

October 2015



Kindergarten - D Newsletter

Wow, I cannot believe how quickly the first month of school has gone by. We have been busy learning our classroom rules and routines, recognizing and printing our names, exploring colours, printing numbers and representing number sets, identifying shapes in our environment, and figuring out how to join in play and how to solve the conflicts that arise during play.

The month of October is always a busy and exciting time. We will continue to focus on fall, as understanding seasonal changes is part of the kindergarten science curriculum. We will also spend some time sharing about our families. The children are each to bring a family photo for show and share this month (send to school on your child's special helper day, not earlier), to be displayed in our room for the year. I strongly feel that young children should understand that all families are different and accepted in our society. Over the month we will be reading stories where different types of families are depicted: nuclear, single parent, same sex parents, foster, and blended families. I believe that if children are exposed to different family types when they are young they will grow up more accepting of differences. If you do not want your child to read or discuss any of these types of books please let me know in writing by October 8th, your child can read an alternate book with one of our educational assistants during these story times.

As we get closer to the end of the month, our focus will likely shift to Halloween. I always ask the students if they want to focus on Halloween or continue with our learning project (i.e. fall). We will have a class pumpkin party, and I will send home more information mid-month. If you are able to volunteer in our classroom on Halloween please let me know as soon as possible. I like to have parents run the Halloween centers this day, and of course, you can come in costume :)

Ms. Jenny Drefs

Important Dates

- Oct. 9 - No School: PD Day
- Oct. 12 - No School: Thanksgiving
- Oct. 13 - Apple Day (PM)
- Oct. 15 - Apple Day (AM)
- Oct. 22 - Book Orders Due
- Oct. 26 - No School: ECS Preparation Day
- Oct. 28 - Student Led Conferences
- Oct. 29 - Student Led Conferences
- Oct. 30 - Pumpkin Party & Dress up day



Wanted

I am always collecting items that the children could use at our art center, building center, and for special projects. If you have any of these could you please send them to school:

- Baby Jars - washed and labels removed. We really need these as I currently have none.
- Paper Towel or Gift Wrap cardboard tubes (please do not send toilet paper tubes)
- Buttons
- Milk Jug Caps
- Spools - any size, these make great wheels
- Old Electronics - we will disassemble these at our 'take apart' center later in the year
- I feel like this list could go on forever; basically, if you think we could use it, send it :)

Student Led Conferences

Rather than doing Parent-Teacher Interviews, I like use a Student-Led approach where your child completes activities with you and shows you their portfolio. The children love getting to be the 'teacher' for the evening and showing you what they have been working on and learning about.

I will be sending home an information page and sign-up sheet soon.

Sound Program

We will be beginning our letter and sound program called "Jolly Phonics". I have sent home an information package for you to read through and letter cards to help your child practice at home. I will put the daily sound on the week at a glance sheet. It is really important to reinforce the letter names and sounds at home so your child knows them when they start grade one.



October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Special Helper: Don't forget to send your family photo and slip on your child's special helper day—which is the day their name is on this calendar.				1 Abby	2 Austin	3
4	5 Parent Council Meeting 5:45 Ayden	6 Brandan	7 Brooke	8 Hayden	9 No School: PD Day	10
11	12 No School: Thanksgiving	13 Send an apple to school today. We will sort, peel, and make applesauce. Kaden	14 Kendall	15 Lane	16 Leon	17
18	19 Luka	20 Mason	21 Micah	22 Book Orders Due Paige	23 Sydney	24
25	26 No School: ECS Preparation Day	27 Tristan	28 Student Led Conferences 5:00-8:00 -----	29 Student Led Conferences 4:00-7:00 -----	30 Happy Birthday to Paige Pumpkin Party	31