

January 9, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope all of you had a wonderful New Year. Thanks to all of the families who participated in all of the wonderful Holiday events! It was very exciting celebrating the season with the many families, volunteers and staff. Winter is here! Please take care and caution when entering and exiting the building. We do shovel and salt the walkways, but if the conditions are severe, I advise everyone to wear good boots and attire when visiting. It is a good idea to use the hand rail when walking down the hill to the North Entrance if you have parked at the top of the hill.

We have a new member of our Marklund family! Charity officially joined Marklund last week. We welcome Charity and her family. Please introduce yourselves to Charity and her family when visiting.

Your child received many Christmas gifts. Our team is in the process of organizing all the presents and changing out clothing for the New Year and for the chilly weather. Please feel free to let us know of any special clothing requests you might have.

We regularly monitor the client sign-in book which is located on the Pod at the nurses' station. We have noticed that some parents/guardians aren't signing in on a regular basis. This may seem cumbersome to families that visit often, however, it is vital that we know who is in the building at all times. The safety of our clients, their families, visitors and staff is of utmost importance. Also, visiting hours are **10am-8pm**. We ask that visiting hours are adhered to unless given prior approval, or during an extraordinary circumstance.

**Nursing:**

We are still in the flu season so please wash your hands often. Proper hand washing is a great defense against fighting the flu. If you are ill, we ask that you postpone your visit until you are feeling better. If you have not received your flu vaccine, it is not too late.

Jesse Burkhead RN has resigned. Jesse's last day at Marklund will be Friday 1/13/17. We wish Jesse the best of luck. We hired a 3-11 nurse, Rebecca Thomason, and we are still looking to hire a Nursing Unit Coordinator.

For nursing issues contact Rose Cousins at ext. 3240 or email her at [rcousins@marklund.org](mailto:rcousins@marklund.org).

**Clothing Issues:**

Just a reminder that our new clothing coordinator is Jenna Gasper. You can reach her at ext. 3286 or at [jgasper@marklund.org](mailto:jgasper@marklund.org)

**Habilitation Team:**

We continue to have outings on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and every other Saturday. Please feel free to join us on any of the outings with your child.

Contact Natalie Rubino for any QIDP/social service needs at ext. 3246 or [nrubino@marklund.org](mailto:nrubino@marklund.org)

Contact Lisa New at [lnew@marklund.org](mailto:lnew@marklund.org) for any activity/outing questions.

Have a safe and prosperous 2017!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gunjan Patel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gunjan Patel,  
Administrator of Marklund Philip Center