

Sandwich Partnership for Families



*Always fun, always free public programs of the Sandwich Schools,
open to all families with young children.*

December 2021 NEWSLETTER

December is always such a “full” month- joyful yet stressful! Remember that less is more when holidays trigger extra sugar and extra excitement, more activities but less rest, more traditions but more To-Do’s. Be gentle with yourself, and practice kindness with your children by sometimes opting out, staying in, and focusing on what your family needs to enjoy this season together. You will start 2022 off in a healthier, happier way!

****Weekly Programs****

MUST REGISTER for all programs as attendance is limited! Masks required for **everyone** older than 2. Register at <https://www.jotform.com/build/213023501249140>

Mondays, Dec.6- Dec. 20, 10 a.m. Yoga with Miss Britt at the Sand Hill School Classes will be held outdoors when the weather permits, or indoors if it doesn’t.

Tuesdays, December 7-21 9:30 a.m. - Season of Light, Love and Memories with Miss Lea, Sand Hill School Each week, make a special keepsake to remember this magical time in your child’s life.

Wednesdays, December 8-22, 10 a.m. New this session! Lap Sit with Miss Amy at the Sand Hill School. Miss Amy will captivate & engage babies with her songs, fingerplays and stories! Learn some new favorites to share with your child. Best for children newborn to 15 months.

Thursdays, Dec. 9 - 23 New this session! Toddler Tones In Motion with Miss Amy, Sand Hill School Sing and dance, learn musical games and activities to play together at home. Best for children 15 mos- 3 years.

Fridays, December 3, 10, 17, 10 am- Field Trip Fridays Continue! We will visit Green Briar on 12/3, Sphor Gardens in Falmouth on 12/10, and have a Reindeer Romp at the Sand Hill School on 12/17!

****Community Partner Programs & Information****

Holly Days in Sandwich- whether it’s a Community Carol Sing, Pancakes with Santa, or a tour of the Sandwich Giants, these free family events can become traditions to treasure. www.sandwichchamber.com/holly-days

Saturday, Dec. 11th, 11-2 Gingerbread Day at Green Briar Nature Center, Discovery Hill Rd., Sandwich Get a sneak peek at the Green Meadow Forest and live menagerie, enjoy stories and crafts. Tickets for gingerbread decorating & silhouettes at <http://www.thorntonburgess.org/Events/Gingerbread-Day> . Other activities at no cost.

Thursday, December 16th, 7:30--8:30- Home Is Where The Heart Is Adoption Support Group, via Zoom Facilitated by the nice folks from Adoption Journeys, this group is open to all foster/guardian/adoption/kinship families who need an understanding & safe space to connect with others on this “journey”. *Special holiday activity!* Register by emailing Val Perry at vperry@cfsservices.org

*** Sandwich Partnership Council Meeting***

Monday, Dec. 6, 1-2 p.m. via Zoom Agenda Items include Holiday Help for Families, Playground Improvements, and 2022 Programming. Email lmelillo@sandwich.k12.ma.us for an invitation!

Ongoing Sandwich Partnership Opportunities for Families

Ages and Stages Questionnaires are available for every age child up to age 6! It is an important tool to understand your child's growth as well as to promote their development and learning. Please take the time to click on the ASQ link <https://www.asqonline.com/family/cd703b> if you have not yet done so this fall. We will be checking in with you to see if there are any problems in accessing this online version, and to follow up on those that have been done.

Sandwich Partnership for Families Survey is so critical in voicing your ideas of how we can support you in your parenting role, as well as to provide the programs you feel are most beneficial for your child and family. Please take this quick survey now to share your insights! <https://forms.gle/iJ6sjiHqfzdwAzS27>

Play It Safe Sandwich! ... Is a new Sandwich Partnership Council initiative to repair, restore and expand our Sandwich Adventure Community Playground, located at 64 Quaker Meetinghouse Rd. While the playground was gifted to the town, no funds were earmarked to maintain it. The Sandwich Partnership has been awarded some community grant funds to begin repairs to the Toddler section, but we are hoping for family involvement to complete repairs, and possibly extend the play features. If you would like to be part of the subcommittee to explore funding, features and community involvement for this project, please contact Lauren at lmelillo@sandwich.k12.ma.us.

*****Special Note on COVID Protocol for Sandwich Partnership for Families Programming*****

Per the Mass. Dept. of Public Health, and the Governor, if you are not vaccinated then you are required to wear a mask, both indoors, and outdoors as well, if unable to distance yourself from others at least six feet. Indoor programming will be limited to ten families, or 25 attendees. When families cannot be distanced by at least 6 feet, everyone over the age of 2 must wear a mask.

***** Literacy Resources*****

With the cold, dark days of winter upon us, sometimes families need a little downtime when cooking supper, tending to the baby, finishing homework or employment from home. Screen time doesn't have to be a jumble of Youtube, internet games and dangerous online "rabbit holes"! Here are two free options to try-
-Kanopy for Kids- An amazing selection of animated classic and high-quality children's story books! Free service available just by entering your library card number on the Sandwich Public Library's homepage! Look for the sidebar on the left, and feel secure knowing your child's screen time is a curated selection of quality literature that will entertain and enchant them with stories brought to life!

-Storyline Online for celebrity and professional readings of other carefully chosen titles, beautifully animated-
www.storylineonline.net

***** Family Finance Resources*****

Struggling with bills, food costs, mortgage or rent? Dialing 211 for assistance with any basic need or social service inquiry, including mental health resources, will get you to a live operator who will work with you to track down help in your community.

Check our website for more Family Resources (www.sandwichpartnership.com) Our Twitter Handle: **@sandpartnership**. LIKE our **Facebook Page Sandwich Partnership for Families**. Visit our webpage for our Google Calendar: www.sandwichpartnership.com. Email us at: lmelillo@sandwichk12.ma.us, these programs made possible by a Coordinated Community & Family Engagement Grant (CFCE) of the Mass. Dept. of Early Education & Care to the Sandwich Public Schools

