



St. John Preschool
Wheaton, IL
September 27, 2009

Mrs. Scheel's Classroom Newsletter

Welcome to Fall!

What fun we had exploring colors last week. Please take some time to enjoy and even feel the art work in our gallery. We really enjoyed the special shaving cream squish painting.

This week we will be jumping into our apple unit. We will be doing some apple taste testing and even a little cooking this week.

If you are interested, our classes are ready for parent helpers to enter the mix so keep an eye out on top of our mail boxes for a sign up sheet. We welcome helpers from 8:20-9:00. Volunteers (mom, dad, grandma, grandpa) may be asked to assist with our craft for the day or as a story reader. Let me know if you are interested. We do not need to have a helper every day so only sign up if it works for you.



Prayer For Our School Year

Dear Lord,
Grant that we may grow to know you better each day.
Help us to follow your example and to let your light shine through all that we say and do.
Amen

Circle Learning

Today we began our apple exploration. We looked at the parts of the apple (skin, stem, leaves, seeds, and core). We discussed what the purpose of each part is and whether or not we eat that part of the apple. We will be taste testing different varieties of apples this week. If your family has a favorite feel free to send one in for us to try. On Thursday and Friday we will be making individual apple pies both paper and edible!



Jesus Time

While our time with Noah was a blast we are ready to move on through our Genesis stories and now will be learning about Abraham, Sarah and Isaac. The stories about these important figures in the bible teach us that with God anything is possible and it is important to put our trust and faith in him.

Music and Movement

We are quite the moving and grooving bunch! We will be introducing three new songs this week as well as singing the ones we have learned so far. Singing our songs is not only an excellent exercise for our memories but it also teaches vocabulary, patterning, rhythm, rhyme, and counting skills. Wow our children have learned so much already and we have so much fun ahead of us!

Sing Along Fun

An Apple Surprise



Way up high in the apple tree
A little brown worm smiled at me.
I winked my eye,
And what do you suppose?
A shiny, red apple dropped on my
nose!

5 Little Apples

5 little apples lying on the floor,
I'll roll one away and that leaves 4.
4 little apples hanging on a tree,
I'll pick one off and that leaves 3.
3 little apples, I know what I'll do!
I'll put one in my pocket and that leaves
2.
2 little apples sitting in the sun,
I'll pick one up and that leaves 1.
1 little apple waiting in my lunch,
I'll eat it up with a crunch, crunch,
crunch!



Father Abraham

Father Abraham had many sons,
many sons had Father Abraham,
I am one of them and so are you,
So Let's all praise the Lord.
Right arm

Repeat and each time add a new
body movement.

- 2, Left arm!
3. Right leg!
- 4 Left leg!
- 5 Chin up!
- 6 Turn around!
- 7 Sit down!

Special Notes

Our first class book of the year will be starting its way around the class this week. You will find the book in a special baggie. Please read the story with your child or let them "read" it to you and then return it to school for another friend to enjoy.

An updated calendar has just been sent home. Please look carefully at this calendar as it has a few corrections from our previous edition.

We are working hard to keep our little ones healthy and we appreciate all of your help. The morning hand washing is a great start to our day. We have been practicing healthy habits like sneezing and coughing into our elbows and keeping hands and toys out of our mouths. We appreciate your help in reinforcing this with your child as well.

Parent Corner

Benefits of Preschool

The chance to interact with other children is the benefit of preschool in a nutshell but it is far more than what those few words say.

Interacting with other children means learning how to wait, how to take turns, and how to listen. Young children learn social skills when they interact with other children. These social skills are critical to a developing personality and I would not dismiss them lightly.

There are other advantages to preschools -- primarily that they are the foundations for academic learning. In preschool your child will listen to poetry and songs -- building blocks needed to grasp phonics and reading skills when it is developmentally appropriate. The play that takes place with water, sand, and containers form the foundation for understanding some basic math concepts. Matching, sequencing, one-to-one correspondence are all activities that are done over and over in preschool settings and help children get ready to learn academics. Watching other children pursue a challenging task is also helpful. The presence of other children and a wide variety of materials are two big reasons why a preschool is a good thing.

An excerpt from Familyeducation.com