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Happy Holidays from Spuyten Duyvil Preschool

Dear Parents and Friends:

As we move through the 85th year of Spuyten Duyvil we wanted to share with you some of the exciting things happening at our special little school behind the blue door.

How We've Grown: Expanded Curriculum

In addition to the fully rounded, active program provided in the classrooms each day, we have expanded our curriculum to include two more activities to enrich your child's well-balanced preschool experience:

Show your support for our Capital Campaign or for one of our many enriching programs.



or send a check directly to the school.

Remember we are a taxdeductible non-profit.



Music Classes

UPK classes get a 45 minute music class each week. Classes are led by an experienced early childhood teacher with a rich music background. Sessions are arranged to follow an age appropriate curriculum that emphasizes children's natural rhythm and love of music to form a strong foundation of music concepts. Meeting in our new Studio, music teacher Janet Winston adds group movement to further enhance the musical experience for each child.

Chess

All children receive weekly class in playing chess. Spuyten Duyvil works with a unique program developed by Chess@3. Children work with instructor Harlan Alford in half-class groups for a half hour each. Classroom teachers are playing and learning alongside the children.

The big capital improvement this past summer was the transformation of a dark storage room into a warm, cheery Studio. This multi-purpose space has greatly extended not only the variety of activities we can offer our children, but raised the quality of the work by providing a dedicated, focused space.

We are so proud of what we have been able to provide our students this year and would like to add additional programs to enrich our children's educational experience at SDP. In early 2013, Emma Decaires, who helped design our back yard, will lead small groups of children in nature studies every week .



We are now ready to turn our attention to a complete renovation of the front yard. Along with a need to replace 100-year old steps, we are looking to expand this unique piece of land as a gardening and farming environment. Emma is already at work on these plans, while a committee of parents starts the search for funding.



To continue to provide the best possible place for our children to grow, and thrive, we need your support. If your child is at Spuyten Duyvil now, you know how important the school is to your child's growth. If you are a former family, this letter must bring up loving memories of your time here. Together we can make sure these opportunities to learn are there for many more future children for many more years. Please show your commitment to these wonderful programs and make a donation today. Every bit helps and every donation is appreciated.

Best wishes for a happy holiday season and a healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Judi Menken

Francesca M. Weiss

Judith Menken Spuyten Duyvil Preschool School Director

Francesca Michaelides Weiss Chair, SDP Bd. of Directors