



Children First!



Nokomis Montessori Magnet School Newsletter

Dear Families, January 2017

Saint Paul Public Schools planned a **PreK and Kindergarten School Choice Fair** on **Saturday, January 7 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** at **Washington Technology Magnet School.**

Would you like to send a sibling to Nokomis for the 2017-2018 school year?

Applications will be available online at **apply.spps.org** or in the school office starting in January 2017. Priority is given to siblings and on-time applications of St. Paul residents. **Pre-K - Grade 12 application deadline is February 15, 2017.** Important reminders:

- **Students attend North campus** if they live in **Area A and Area C** (East Side of 35E).
- **Students attend South campus** if they live in **Area B.**
- Our **current students do not need to reapply** for Nokomis Montessori
- **PreK students must be age 4 by September 1, 2017.** There is no early admit process for PreK.
- **Early Admit for Kindergarten students** is coordinated by Student Placement Center.

Our **third grade students** are going to **Minnesota Zoo.** **Thanks to Target** for funding this field trip!

Our **E2 students** will participate in a field trip to the **National Geographic Giant Map of Africa** exhibit and learning activities at **Washington Technology Secondary School.** Parents are welcome to participate in this field trip. Bus transportation provided by Washington Technology Magnet School.

Our E2 students and teachers will go to **Parkway Montessori and Community Middle School** on **Tuesday, January 31, 2017.** Students will experience learning activities in classrooms at Parkway. It will be an opportunity to learn about Parkway as it is our Montessori pathway in Saint Paul Public Schools. Parents are welcome to participate in this field trip. Bus transportation provided by Parkway.

After the winter break students may wish to bring items to school to show their friends. While we understand that children like to share their favorite items with one another, I must emphasize that bringing these items to school may have serious consequences as outlined in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. This includes toys that look like weapons. **Please remember to check your child's backpack daily to ensure that dangerous items, toys and non-educational items are left at home.** Thank you for your help.

Join us for our **Martin Luther King Assembly** scheduled on **Friday, January 13** at 2:00 p.m.

All students need to dress appropriately for our Minnesota weather as we go outside for recess daily. Students stay inside if the temperature or wind-chill is below zero. Please have your children wear warm clothing including hats, mittens, snow-pants and boots.

Enjoy your winter break with your family!
Students return to school on Tuesday, January 3, 2017.

Melissa McCollor,
Principal

Hmong New Year & Donations from the Community

Thanks to the large crowd of families and staff members for making it a priority to participate in our meaningful Hmong New Year Celebration!

Thanks to **Bao Yang**, ELL Teacher, for gathering **generous donations from the following community members** to support our annual Hmong New Year Celebration:

- **Dr. Jer Lee**, Chiro Health Clinic, PA
- **Kace Vang**, NexVision Financial Group Inc.
- **Dr. Kou Vang**, Vang Chiropractic
- **Chue Vue**, SPPS Board Director, Vue Legal, LLC and Parent at Nokomis
- **Dr. Paokou Yang**, Foot & Ankle Medical Clinic
- **Express Urgent Care & Pain Clinic**
- **Pang Thao, Hmong Home Health Care, Inc.**
- **Red Wok Sushi**
- **Dr. Peter T Yang, Advanced Medical Clinic, Inc.**

Lego League Team at North District Tournament Saturday, January 21

Thanks to **Kelsey**, Science Teacher, for coaching our **Lego League team at North campus!** Our Nokomis Montessori North Lego League Team Tournament is **Saturday, January 21st** at Capitol Hill from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. The participants have put in a lot of work to prepare for the tournament. **Congratulations to our 4th and 5th grade students: Chloe O'Neill, Vanessa Vang, Tuav Feej Lor, Brodie Cummings, Dominic Slaughter, Grant Rouillard-Horne, Tanner Rouillard-Horne, Cynthia Dang, Adam Vangsoua, Aubrey Shelton, Oswaldo Morales Hernandez, and Stevon Stibbins.** If you are interested in robotics, the tournament is

an exciting event and open to spectators. Join us!

Student Attendance

Regular attendance is essential for school success. We are monitoring student attendance closely as required by Minnesota state law. **If your child has 3 unexcused absences or 4 unexcused tardies**, we will send home an Attendance Warning letter. If attendance problems continue, we will refer parents to Ramsey County Truancy Intervention Program. **Please ask for a note from your doctor or dentist office** so your child's attendance is recorded as excused tardy or absence.

CogAT Testing

Nokomis has a high percentage of students identified as "Gifted and Talented" using the district criteria. Our Montessori methodology supports differentiated learning for the talents and needs of all of our students. Our district Talent Development and Accelerated Services will mail CogAT7 results in mid-January 2017. If you have any questions, please call Dr. Chandra Green at 744-3943.

No School for Students

Monday, January 16 (Martin Luther King Holiday)

Friday, January 27 (Teacher Professional Development Day)

Monday, February 20 (Presidents Day)

Friday, March 3 (Conference Prep Day)

Friday, March 24 (Conference Day)

Monday, April 3 – 7 (Spring Break)

Friday, April 14 (Teacher Professional Development)

Science Fair

North: March 22 from 9:45-11:45
& 5:00-8:00 Open House
South: March 20 from 9:45-11:45
& 5:00-8:00 Open House

It's never too soon to start thinking about the science fair! It will be held on **Monday, March 20 at South campus and Wednesday, March 22 at North campus.** Students in fifth grade are required to participate in our Science Fair. It is optional for students in 1st – 4th grades to participate in Science Fair. Kelsey Rose, Science Teacher at both campuses, will send home more information with students in January. Parents, please make sure to read through the science fair packets for details on Science Fair expectations. **If you have any questions about Science Fair, please contact Kelsey Rose at 744-7463 or email kelsey.rose@spps.org.**

Kelsey completes a class Science Fair Project with our E1 and E2 students to share and model Science Fair project expectations.

Science Fair Judges needed for our annual Science Fair! If you would like to volunteer to be a Science Fair Judge from **9:30-11:45 a.m.** on Monday, March 20 at South campus or Wednesday, March 22 at North campus, please contact Kelsey Rose at kelsey.rose@spps.org or 744-7463.

Saint Paul Public Schools
PreK and Kindergarten
School Choice Fair

Saturday, January 7
9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Washington Technology Magnet
School

PreK – Grade 12
Application Deadline
February 15, 2017

apply.spps.org
or
application forms
available in the school office

**Nokomis Montessori North
Campus**

Students living in Area A & Area C (East Side of 35E) attend North campus

Join us for **Open House on Wednesday, January 25 at 10:00 a.m.** includes classroom observations **or 6:00 p.m.**

**Nokomis Montessori South
Campus**

Students living in Area B attend South Campus

Join us for **Open House on Thursday, January 26 at 2:00**

p.m. includes classroom
observations **or 6:00 p.m.**

