

PreK WEEKLY NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OCTOBER 2021

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

October 4: Dream Maker Farms Petting Zoo

October 15: Gotta Dance visits

October 17: Fall Family Fun Day (rsvp needed)

October 20: Share Day

October 22: Special Art

October 29: **Halloween Party

Week of October 26: Look for Progress Reports

November 2: NO SCHOOL In-Service

November 3, 4 & 5: Picture Days



**HALLOWEEN Party POINTERS!

- Your child may dress in his or her child-friendly Halloween costume on the day of their party.
- Because costumes make bathroom time difficult and tend to be uncomfortable and hot, *please send in a change of clothing for your child!*
- *NO weapons or dangerous props, please.*
- *Please send your child in safe footwear! Gym shoes are still most appropriate!*
- Each child is welcome to bring a Trick-Or-Treat treat to share with their friends.
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NOTES ABOUT THE MONTH

Halloween is a fun and much anticipated day! As we near this holiday, your child will be bringing home Halloween art to decorate your home. These projects give your child the opportunity to increase fine motor skills, listening skills, following directions and increase his/her ability to persist at work on a project to its completion.

For the rest of the month, we will incorporate Halloween themed activities into our STEAM lessons. We will hypothesize which liquid dissolves candy pumpkins, use different techniques to create art and pumpkin catapults and use our minds to build gates for the "Five Little Pumpkins Sitting on a Gate".

We will also begin work on our Halloween bags that will be used at our party to collect our many treats! We have concluded our study of shapes but we will continue to review them through the use of games and materials that are available to your child on our classroom shelves.



Week of October 4-8



We have been preparing for our upcoming petting zoo by reading about farm animals and participating in hands on farm STEAM activities. We will continue our farm activities with a visit from the petting zoo on Monday. Our letter this week is Hh. We will turn our lowercase letter h into a horse.

Throughout this entire week, we will learn more about our sense of hearing.

On Wednesday, we will learn more about the letter Hh. We will begin our Halloween fun by turning our uppercase H into a Haunted House. The children will also become builders when they engineer a gate, after learning to recite the poem *Five Little Pumpkins Sitting on a Gate*.

On Friday, we will read the book *Room on the Broom* by Julia Donaldson. We will work with ordinal numbers when making a story retelling prop to bring home.

Week of October 11-15

We will begin our study of the letter Mm this week by turning our uppercase M into a monster on Monday. During our STEAM learning time, we will experiment with pumpkin catapults!



On Wednesday, we will learn about the monster Frankenstein. We will read a fun book and learn a bit about the artist Pablo Picasso. Then, each child will make his/her own Picasso inspired Frankenstein. This lesson is a fun way to get ready for Halloween and also provides a Halloween decoration for your home!

On Friday, the children will make a lowercase m mouse. We will read the book *Mouse Count* by Ellen Stoll Walsh. In this book a snake is very hungry for ten little mice. Your child will complete an alphabet writing page telling what ten things he/she would like to eat.

The children will also be experimenting with wind and cause and effect when making blow art ghosts. Using straws, the children will blow white dots of paint on a black paper to create a spooky gaggle of ghosts. What happens when you blow hard? Soft?

Week of October 18-22

We will start **Monday** by introducing the letter **Bb** and turning **uppercase Bs** into books and **lowercase bs** into butterflies. We will add to our **science journals** with pumpkin exploration during our STEAM time this week. We will use our science skills to predict and hypothesize about pumpkins.

On **Wednesday**, we will share our day with Mrs. McGowan's class. We will share a fun snack and other activities to make new friends!

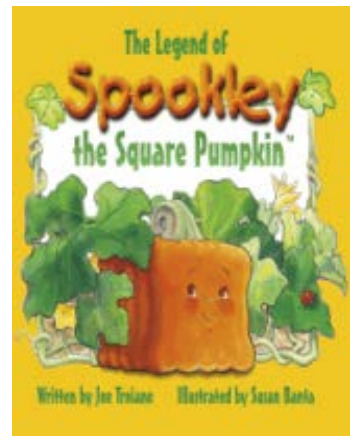
On **Friday**, we will have **Special Art Enrichment** with Mrs. DePaoli. She will teach us about an artist and we will create a project inspired by this artist.

Week of October 25-29

On **Monday**, we will read the book *The Legend of Spookley*



The Square Pumpkin. We will **paint** wooden cubes and create our own Spookley to bring home to you! We will finish up our **pumpkin exploration books** and **carve** our class pumpkin.



On **Wednesday**, we will learn a bit about **arachnids** as we create spider webs out of salt. We will also **experiment with baking soda and vinegar** when we make erupting pumpkins during our STEAM learning time!

On **Friday**, we will have our **Halloween Party!** Please make sure to read the Halloween Pointers found at the beginning of this newsletter and in the all school newsletter!