



PRESCHOOL NEWS OCTOBER 7, 2011

Dear Preschool Families,

I sit here this morning already in school but wearing my pjs. My youngest wants to know why I didn't get the iron out this morning like I usually do. I am hopeful that our pajama day is another fun and successful day for your little one. We have had such a great start to the school year. Already Sue and I see such progress in each and every one of them from learning our routine, to sitting longer periods of time in circle, to finding their way around center time. They have learned most of their friends' names and continue to learn more about each other every day. It is truly a joy to behold.

We have spent the last two weeks learning our first two letter people (Mr. N and Mrs.P) and learning our Zoo Phonics animal sounds. It is important at this time to step back, review and throw in a fall and apple theme. I have found that if you go at them too fast with too many letters and numbers, some can tend to get overwhelmed and at this early of a time in the school year we simply do not want to do that. We will review our letters this upcoming week along with our fall theme as well as our number recognition and sequencing. With regards to patterning, everyone does a fantastic job and we have had a great deal of fun with that this week. We have done our "AB" patterns and will begin a "AABB" one in the weeks to come.

Because the weather has been so positively beautiful, this upcoming Monday, October 10 we are going to take a short hike in the neighborhood after centers and an early snack to collect some leaves and acorns. We will talk about God's paint brush and how he colors our world this time of year in reds, yellows, oranges, and brown. We will discuss the fact that the plants and trees will prepare for a winter sleep to reawaken next spring. Our science experiment will be dissecting apples to find out exactly what is inside and how they grow. Plan on your little one taking a taste test of apples, apple sauce, and apple juice to decide which one they prefer the most.

Attached is a field trip permission slip. We will be going to Koetsier's Green house on Wednesday, October 26th. Please sign the permission slip and return. There is no charge for your preschooler as our wonderful Home and School picks up the cost. And there is no charge for you to join us so please consider coming along. Younger siblings are always welcome but they do cost \$4.00 which I ask that you attach to the form when you return it. NO CHECKS PLEASE, CASH ONLY.

Lastly, the center helper schedule is in the hallway. If someone has already signed up for a time you wanted, just add your name to that spot. Many hands make light work. Your little one may be either excited or alarmed at your presence in our classroom. Both are very normal. As the year goes on, they get used to parents being here.

God Bless and enjoy the weekend.

Betsy