

Creative Preschool Newsletter - November 2016

Message from the Director

November is a time to stop and take stock of all we have to be thankful for. Our children are a most precious gift, not only to you, but to all of the staff of Creative Preschool. They are the hope for the future! Raising grateful children, however, can be a challenge, especially in our current environment of consumerism.

Although preschool children are intrinsically ME-centered, child development professionals agree that this is the time to begin to help them grow an "attitude of gratitude." How?:

1. Make manners count: learning to say "please" and "thank you" require that a child stop grabbing and receive with gratitude.

2. Count your blessings: Ask your child daily, perhaps at bedtime, to name something in their day that made them happy and something that made them sad. Use this conversation to express thankfulness for the good things and for those things or people who helped them overcome the sad.

3. Understanding others: Help your child understand that YOU have needs and wants, as well. Express them! Share with your child your daily happy moment and your daily sad moment, too, as well as your gratitude for the blessings you derive from both.

4. Limit spending: Teach the value of the dollar and that not every outing includes buying! Plan before going out and discuss with your child if this is a "buying day" or not.

5. Give to others: Make giving and volunteering a family habit. Visit the sick; make cards for the elderly, etc.

6. Thank those who serve: Help your child to understand that there are many heroes in our community who serve us and help us stay safe and healthy...and remember to thank them when you see them at their job!

7. Teach gratitude by example! Be genuinely grateful for all of the wonderful things your children do and be sure to express your appreciation.

Thank YOU for sharing the gift of your beautiful children with us! Blessings to you all and to those you love this Thanksgiving!

News from Threes

It is hard to believe that two months have passed already! During the month of November we will continue to talk about the change of seasons and observe the fall colors. We will create art using these colors, as well. Our focus, as always, is on the process of creating art and not necessarily the finished product.

PLEASE REMEMBER THERE IS NO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1 due to Teacher In-Service!!!

The children will have their pictures taken on November 2 for the MW classes and November 3 for the TTH classes. You can dress your child up since we will not do anything "messy" on those days. Look for an order form in your child's cubby to order pictures. It can be returned on picture day. Each child will get an individual picture taken as well as a class picture with his/her teacher.

We also will be talking about the first Thanksgiving and the Pilgrims and the Native Americans. Our Creative Thanksgiving feast will be on November 21 for the MW classes and November 22 for the TTH classes. The three year old classes will be the Native Americans--wearing our necklaces and headbands, which we will make in class! We share a meal with our 4 year old Pilgrim friends, supplying food to share for our feast. Please see the hallway for sign-up sheets for our Thanksgiving Feast, so can help your child to participate in the Thanksgiving spirit of sharing. Helping parents for those days should bring in 1 gallon of 2% milk to make our pudding.

We are enjoying your children! It is amazing how quickly they have learned our school routines and adjusted to this new school experience! Thanks for all you do to help us.



News from Friday Friends

Another month is already behind us! The children are adjusting and having fun exploring the many learning materials and opportunities in the classroom. Our Picture Day is November 4. The children can dress up since there will be no paint out that day. The order form has been sent home.

It can be returned on picture day. This month we will discuss Thanksgiving, Native Americans and Pilgrims. The children will be introduced to scissors and begin to develop early cutting skills. We will also continue to work on numbers, shapes, and patterns. Our art projects will be Fall and Thanksgiving themed. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

News from Fours

During the month of November we will spend time discussing the changes we see in nature, especially the beautiful colors of the leaves. We will also remember the first Thanksgiving and talk about the many things we have to be thankful for. THERE IS NO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, due to Teacher In-Service!

Picture Day is November 2 or 3 for all 4 year old classes. Feel free to dress your child in fancy attire, as we will not have paint available on these days.

We will have Thanksgiving Feasts on Monday, November 24 and Tuesday, November 25. The four year old "Pilgrims" will make butter and cut fruit that they will share with the three year old "Indians" at our feast. Just as the real Pilgrims did, our little Pilgrims are asked to bring in something to share with their friends for our feast. **Please look by your child's cubby or classroom door for the sign-up sheet for needed items.**

Immediately following Thanksgiving, the Christmas season is upon us! The last week of November we will be making a "Santa Count Down" to help you and your child count down the days until Christmas. Look for this to come home in time to **begin the countdown on December 1!**

This time of the year presents the perfect opportunity for us to say a BIG "thank you" to all of you for the many ways you help us. We are so grateful for your support. Thanks for sharing your time and talents with us!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Vocabulary: autumn, pattern, Native American, Pilgrim, Mayflower, Plymouth Rock, Thanksgiving, maize

Letters: M, L, B

Numbers: 8, 9, 10;

News from Pre-K

We will begin the month talking about voting and then have an election of our own. This month we will continue to explore the season of autumn, but our main focus for this month will be Thanksgiving. We will end our study of Thanksgiving by having a Thanksgiving Feast together with the three year old classes. Each child will contribute to our feast by bringing in something to eat. Please look for a sign-up sheet by our classroom door. Our feast will be on Monday, November 21.

We will continue work for our alphabet art and alphabet writing books, as well. We will be autumn scientists and explore acorns, popcorn, sun power and maize.

Remember that we do not have school on Monday, Nov. 1 and that Wednesday, November 2 is picture day for our class. During this season of thanks, I'd like to express how thankful I am to everyone who has helped me in our classroom. I am thankful for the opportunity to teach your children and also to have the opportunity to meet each of you and get to know you. THANKS SO VERY, VERY MUCH!! May you and your families have a very blessed Thanksgiving.

Vocabulary: election, majority, ballot, Thanksgiving, Pilgrim, Native American, maize

Letters: N, L, B **Numbers:** 8, 9, 10

News from Motor Skills and Music

We have been having a great time on our special Motor Skills and Music days! We have focused on body awareness and are using our muscles to throw and catch. Next we will be focusing on moving our body in specific direction - forward, backward, sideways, over, under, etc. Of course, we also engage in a bit of wiggling and dancing! (All of Mrs. Fluegeman's young friends are very good wigglers!)

In Music we've been introduced to the basics - loud and soft, high and low, fast and slow, with particular emphasis on what tempo means. Now we will have an introduction to the orchestra and various "families" of instruments that make it up - percussion, strings, brass and woodwinds. Our first "family" will be percussion. We will see some real drums and will be listening (and of course dancing) to some music that makes the most of percussion instruments (how about rock-and-roll?!)

As Thanksgiving approaches, I am most grateful for the gift of time with your children. Their insightful answers to my questions, their comments, their wiggling, their participation in our activities and the potential I can see in each of their little selves are a wonder to me and the most delightful part of my week. Thank you!

News from Art

Hopefully you have noticed the Art Gallery of amazing artwork our four year old children have created inspired by Joan Miro and Henri Matisse. While learning about these artists the children were able to express what they saw in the shape these artists used, and they quickly discovered that we all see different things! They then created their own work using shape and line and had the opportunity to give a title to the art they created. The mural, *Halloween Parade*, created by the PreK class, is a nod to Miro's mural which you can find on display in our very own Cincinnati Art Museum.

We will not meet again to share special art until the first week in December. In this lesson the children will learn about Pointillism and, using inspiration from the work of Seurat, create Pointillist art of their own.

HELP Keep Us Safe!

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, do not allow your children to wear any type of footwear to school except for *GYM SHOES*! Gym shoes allow for flexibility, yet provide proper support and stability for the play we engage in, and are most appropriate for the safety of all of the children in the class. UGG-type or rain boots do not provide support and the foot moves about inside these boots making running, jumping, and hopping difficult, party shoes can be slippery and do not provide support, and hiking boots are stiff and hard-soled. We do a lot of running, jumping, and dancing, especially in Motor Skills, and we would like every child to be able to participate safely. Children who do not wear safe footwear may not be able to participate in some activities. Thank you!

Reminder

There is NO SCHOOL Monday, November 1, due to an in-service for the teachers.

Picture Day

Ritchie Photographers will be at Creative Preschool November 4-6 to take the children's pictures. Each child will be photographed both individually and with their class. Please send in the envelope marked with the desired package and cash or check made payable to Ritchie Photography **on the day of your child's photography session**. The finished photos will be in by Christmas break.

Drop Off and Pick-Up Procedure

Drop off is for everyone's benefit, both 4 and 3-year-old classes. Please pull your car up close to the front door, as close to the cones as possible, BUT DO NOT BLOCK THE CROSS WALK! and **please WAIT for a staff member to**



come OUT to get your child. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP OFF ZONE TO COME INTO SCHOOL. Remember that the children might need some extra help with jackets and bags this time of year, so your wait might be longer than usual at drop-off. Thank you for your patience!

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE DROP-OFF ZONE AT ANY TIME, DURING DROP-OFF OR PICK-UP. It is very difficult for cars coming around the bend to see children exiting the school. Thank you for helping us keep our children safe!

Welcome Future Creative Preschooler!

Welcome and to baby Joseph Charlie Asher, too, born on October 13! Norah, in Mrs. Johnson's class and her Mom and Dad, Leah and Joe, surely are enjoying their bundle of blue joy, too! Congratulations Asher family!

Congratulations, as well, to the Klayer family on the arrival of Colton James on October 17.

Mommy Pam, Daddy Will, and big sister Caroline, in Mrs. Brother's class, sure are excited to have little boy to love!



Help Please!

If you or someone you know has access to paper (old letterheads, etc) and/or envelopes the children can use for drawing and writing, please consider donating to us. We will trim the letterheads or any printed portions to make usable paper for the children for free art and writing centers. We go through a lot of paper here at Creative, so we are happy to accept all donations!

Snow Delay Procedure

Please note that Creative Preschool will, in most cases, follow Oak Hills School in the case of inclement weather. Should Oak Hills call for a Snow DELAY, Creative Preschool's morning classes will also be delayed, not cancelled. Starting time will be 9:30 for all morning classes. Morning classes will dismiss at the regular time and afternoon classes will begin on schedule. Should Oak Hills call CLOSED, Creative Preschool will also be closed. Of course, you should decide whether you can travel safely with your child. Rest assured that all children are welcome to attend class, even if you need to bring them late.

Note from the Board President

The next board meeting is November 29 at 7:00pm. All are welcome!

Thank you to Amanda Prickett, Kerri Sobolewski, Mary Beth DePaoli, the teachers and aides, and the parent volunteers who helped to make Fall Family Fun Night a success! It was wonderful to watch the children decorate their pumpkins, play games and eat cookies. Everyone had a great time! Thank you!

Fall Fundraiser

Thank you for your support of our fundraisers! Both were a huge success! We'd like to recognize the families of Mason Kauffman, Hannah Maly, Anthony Tranter, Vinny Tedesco, Skylar King, Ellie Hetzel, Danielle Muckley, and Zoe Soaper for their outstanding sales!! By now you should have received your Yankee orders through school. Please email Karen Miller (karenrat@hotmail.com) or Brigid Lipps (brigidlipps@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Creative Preschool Spring Carnival

As Christmas approaches, you are probably looking to clean out those closets and playrooms. Please think of donating your 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. Thank you to those of you who have already given generously! We truly appreciate it! If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amy Huwel at amyhuwel@yahoo.com and Lori Tranter at lpetrungaro@hotmail.com. Also, please take the time to check out and "Like" the Spring Carnival's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/creativepreschoolspringcarnival. Here you can keep up with all the latest Carnival news!