

September 2010 Newsletter

Toddler/Preschool Classrooms

Miss Christine, Miss Jenn, Miss Francine, Miss Giandra, Miss Barbara and Miss Kathy

Welcome to the toddler/preschool classrooms!!! Sara C, Koby L and Caleb F are going to be Ladybugs. Nate B and Alexandra W are going to be Fireflies.

Welcome Miss Kathy H, our new Firefly teacher that will be working with our team from 3:00 to 5:30.

Happy 2nd Birthday to: Brooke on the 4th, Lexi and Siena on the 6th and Tara on the 24th.

Apple Picking is September 17th, we need one adult per child in order for us to go.

REMINDER: Curriculum Night is Friday, October 1st.

Learning in English Language Arts

We will be listening to a wide variety of age appropriate literature read aloud; some of the stories are but not limited to: When I Was Little by: Jamie Lee Curtis, Shape Space by: Cathryn Falwell, Color Dance by: Ann Jonas and Going On A Leaf Hunt by: Steve Metzger. The children will be interacting in small groups while we create a classroom poster; by graphing what the children like as they eat foods that are sweet, salty and sour. The children will be encouraged to wait patiently, take turns, and ask questions. As we “cook up” a no mess/no bake apple pie, the children will engage in meaningful conversations and discussions with their teachers and friends.

Learning in Mathematics

The children will use number blocks with pegs at the table, with the guidance of their teachers the children will be able to listen to and say the names of the numbers and see them in context. As we sing “Five Little Fireflies/Ladybugs” we will be able to connect many kinds/quantities of concrete objects and actions to numbers. Fruit shapes will be served for snack and the children will be able to identify materials of various shapes using appropriate language.

Learning in Science and Technology/Engineering

During the start of every school year we introduce and discuss our classroom pets and plants. It is important to allow the children to be a part of and take responsibility for caring for things in the classroom. The children will investigate,

describe, and compare the characteristics that differentiate living from non-living things. We will be creating a height chart and discussing and comparing who is tall, who is taller, etc. The children will be encouraged to ask questions and seek out answers with the assistance of their teachers. We will continue this activity throughout the school year. As fall rolls in, we plan on taking the children on a couple of nature walks. We have found before: pine cones, acorns, colored leaves on trees and the ground. We will discuss and encourage the children to identify characteristics of local weather based on the children's observations.

Learning in History and Social Science

It is important for the children to become familiar with their school and the community that has developed here. We will walk around together taking pictures and talking about who and what we see. We will then together create a map of our findings and display it. As the parents and teachers help the children create their "On The Way To School; I See" book: together we will be constructing and describing simple maps of the children's immediate neighborhoods. As the children settle in for a new and exciting school year we will be discussing and identifying the order of our daily routine. Both classrooms have child friendly schedules posted and the children will be encouraged to look at them to find out what comes first, next and last.

Learning in Health Education

The children will trace each other with the help of their teachers; they will listen to and use appropriate language describing names and functions of parts of the human body. We will be working as a group to create a collage of items that we like for various reasons. The children will be using scissors and ripping pictures out of magazines for this project. This activity strengthens the child's hand grasp and strengthens the flexibility in their hands and fingers. As the children use the easel and color at the chalk board, they will be building upper body strength and stability to gain controlled movement of their shoulders.

Learning in the Arts

The children will be able to participate in simple sequences of movement, dance to various kinds of music and sing expressively in circle; one of the songs we will be singing and moving to is "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes". As we paint with our favorite colors the children will be able to create art work from memory or imagination. As the children work together and create a circle collage; they will work with materials that are two and three dimensional.