



## Letter From the Director

Dear Parents,

The excitement at the Co-Op is beginning to build as the anticipation for the upcoming holidays and winter break begins! This time of year signals a huge growth in the kids as well as a sense of settling in of each classroom. Each class and child is comfortable with the routine, expectations, and the fun factor.

On Tuesday, December 22, AND Wednesday, December 23, we will have our annual Holiday Concert in the Big Hall at 9:30 a.m. The children will perform a variety of holiday songs and then return to their classrooms to have a special snack with their friends. **There will be a HALF DAY for the FULL DAY CHILDREN on the 23rd.** At the conclusion of school on December 23, we will begin our winter break and school will reopen January 4, 2016. **Mrs. Rousseau's and Mrs. Harrington's class will be performing both days but will celebrate with a special snack on Wednesday!**

When we return in January, we will begin the registration process for the 2016-2017 school year. On January 4 & 5 I will be accepting registration forms. Currently enrolled children and their younger siblings have priority for next year's registration. **Please return your forms ASAP as we will open enrollment to the public February 1!**

We have been very fortunate with the weather thus far; however, it will soon be very cold, and I would like to remind you to be sure that your child comes to school with a **LABELED** hat, mittens, snow boots, snow pants, and jacket. I cannot stress enough how much we appreciate labeled clothing. It makes the teacher's and the parent helper's job much easier when trying to get the children dressed and undressed. We will go out if the temperature is 32 degrees or above.

In the event of snow, we will cancel school based upon the town of Chelmsford closings. If public school is canceled because of the weather, we will close as well. If Chelmsford has a delay, our HALF day program will cancel, but our FULL day program will follow the delay for Chelmsford. Please watch the any of the news channels carefully for Chelmsford Public's announcement.

Wishing you all a very happy and healthy holiday season!  
Suzanne Dionne  
Director

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## December and January Holiday School Closures

The Co-Op will be closed for the winter break starting December 23rd at 12pm - January 3rd. There is no full day program available on December 23rd. The school will re open on January 4th.

The Co-Op will also be closed January 18th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.



**Name Bubbles**  
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## Fundraising and Dining Dates

January 17- Bertucci's Dining Event  
February 6- Basket Raffle/Stacey Peasley Concert  
29- March 15- Mixed Bag Sale  
April 4- Papa Gino's Dining Event

## Letter From the President

Dear Parents,

I hope you have been having a wonderful school year so far. As the holidays approach, it is always so wonderful to see and hear how thoughtful our Co-op family is. I heard today that the Giving Tree is already close to being empty and I haven't even had a chance to get in yet. That is amazing. I am so proud of our community!

The events and fundraisers have been going so well and we are well on our way to getting new cubbies. I'd like to thank all of our parents, volunteers, teachers and board members for all your hard work and dedication.

I look forward to getting to seeing and meeting more of you in January. My twin girls will be starting Mrs. P's Tuesday and Thursday class.

As always, if you have any feedback, questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Happy Holidays!

Mandy Melville  
Central Co-Op Nursery School  
President, Board of Directors

## ATTENTION PARENTS OF GRADUATING PRESCHOOLERS

Please check out this link for Kindergarten registration information



[http://www.chelmsford.k12.ma.us/site/default.aspx?](http://www.chelmsford.k12.ma.us/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=195&ViewID=047E6BE3-6D87-4130-8424-D8E4E9ED6C2A&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=7641&PageID=1)

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Thank you to **Adam Felzani** for leading  
**Jonathan Williams**  
**Edward Scollin**  
and **Nick Lee**

for the fall playground cleanup!

There were a lot of leaves to be raked up and it looks awesome out there!

Thank you for all your hard work and dedication  
to making the playground a safe and fun place to be!



Are you an Amazon shopper?

Please don't forget to use  
our link,

[www.centralcoopshop.com](http://www.centralcoopshop.com)

Each purchase made, the  
Co-Op gets a percentage  
back at no cost to you!!

Help raise money for the  
Co-Op by using and sharing  
this link!

## Cold Weather Policy:

The children will be outside if it is 32 degrees or warmer outside and the playground is safe to use. Please check the weather and send in the appropriate items to help your child play comfortably!

Clothes and boots may get wet outside. Make sure to check your children's LABELED boots, gloves, hats, and coats to make sure they are dry!



# FA-LA-LA-LA-LA

Please Join Us for the Holiday Concert  
December 22nd and 23rd  
Big Hall \* 9:30 am



## Carpool Reminders:

- Please wait in your car
- If you are in a hurry, carpool may not be the best option
- Unless children are in the same class, teachers are only able to assist one child at a time.



Thank you to all those who are participating in The Giving Tree. Your help is making the holiday season a bit easier for local families! Please make sure your wrapped and tagged gifts with a gift receipt are returned to the Co-Op by December 18th!

Winter weather is on its way and that means the roads become a bit more icy and dangerous!

Please make sure you're up to date on the current car seat guidelines to keep your child safe while in the car!



Here are a few quick tips to get you started

- Make sure your child is in the correct car seat. Your child should be in a tethered car seat with a harness until they reach the weight limit or the top height limit
- Harness clips should be aligned with your child's armpits. Straps should be tight.
- Infants should be rear facing until 2 years of age.
- Children should not wear bulky coats while harnessed. Try a sweatshirt, fleece, or a thin coat underneath. You can use a blanket over the harness for extra warmth on those chilly days! Just remember to keep the harness straps as close to your child's body as possible!
- If you are unsure if your car seat is installed properly, contact an expert! You can call the Police or Fire Station for guidance as well!
- Ensure that your child is in the right car seat based on height and weight.
- Keep your children in the back seat until the age of 12!

For more information and other tips, please check out SafeCar.gov

<http://www.safercar.gov/parents/CarSeats/Car-Seat-Safety.htm>

## Parking Lot Reminders

**Now that the winter weather is quickly approaching, we may lose some parking spots due to snow piles, please keep these few reminders to keep everyone safe!**

The first two spots in the first row are reserved for church staff. Please avoid parking in these spots.

If you are using the carpool lane, please stay as close to the curb or snowbanks as possible to let other cars to park. If you are first in line, make sure to stay behind the silver pole on the left to allow the gate to be opened.

In the event of a severe shortage of spaces, drop off and pick up times may be slightly extended to allow parking spaces to become available.

To avoid injuries, please do not let your children play on snowbanks or on ice patches.

## Winter Weather School Closures! Here's what you need to know!

The Central Co-Op follows the Chelmsford Public School System for closures and delays. Therefore, if the Chelmsford Public Schools are closed, the Co-Op will be closed. If there is a delay, the Co-Op half-day program will be closed but the full day program will follow the delay. For example, if there is a two-hour delay, the half-day program will not take place, but full day students are welcome to come in at 11am until the allotted pick-up time. If you will not be sending your full day child in that day, please let Suzanne know so she can have appropriate staffing available!

# TEACHERS CORNER

This month, our wonderful assistant teachers are sharing their favorite books! Reading to your children is such a great bonding moment as well as a way to help them start to read! Check them out and click the links to get redirected to Amazon!

## ***Mrs Dulong***

Recommends a favorite genre of hers: wordless (or nearly wordless) picture books. There are so many different ways to use these types of books with kids. For example, kids can tell their own stories based on the illustrations to build their critical and creative thinking skills. A few favorites:

Chalk by Bill Thomson

<http://amzn.to/1RlpYn3>

Snowman's Story by Will Hillenbran

<http://amzn.to/1TFeHIX>

The wonderful Mo Willems' books (Elephant & Piggie) tell rich and powerful stories with very little dialogue and very expressive character illustrations. The characters' facial expressions and body language practically tell the whole story!

## ***Mrs. Holden***

Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg

<http://amzn.to/1Rlqcun>

## ***Mrs. Sheehan***

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Lois Elhert

<http://amzn.to/1TFeVJW>

Blue Hat Green Hat by Sandra Boynton

<http://amzn.to/1TFf4gq>

## ***Miss McCarthy***

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak

<http://amzn.to/1Rlqguh>

## ***Mrs Bar***

The Family Book (or anything) by Todd Parr

<http://amzn.to/1TFfcwt>

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane by Kate DiCamillo

<http://amzn.to/1TFfiUX>

Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell

<http://amzn.to/1Rlqlhx>

## NOVEMBER ALL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

STUDENTS WERE TREATED TO SOME GREAT STORIES READ TO THEM BY MAUREEN FROM THE CHELMSFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY! SHE READ BOOKS FOCUSED AROUND THANKSGIVING! MAUREEN IS SUCH A GREAT STORY TELLER, ALL THE KIDS WERE ENGAGED AND EXCITED TO LISTEN TO THE BOOKS! THANK YOU, MAUREEN!

**\*\* THERE WILL BE NO ALL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY IN JANUARY\*\***

# Letter From the VP of Fundraising

Dear Co-Op Families,

It has been a busy fundraising month, and a profitable one! We are well on our way to replacing the hallway cubbies, thanks to everything all of you have contributed, both in terms of money and time. My sincere thanks go to all of you. Every small bit adds up to success in improving the Co-Op for our children.

Our first Hop-A-Thon was a much bigger success than I could have hoped! We have raised over \$3,000! The kids were amazing hoppers, and we averaged 106 hops per kid, and the school cumulatively hopped 7,310 times! Our top hopper managed 160 hops in a minute! We have printed thank you cards with pictures from the Hop-A-Thon for the donors, but if you would like to thank those who sponsored your child personally, watch your inbox in the next couple of days for a list of donors who sponsored your child. Thanks go out to Holly Redding Cooper for bringing yummy healthy snacks, and to our hop counters - Alexis Treat, Mark Vitt, Rick Hanson, and the teachers and parent helpers.

We also had another inaugural event, or Vendor Fair. It was great being a part of the larger community and joining in the tree lighting festivities. We had a nice selection of crafters and vendors to shop with, a holiday placemat making station and face painting for the kids, and a wide variety of yummy baked goods and hot cocoa and hot spiced cider for sale. I think the unseasonably warm weather hurt our appeal a little, but we still had a good amount of traffic, and everyone who came in seemed to enjoy themselves. The event raised about \$300, and we learned a lot about what to expect for making next year even better. Thanks to those who staffed the event - Suzi Weber, Pauline Phan, Antonietta Caputo, Katie MacKenzie, Heather Dwyer, Emily Ward, Kara Mason, and Clewis Howe; Melissa McDonald for her amazing face painting; and all of our bakers - Jen Beary, Emily Deschenes, Suzanne Dionne, Suzanne Krochune, Georgia Dellas, Elizabeth Ridenour, Michelle Morais, Kristen McDonald, Holly Redding Cooper, Galen Sutliff, Katie Sullivan, Kathleen Howarth, Katie MacKenzie, Jill LeMasurier, Michelle DeLeo, Suzi Weber, Emily Ward, and Hilary Miller.

Mark your calendars for our next dining fundraiser - Bertucci's on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

It is still a little ways away, but it's never too early to start thinking about donations for our Basket Raffle. The raffle is Saturday, February 6, and will be held with our annual children's concert as a part of Chelmsford's Winterfest. If you have something that you would like to donate, or if your company might be a good donor, please contact me at [central.coop.fundraising@gmail.com](mailto:central.coop.fundraising@gmail.com).

Also, please remember to use our link - [www.centralcoopshop.com](http://www.centralcoopshop.com) - to access Amazon so we can get credit for your purchases. Also, there are more of the postcards with our link available on top of the cubbies in the hallway if you would like to grab some to mail to anyone you know who would support our school. Now is the time to send those out to everyone who might be doing their holiday shopping in their pajamas! In November and the first 10 days of December, we have earned \$371.89 from Amazon sales! Keep using our link for your shopping because all of those small commissions are adding up.

If you or anyone else might love the gift of labels this year, don't forget that our fundraising code with Name Bubbles is good through December 31<sup>st</sup> - the code is CCNS15. Thanks to those who have ordered so far - we have raised \$52.56 in label sales. Also available through December 31<sup>st</sup>, you can still order through Yankee Candle online at [yankeecandlefundraising.com](http://yankeecandlefundraising.com) and give our school code - 99563033 - and we still receive 40% on those sales. Don't forget they also have wrapping paper, popcorn, and magazines available.

Thanks again for your help so far, and thanks in advance for your help throughout the year!

Johanna Shaw,  
VP of Fundraising VP of Fundraising

# Paper Strip Trees

## Materials:

- Cardstock in various colors
- Glue
- Popsicle Stick
- Scissors



## Directions

Cut out a triangle in one piece of the card stock, and strips in the other colors of card stock. Adhere the strips with the glue to the triangle and cut off the excess paper. Attach popsicle stick to the bottom of the tree.



## FRUIT SANTA HATS

### INGREDIENTS:

- MINI MARSHMALLOWS
- GRAPES
- TOOTHPICKS
- STRAWBERRIES
- BANANA SLICES

### DIRECTIONS:

PUSH GRAPE ONTO TOOTHPICK FOLLOWED BY A BANANA SLICE, STRAWBERRY AND THE MINI MARSHMALLOW!

## Donut Snowman on a Stick

### Ingredients:

- Powdered Mini Donuts
- Mini Chocolate Chips
- Skewers
- Fruit Rope
- Red M&M's
- Baby Carrots cut in half

### Directions:

Carefully place three donuts on the skewer.

Push in mini chocolate chips on the first donut to form the eyes and mouth.

Put the halved baby carrot in the hole of the donut as the nose. Wrap a piece of the fruit rope in between the first and second donut and add the red m&M's to the center of the second and third donut!

Enjoy!



**Lunch Bunch and Extended Day**  
is available to all students at the Co-Op.

Please speak with Suzanne for availability.

**Lunch Bunch Costs:**

1pm pick up- \$10  
1:30 pm pick up- \$15

**Extended Day Cost:**

4pm pick up- \$40

Lunch Bunch and Extend Day payments can be made  
that day or added onto your monthly tuition.

A huge THANK YOU for all the  
generous canned good  
donations! **We were able to  
collect 280 cans!** The canned  
goods were donated to the  
Loaves of Fishes in Ayer due to  
a conflict with the Chelmsford  
Food Pantry. Your donations  
helped feed so many people  
during the Thanksgiving Holiday!



**The Co-Op is excited to offer  
a new 3 day, multi-age  
afternoon class next year!!!  
Stay tuned for details!**

**A "BEE" G THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO DONATED OFF OUR  
"BEE" GENEROUS BOARD!**

**Your amazing donations help keep the Co-Op supplies stocked!**



**The Barilla Family  
The Labenski Family  
The Kelly Family  
The Ridenour Family**



**Happy Holidays**

*Happy Holidays from the Co-Op.  
We would like to wish you a  
safe and joyous holiday season!  
See you "next year"!*