



St. John Preschool
Wheaton, IL
October 5, 2009

Mrs. Scheel's Classroom Newsletter

Welcome to Fall Fun!

Last week we had a fantastic time with our apple explorations! We have great cooks and very observant students. We are looking forward to putting our sharp eyes to good use these next two weeks as we explore all the signs of autumn. We will be taking little nature hikes around our school and hunting for clues that fall is here. If you and your child find little signs of fall at home and would like to add them to our discovery table, feel free to bring them in. We will also be putting out a request for each child to bring in a **SMALL** pumpkin (think softball size or smaller) in the next few weeks for our pumpkin decorating and measuring. This will come home again when we are finished.



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

We will spend the next two weeks exploring all the exciting signs that autumn is here. We will look for changes in the weather, the plants, and even the animals. There is a lot of new vocabulary that goes with this new season.

Jesus Time

We march on through the book of Genesis with our wonderful preschoolers. They have done a fantastic job learning our bible stories and talking about what God is teaching us with His words in the Bible. This week we will learn about Jacob's Lie. We will talk about what it means to tell a lie and how that hurts us and others. Next week we will move to the story of Jacob and Rebecca. We learn more about our feelings and other people feelings. We will talk about how our choices may effect others in good and bad ways.

Music and Movement

I hope you are all enjoying you little one's beautiful voices. I know I am. We will continue to practice all the songs we have learned so far as well as learn a few special fall themed songs. We will be trying out some new song and dance music and moving our bodies to rhythms. We look forward to our weekly visits with Miss Kindshi and all the fun she brings with her.



Sing Along Fun

Tree Tune

(sung to the tune of "Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes")

Leaves, branches, trunk and roots,
Trunk and roots.

Leaves, branches, trunk and roots,
Trunk and roots.

Nuts and berries, seed and fruit,
Leaves, branches, trunk and roots,
Trunk and roots.

(Motions - Leaves - wiggle fingers
Branches - move arms up and down
Trunk - hands on hips
Roots - touch toes)



Important Dates

Thursday and Friday
October 8 +9
Preschool is in session

Monday October 12
Columbus Day No School

October 20
Picture Retake Day
More info to follow

Week's Highlights

This Week

Leaves and Trees
Color Changes
Scarecrows
Weather Changes

Next Week

Animals Prepare
Owls
Squirrels
Birds Migrate
Nuts and Harvest

Notes, Notes, and More Notes!

Some of the most important skills that we are learning in preschool are not as easy to see as the academic ones. We are working everyday to help our students develop what is called their social and emotional intelligence. What this means in a nut shell is that our level of success in school and life has as much to do with what we know as it does with how we handle ourselves and others. In preschool we help to set the foundations for building good friendships, working well with other people, recognizing our emotions and learning how to express ourselves in socially appropriate ways. We do this by reading stories, playing games, using good manners, participating in role playing and practicing how we can handle ourselves in different situations. Your child may tell you about some of the silly lessons like not popping our friend's bubble or Mrs. Scheel bumping into her helper teacher. These lessons are being used to help our little ones learn vitals skills like respecting other people's feelings, being careful with our bodies, and making good choices. These will be skills that our children will continue to fine tune through out their lives. Watch for handouts related to helping your child develop their social and emotional intelligence.