

Creative Preschool Newsletter -October 2018



LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING! CURRENT EVENTS AT A GLANCE!

- October 1:** MWF Fours Wendel Farm Field trip
- October 2:** TTh & TThF Fours Wendel Farm trip
- October 8:** MW Threes Farbach Warner trip
- October 9:** Fall Family Fun Fest reservation deadline
- October 10:** PreK Gorman Heritage Farm trip
- October 11:** TTh Threes Farbach Warner trip
- October 11:** Little Caesar Pizza pick-up, Fellowship Hall (please note: this is a change from the calendar!)
- October 21:** Fall Family Fun Fest
- October 26:** Halloween Party & Parade FF
- October 30:** Halloween Party & Parade TTh/TThF
- October 31:** Halloween Party & Parade MW/MWF
- Week of October 29:** Look for Progress Reports by email
- November 1:** NO SCHOOL In-Service
- November 1:** Parent Education Evening
Understanding My Child's Progress: What Should My Preschool Child Know and How Can I Help Him?
- November 7-8-9:** Picture Days
- November 9:** Progress Report Receipt form and Goal Sheet due, signed and dated

From the Director

When I taught in the 4s program I often found myself astounded on the first school day when I saw the new 3 year old children—surely they were just babies still, not preschoolers! I am no longer fooled, because I now know that they will grow and develop in leaps and bounds over the course of the upcoming school year. Johann Wolfgang von Goethe made the observation that when we watch the astounding pace of the development of the infant and the young child, we

should deduce that “if children grew up according to early indications, we should have nothing but geniuses” as adults. Yes, indeed, the young child does grow and learn at an amazing pace!

We at Creative Preschool are excited and happy to be partners in this process. We strive to provide an environment rich in possibilities to explore, think, deduce and discover, not only for future success in school, but for success in life. We also strive to provide an environment which encourages respect and courtesy for ourselves and for others in ways which have the greatest potential to lay the foundation of growing productive, kind, and polite adults.

You, however, are the primary source of your child’s education and growth. Home is the place where children first learn to limit their wishes, abide by rules, take responsibility for their actions and in-actions, and consider the rights and needs of others.

As parents ourselves, we understand that there are always parenting questions on your mind. “Am I handling this the best way?” “Will my child learn all he needs to know?” “Am I raising a child of respect and responsibility?” From time to time, then, attached to your newsletter will be an article which will address issues parents face. This month’s article, attached, addresses *Preschoolers Talking Back: Why and What Can We Do About It?* Putting these practices in place when your child is being sassy may go a long way to creating peace!

There is no doubt that parenting is by far one of the most exhausting and frustrating, yet the most important and rewarding job we shall ever undertake! We, as a society, and we, the staff here at Creative Preschool, owe a debt of gratitude to you parents for taking on and for DOING SO WELL the job of raising your little ones into future magnificent adults.

So, in October we hope you will notice in our halls and in your child’s cubby our meager effort to thank you, our Creative Preschool parents, for all you are and all you do. “Hugs and Kisses” to you from the staff and children of Creative Preschool!

Halloween News and Guidelines

Halloween is almost as important as Christmas in the world of a child, so we celebrate here at Creative with a parade and lots of fun! Parents, siblings and guests are invited to join us as spectators of our Halloween Parade. Bring your camera for a photo-op! You can

Creative Preschool Newsletter -October 2018

expect to be here for no more than one-half hour after the parade begins.

PARTY DAYS AND PARADE TIMES:

Class	Halloween Celebration	Parade Time
Friday Friends	Friday October 26	9:15
TTh AM	Tuesday October 30	9:15
TTh/TThF PM	Tuesday October 30	1:00
MW/MWF AM	Wednesday, October 31	9:15
MW/MWF PM	Monday October 31	12:45

After dropping your child off in the classroom (at regular start time), please go upstairs to the Fellowship Hall to await the parade of our costumed little ones and a child-friendly song or two!

HALLOWEEN GUIDELINES

Although Halloween is most definitely anticipated with delight, young children often experience some fear, as well. In our effort to make this day as fun, stress-free, and as safe as possible for our preschoolers, then, we are asking that you please keep some simple pointers in mind:

- Children should wear child-friendly costumes
- Please either have your child wear shorts and t-shirt under the costume or send a change of clothing
- No weapons are ever allowed at school! :)
- Costume props, though fun, can create safety issues during the parade and in the classroom. If your child brings props to school, please take them home with you after the parade
- Princess heels and fancy shoes are unsafe. Gym shoes are still appropriate!
- The children will trick-or-treat in their classroom, so you may send treats to pass out to their friends. Please send a treat for each classmate *and one for your child, as well*, as we will be developing the concept of one-to-one correspondence while passing treats, one into each of their classmate's bag
- Children will be making their own trick or treat bag at school, so there is no need to send one with them



REMEMBER THAT THERE IS **NO SCHOOL FOR THE CHILDREN ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 1st** DUE TO TEACHER IN-SERVICE DAY.

News from Threes

October is a very busy month for us! We will be discussing the fall season and observing all the changes this time of year brings. Our field trip will enhance our appreciation of this colorful season. The Field Trip to Farbach Werner will be Monday October 8 for MW classes and Thursday October 11 for TTH classes. AM classes meet at 10:00 and PM classes meet at 12:30. Halloween Party information and reminders are posted above. Please read the schedule and the guidelines so that the day can be as happy as possible for the children! We are off to a great start and we are having fun learning, too! Never hesitate to contact your teacher if you have a problem or a concern.

News from Friday Friends

Friday Friends are off to a great start! We are making new friends, learning new things, learning our classroom rules, and practicing putting our toys away. The children will continue to develop social skills, most importantly taking turns and sharing. We will be creating some special Fall/Halloween art projects to decorate your house, as well as learn more about colors and shapes. We will begin an introduction to numerals and their value, play with positional words, and discuss feelings. Halloween information and reminders are posted above. We will celebrate Halloween on October 26. Please read the schedule and the guidelines so that the day can be as happy as possible for the children! Please always feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns!

News from Fours

REMINDER: The Wendel Farm Field Trip will be Monday, October 1st for the M/W/F A.M.. classes and Tuesday, October 2nd for the TTH and TTHF classes.

As we begin our second month of school, we are happy to say that the children are adjusting quite well to our routines and to their new friends. The children are learning to take care of their own needs, to clean up after themselves, and to be responsible for the proper use of materials in our classrooms. As each day passes we expect to see more and more independence!

We will continue to learn about our senses this month. With the approach of Halloween, we will also be talking about our feelings and we will create creepy (but fun!) art and crafts in keeping with the season!

Creative Preschool Newsletter -October 2018

Child-friendly Halloween celebrations will be held here at Creative. Halloween information and reminders are posted above. Please read the schedule and guidelines so that the day can be as happy as possible for the children.

Vocabulary: nature, rough, smooth, soft, hard, heavy, light, diameter, bitter, sour, sweet and salty, weight, experiment, insect, arachnid

Senses: taste, smell, touch

Letters: P, H, M

Shape: oval

Numbers: 5, 6, 7, 8

News from Pre-K

The first month of school has gone well! The children are becoming good friends and they have adjusted to the routines and activities in our classroom. Everyone is always excited to participate in whatever is planned for the day and we are all working very hard at being good listeners. They are a terrific group of children!

We begin this month with Special Art with Mrs. DePaoli for the first time. Our field trip to Gorman Heritage Farm will be on Wednesday, Oct. 10th. Themes for this month: we will finish our study of shapes and our five senses and continue with our study of numbers and letters. Autumn items and rocks/geology will be found on our Science table. We will also celebrate Halloween with a party on October 31st. Halloween information and reminders are posted in this newsletter. Please read the schedule and guidelines so that the day can be as happy as possible for the children.

Vocabulary: autumn, sweet, sour, salty, smooth, rough, emotions, geology

Letters: H, P, M

Shape: oval

Numbers: 5, 6, 7, 8

News from Art

At our first meeting, October 4 and 5 the 4s and PreK children will be making shape collages, using the work of the artists Joan Miro and Henri Matisse as inspiration. Be on the lookout for the children's masterpieces in the hallways at the middle of the month!



News from Motor Skills and Music

We all met Mr. Goldie and enjoyed our "special" Motor Skills and Music time in September. Mr. Goldie was thrilled to have time with all of his Creative

Preschool friends and is looking forward to many more to come! We were introduced to Mr. Goldie's guitar and learned some songs, then went upstairs to use the big space in Fellowship Hall for Motor Skills. What a great space with lots of room to jump, hop, shuffle, dance and make big loud movements!

Keeping You Informed-Progress Reporting!

The week of October 29 expect to find an envelope in your child's cubby with a Goal Sheet and signature form stating that you have received child's Progress Report.

The Progress Report will be emailed to each family in the Fall before or on the day this envelope comes home, again in the Winter and the final report will be sent in May. These reports will convey how your child appears to be progressing toward achievement of developmental milestones for children ages 3-5. You are asked to return the form stating that you have received the report and the signed Goal Sheet no later than November 9.



Your child's Goal Sheet is a required form. Using the results of the ASQs you filled out and what we have learned about your child through observation and testing, combined with your comments on the Child and Family Information Sheet, your teacher has isolated a goal for the upcoming year. This goal might be related to a struggle your child seems to be having, it may be directed toward improving a skill or reaching a developmental milestone, or it may be directed toward helping your child further hone a strength. As you partner with us in your child's education and development, you may be asked to support this goal with certain activities at home. **Please sign and return this sheet, as well.**

Although we do not automatically schedule conferences for each family, we are so happy to meet or talk with parents at any time, including after you have received progress reports. Please either indicate your desire to meet or talk by phone on the form or just request a meeting at any time!

Parent Education Evening

On Thursday evening, November 1, we will offer a short parent educational evening, which will address *Understanding My Child's Progress: What Should My Preschool Child Know and How Can I Help Him?*

Creative Preschool Newsletter -October 2018

We will briefly explain our Progress Reporting system as well as Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards, and then present some activities you could implement at home which might help your child to meet those standards.

A flyer should come home by mid-October.

Fall Fundraiser

Our annual fundraiser of Little Caesars Pizza Kits and Yankee Candles order turn-in deadline is Friday, September 28th!

Mark your calendar...LITTLE CAESARS ORDER PICK-UP DATE is Thursday, OCTOBER 11th from 6:00 - 7:30 PM in Fellowship Hall. There will be no alternate pick up date. Please remember to either deliver these orders that evening or have space ready in your freezer. Little Caesars needs to be refrigerated or frozen shortly after receiving. We do not have room at school to store orders that were not picked up.

YANKEE CANDLES will be sent home through school before Thanksgiving. If you have any questions please contact Kelly Fitz (keaganfitz5@gmail.com) or Lauren Eagan (lne611@gmail.com). Thank you!

Do You Like Us?!

Our Facebook page is up and running, so be sure to check us out and "LIKE US!"

www.facebook.com/creativepreschoolcincinnati2

Openings

We have one opening in the 4's TTh morning class. Spread the word!

Fall Family Fun Day

Our Fall Family Fun Day is on Sunday, October 21 from 1-4:00 pm. Invitation and reservation forms will be sent home through your child's cubby the first week of October. You may have noticed that we asked you to choose a time slot when you register. We are hoping this will help with overcrowding during the event, as well as any parking issues. Please don't forget to make your reservation by Tuesday October 9th if you'd like to join the fun! We can't wait to see you there!

An email will be coming soon to invite you and family members to volunteer. Please remember these events require many volunteers or they don't happen.



Volunteers can be mom, dad, grandma, an uncle, or an older sibling! If you are able or would like to help at the event check your email for a Sign Up Genius invite or email VP Events Chair, Amy Schneider at schneideramyn@gmail.com or Carly Lambert at Carly.Lambert@lsrlaw.com.

Absences

Please remember to **CALL WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ABSENT AND STATE THE REASON FOR THE ABSENCE.**

Creative Preschool Spring Carnival

As Christmas approaches, we know you're probably looking to clean out those closets and playrooms. Please think of donating your new or gently used stuffed animals and "happy meal" type toys to Creative for the Spring Carnival. You can leave your items in Mrs. DePaoli's office. If you have any questions about what to donate or about the Carnival in general, please feel free to contact Lauren DeFranco at laurendepaoli@yahoo.com or Lori Tranter at lpetrungaro@hotmail.com. Also, please be sure to "Like" the Spring Carnival's Facebook page at... www.facebook.com/creativepreschoolspringcarnival where you can keep up with all the latest Carnival news.



Preschoolers, talking back: Why it happens and what to do about it



By Karen Miles

Why preschoolers talk back

Ask your preschooler to clear his train set off the kitchen table so you can serve dinner and he retorts, "No way!" Does this display of attitude mean you're in for years of sassing?

Not necessarily. "When a child talks back, what he's really expressing is anger, frustration, fear, or hurt," says Jane Nelsen, author of *Positive Discipline for Preschoolers*.



Of course, it's hard not to respond angrily to such back talk. But a wiser course of action is to try to find out what's bothering your preschooler, then teach him to express his difficult emotions in a more acceptable way. Think of it this way: Your child's feelings aren't the problem – it's how he expresses them that's the issue.

What to do about back talk

Is it preventable? If certain situations almost always cause your child to talk back, see if you can help him problem solve ahead of time. For example, if he gets angry about having to clean up when he feels like he's in the middle of something, offer to give him a five-minute warning the next time you need him to pick up his toys.



Or maybe he gets out of bed every night not because "it's a stupid bed," but because he's really afraid of the shadows moving across the wall. In that case, give him a flashlight to keep nearby, or put up shades to block the spooky shadows.

Choose your battles wisely. If you set out your child's clothes for the day and he balks at your choice, is that important enough to argue over? Another solution might be to say calmly, "If you don't like that shirt, you can choose another one, but it's important that you talk to me nicely."

Do some sleuthing. Ask yourself if he could be imitating an attitude he sees in movies or on TV. Kids on comedy shows may get a big laugh when they talk back. Monitor the shows your child watches to make sure he's not picking up the wrong message.



Also watch for a pattern to your child's back talk. Does it usually happen when he's tired or overstimulated? Maybe he's involved in too many activities or needs a little quiet time after preschool to rest or calm down.

Set limits ahead of time. Make sure your child understands what is – and isn't – okay to say. So if it's a family rule not to use the word "yuck" at the dinner table, make that clear. Or if you don't appreciate his huffy response to an earnest explanation remind him, "We don't talk that way. Please speak to me nicely."

Also teach your child that he doesn't have to speak every thought that runs through his head. Grandma doesn't need to be told, however innocently, that her pie is runny, and the bagger at the grocery store doesn't need a preschooler's advice to lose a little weight.

Keep your composure. Don't overreact to your child's mouthing off or get into a power struggle over his choice of words or his tone. And, of course, never answer in kind. The best way to teach your preschooler to speak respectfully is to do so yourself. Tell him, "I think you can find a much better way to say that."

Creative Preschool Newsletter -October 2018

A knee-jerk response, "Don't you talk to me that way, you bad boy!" won't set a very good example and will only add to his frustration.

Get behind the back talk. When your preschooler verbally lashes out, let him know that you care about his feelings, even if you don't approve of the way he's expressing them. Parents sometimes skip this step and go right to scolding or disciplining a child, but it's important to let your child know you understand that he's mad or frustrated – and even help him label those feelings.

If your child thinks you don't get it, he may amp up his reaction to show you just how upset he is. On the other hand, acknowledging his emotions ("Wow, you sound really angry about this") often removes you from the adversarial role. If you can get past his tone, you can focus on the message he's trying to convey.



If he can talk about it calmly, try to come up with a compromise you both can live with. Perhaps he can finish his drawing, *then* put his socks in the laundry basket, for instance.

Offer choices. If your preschooler has some control over the course of his day, he's less likely to feel the need to assert himself in offensive ways. So give him appropriate opportunities to make choices for himself.

But don't overwhelm him (or yourself!) by letting him decide everything. Instead, focus on letting him make the decisions most important to him. Try asking, "Would you like to wear your green sweater or your red sweatshirt today?" or "Would you rather go to the park or the library this afternoon?"

Be sure to offer acceptable choices, and respect the ones he makes. Don't give your child a choice between ice cream and fresh fruit for dessert if you really want him to eat the fruit.

Choices aren't the same as bribes, though. So if you tell him, "Put on your shoes without a fuss and you can have ice cream later," you're only rewarding him for not acting out.



Also beware of the "okay" trap. It may feel natural to say, "Let's get ready for bed now, okay?" or "Time to get your shoes on, okay?" But this can confuse young kids and make them think they have a choice to say no. Be clear about what is and isn't a choice: "It's time to get ready for bed. Do you want to wear your cowboy pajamas or your red pajamas?"

Know when to turn a deaf ear. If your preschooler has moved beyond a simple "no" and turned nasty or throws a tantrum, don't negotiate, compromise, or even discuss his opinion with him. This will only reinforce the behavior.

For instance, if you're playing a lively game of Twister and he spits out, "I did not fall down, you dummy!" tell him that you won't play with him unless he talks nicely. If he continues to be rude, make good on your promise and end the game immediately (no more chances, and no more discussion). Leave the room, and tell him, "We'll talk when you're ready to be nice."

Of course, you can't exactly abandon your child in the checkout line if he tries to pressure you into buying a candy bar. When faced with back talk in public, don't be intimidated into being a pushover (or a taskmaster, for that matter). Briefly and calmly let your preschooler know that being nasty – no matter where or when – doesn't cut it.



Find a quiet spot and tell him that if he does it again, there will be a consequence, like missing his favorite TV show or skipping the post-shopping trip to the playground. Showing your child that you respect yourself too much to be treated this way will both model respect and *earn* it.