



**Minneapolis Kids**

Minneapolis Community Education



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# The Wenonah Review

December 2016

## Winter is Coming

Hello all! Warm greetings from the Wenonah staff as we enter into the darkest month of the year! We hope you had a cozy November--we sure did: we spent the month making miniature pies, and rice Krispie pumpkins, we had a pajama party at Northrop, and we made paper snowflakes while the first snows fell.

True, it's been a warmer than usual November-- and we've been taking advantage of that fact-- but Winter is Still Coming, so we have some advice and information to keep your loved ones warm and dry as the thermometer

dips lower.

You may have noticed-- having perhaps glanced at the December Calendar-- that we only have two weeks of school this month: yes, Winter Break spans two entire weeks of December and a day in January. Minneapolis Kids offers all day childcare during most of Winter Break-- details and dates will be found on page 2.

Lastly, soon we will be changing the staff board to a family board. You families are amazing, and we want to show everyone

how Wenonah and Minneapolis Kids is about more than just us staff and kids: it's about all of you as well-- families of all sizes and formations. If you would like your family photo posted, please bring in a picture of whatever group of people you consider your family; we will post ours as well (sometimes kids don't believe us when we say we have families too).



## Gearing up for Snow

We confess that, at the time of writing this, there is no snow on the ground, and it seems hard to believe that within just a week or two there could be a thick blanket of snow covering Minneapolis. That said, winter always comes sooner or later, so here are some things to keep in mind when the snow piles 'round.

- Minneapolis Kids offers outside play every day unless the temperature outside goes below 0° F with wind chill considered. Please send your child with appropriate outdoor clothing-- coats, hats, gloves, and boots. Snowpants are required if they want to play in the snow.
- If school closes due to snow or cold, Minneapolis Kids closes as well.
- We find it helpful for both students and staff if children's gear is labeled with their name or initials.
- Have your child carry their snow gear in a durable, reusable bag.
- If you have a Kindergartener: practice getting snow-ready at home so they know what their stuff looks like and what order to put it on. We can assist them in getting geared up but there are many more of them than there are of us!



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## Winter Break!

All non-school days will be held at Northrop Elementary. We open our doors at 6:30am and close at 6:00pm. Please enter through door #13 on the North side of the building. Please send a lunch and drink every day unless noted otherwise- no refrigeration available. We will likely go outside, so please send along weather appropriate clothing. On field trip days please bring your kids in at least 30 minutes before departure time to allow staff time to take attendance, go over expectations, and divide into groups if needed. Behavior expectations at Northrop are the same as at Wenonah: Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Safe.

### December Non-School Days

#### Week 1

Monday Dec 19<sup>th</sup>: **On-Site** “Snowtastic”

Tuesday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>: **Field Trip** Old Log Theatre “Reluctant Dragon”

Wednesday Dec 21<sup>st</sup>: **On-Site** visit from In the Heart of the Beast Theatre

Thursday Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>: **Field Trip** Bowling and Pizza at Park Tavern – *No Lunch Needed*

Friday Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>: Holiday –Minneapolis Kids CLOSED

#### Week 2

Monday Dec 26<sup>th</sup>: Holiday- Minneapolis Kids CLOSED

Tuesday Dec 27<sup>th</sup>: **On-Site** Toy from Home Day

Wednesday Dec 28<sup>th</sup>: **Field Trip** The Works

Thursday Dec 29<sup>th</sup>: **On-Site** New Year Party!

Friday Dec 30<sup>th</sup>: Holiday- Minneapolis Kids CLOSED

Monday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>: Holiday- Minneapolis Kids CLOSED

## School Expectations—3 B’s

You may have seen or heard reference to Wenonah’s 3 B’s of good behavior. These are three easy principles we share with the main school of Wenonah upon which we base our behavioral expectations.

The three B’s are:

**Be** Respectful

**Be** Safe

and

**Be** Responsible

Though simple and short, we apply these expectations to every setting and situation equally, from bathroom etiquette to kickball games.

If we encounter behavior counter to these simple expectations, our staff will redirect behavior and attempt to focus on more prosocial behavior. If disrespectful, unsafe, or irresponsible behavior develops into an unhealthy pattern, Jake, the child, and the parents will meet to discuss plans to set the student up for success. Continued behavior disruptions after such meetings will be followed as outlined by the Parent Handbook; Minneapolis Kids follows the MPS discipline policy.

## Thank you!

Our staff would like to thank the Wenonah parents for letting us know when your child(ren) will not be attending in the afternoon! Please continue to keep us in the loop; if your schedule changes, if you’re coming in late– anything out of the ordinary. Also please remember– information shared with us is not automatically shared with teachers and vice versa– if there’s something you want school staff and Minneapolis Kids staff to know, please contact both of us at our respective points of communication.



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.