical stereotypes including physical, verbal, emotional, and cyberbullying.

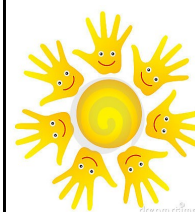
It's bullying if:

- A person hurts or harms another with words or behavior.
- It is being done on purpose.
- The person being hurt has a hard time making it stop.
- The ones who are doing it have more power. "Power" can mean the one bullying is older, bigger or stronger, more popular, or there's a group who "gang up" on someone.

We encourage everyone to **speak up** when they see bullying, **reach out** to others who are bullied, and **be a friend** whenever they see bullying.
- Info from pacer.org

Monday, Dec 7

Online registration opens for the Non School Days in January—April. Both younger and older kids are at LOWER Campus for all non school days.



Thank You!

- ◇ **Sweets Kendama** for donating extra strings and a tour of their Bloomington facility.
- ◇ **Coconut Thai** (50th & France) for donating lots of yummy fried rice for our World Food Day tasting event on October 13.
- ◇ **Greta & Isaac and Dora & Lewis** for donating extra supplies from their home art closets.

Kids Welcome:

Before School 6:30-9:30 am
After School 4:10-6:00 pm
Non-School Days at LHL
6:30 am-6:00 pm

Happy November Birthdays!

3—Ellie D	22—Elsie S
6—Mitchell P	23—Henry G
10—Keira M	26—Al K
13—Julia M	30—Hank G
14—Landon M	

We are CLOSED:

Thurs & Fri, Nov 26 & 27
for Thanksgiving



MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
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Morning Families

Kid Leaders—Our thanks to **Nolan A!** He suggested a baseball tourney and took the lead on it. If your child has an idea of a project or game to do and/or lead, let us know and we will add it to the calendar!

Outside Play—The temperature is dipping a bit and a few crazy kids are looking forward to snow. ☺

Please give an extra push to wear a warm coat. When the snow does start flying, encourage a hat, **waterproof** mittens, boots, and snow pants if s/he likes to be one with the snow. It makes outside time more enjoyable. Plus then they are ready for recess when all are required to go

outside after lunch.

Washburn Entry—Students without an adult escort (not in Mpls Kids) must remain outside the building until the first bell rings at 9:25. Those who want breakfast are allowed in early at 9:20, but must remain in the cafeteria.

As the weather turns colder you will see more and more kids in the Washburn entry (door #7). They must keep the area between the two marked doors free of bodies and backpacks to allow our families and other adults to easily enter and exit the building. We monitor it closely, but if you find the doorway not free, please let a staff know so we can fix it. Thanks.



Afternoon Families

If your child will **NOT be attending after** school as scheduled, please give us a call at **612-919-2004** or **send an email to Anita** by 3pm.

here thus freeing up time at home.

Some families may want a firmer commitment to get work done here. For those that do, we offer a Homework Aces contract. It's an agreement between parent and child to do homework (or reading if no homework that day) for a specific amount of time (10, 15, 20, 25, 30 minutes) on set days. Once the contract is signed by both parent and child and turned in, we do our part by strongly encouraging the child to honor the contract. Only a parent may change the contract terms.

Closing Time—Thanks for honoring our 6pm closing time. We really appreciate it!

Homework—There have been a few questions about homework time. Kids are able to do their homework here in the morning and afternoon, yet it is optional. Many have discovered on their own the advantages of doing it



Non School Day Families

Monday, December 7
Registration opens for January—April!

Reminders:

- MUST be **pre-registered**. Sorry, no drop-ins are allowed.
- We are at **LOWER** Campus.
- Please use Door #3 on Drew Ave.
- Bring a **lunch + drink** every day. Make it **disposable** for FT days to give your child the freedom to enjoy the rest of the trip without having to remember where his/her lunchbox was last seen.
- Send outdoor gear
- Arrive at least **30 minutes prior** to departure time for field trips to allow us time to take a final attendance, get kids into groups, review expectations
- Contact the main office with scheduling questions
- Activity Calendar — on website. Ask us for a hard copy. It is a handy reference to post inside your cupboard or on your frig.

Upcoming Non School Days

Wed, Nov 25 9:30am—12:30pm
FT—Children's Theatre
"The Jungle Book"
We eat lunch when we return.

Thurs—Fri, Nov 26—27—CLOSED

Winter Break

Mon—Wed, Dec 21—23
Thurs—Fri, Dec 24—25—CLOSED

Mon—Wed, Dec 28—30
Thurs—Fri, Dec 31—Jan 1—CLOSED

Our Mission: To provide high quality school age child care for families. We offer a safe, nurturing, educational and recreational experience where children are encouraged to pursue interests and develop friendships, independence, and confidence.