

From The Director's Desk

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! We're off to a good start in the new year. The children have adjusted to being back to school after the holiday break and are enjoying all the new works on the shelves.

Re-enrollment--In January we start the enrollment process for our registered students. As in the past few years, re-enrollment will begin after our **parent meeting scheduled for this Thursday, January 14th, at 7PM.** This is a **very important meeting.** We ask one parent from each family to attend. At this meeting we will review our present year, discuss Deer Path's future plans and explain the need for a tuition increase. Re-enrollment packets will be handed out at the end of the evening. The re-enrollment process will continue until **January 30th.** At that time we will open enrollment to the general public.

Kindergarten News--Last week our prospective kindergartners visited the kindergarten class. Each child spent an hour in the class with a present kindergartner as a mentor. It was a very special day for both the visitors and the hosts. It was also very informative since, as a result of this visit, both parent and child know more about the kindergarten program. Unfortunately, the information night for the parents had to be cancelled due to too many conflicts with schedules and therefore, an anticipated low attendance. Written information will be sent to prospective kindergarten parents through the school mail. Please call the school to speak to Mrs. Senadira or Mrs. Vlossak with any remaining questions. I am very proud of our kindergarten program. It is truly the culmination of all that we do to prepare the children for their future education.

Annual Fund-- For those of you who are new to private school education, it may be a surprise as to how often you are asked to participate in a fundraiser, give a donation or volunteer your services. Supplementing our tuition income is one of the most challenging jobs I have as the administrator of Deer Path and one of the most necessary. In November you were asked to make a donation to our Annual Fund. We're off to a good start with this campaign. Our goal is to have 100% participation and to date, 28 out of 67 families have donated. Thanks to all of you. Please consider giving to make this campaign successful--no amount is too small. All of the money received directly benefits the children of Deer Path.

Father's Reading Week--This year January 25th to January 29th is Father's Reading Week. We invite fathers to schedule appointments to read a book to their child's class. In the past this has always been a popular event. The children love having fathers in the building and the fathers enjoy spending time in the classroom with the children. So fathers, please check your schedules and call the office for an appointment.

Open House--On Saturday, January 30, we will have an open house from 10:00 to 12:00. You will receive a post card to give out. You can offer it to a friend or leave at a business where families with young children frequent. Please also invite neighbors and friends who may be interested in our school to visit.

Remember, we have a referral program. If a family you referred enrolls their child, you receive credit towards your next year's tuition.

Silent Auction--Over the next few months, each class will create an art project with the help of some of our parents. These works of art will then be auctioned off at a silent auction during conference days. Information about the auction will be sent home prior to the event. Please consider participating. It is a fun way to raise money for the school.

Casino Night--On March 20th, we will be hosting a Casino Night at the school. Over the past few years, this has become a very popular event. Everyone who attended last year agreed that it was a fun night! You will be receiving information in coming weeks. In the meantime, please mark your calendars.

For Grandparents--Now that the time is here to update your calendar for 2010, please be sure to mark March 19th as Grandparents Day at Deer Path. You are invited to an open house at the school from 10:00 to 11:30. At that time you will have an opportunity to visit your grandchild's classroom as well as a chance to meet staff, enjoy some refreshments and be entertained by the beautiful voices of our children. Since it has been so well received in the past, this event has become an annual one at Deer Path. Please consider attending the Casino Night the following evening. It is run by a professional organization and you will have a chance to win prizes as well as help Deer Path raise money for the school. Hope to see you on both occasions.