

October

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Mark your calendars for the St. Joe Fall Festival on October 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be live music, games for younger children, Bounce Houses, Obstacle course for Teens along with food and craft vendors. Please plan to join us for this fun filled family friendly event!!

We would like to thank Keeler Fencing for the installation of the new fence and gate around the front yard of the childhood center. We are pleased with the ability to provide another layer of safety for your precious children.

We would also like to share our appreciation of Aasys Group for the new computers for the offices and staff. The generosity of Tony Coleman is beyond words and we can not say "thank you" enough.

Our center has truly been blessed by the thoughtfulness of our parents and community. We are proud to be a member of this community and look forward to creating a loving learning environment for years to come.

We are in the beginning stages of work on our Butterfly Garden in honor of Mrs. Roxine Barthle. We have met with a landscape designer and with Steve Herrmann about the plant list and other materials necessary. We would like to invite all our families to participate in the building and planting of our garden. There are many ways that you can help. We will have a list of plants that you could donate. The classes are going to create walking path pavers for each room to commemorate the garden project. We will need volunteers to help dig, till and plant. The closer we get to installation, we will send out more information about ways that you can participate.

During the month of October, fall, pumpkins, spiders, corn, Halloween and All Hallows Eve are some of the topics that our teachers and children will be exploring. Please look for Halloween Party Information as well as cooking ingredient list for your child's class.

Thank you for all the monthly donations of snacks and wipes to your child's class. Snack time is an important time of day for our children. The children learn to serve

themselves, pour from a pitcher, drink from an open cup and learn to try new foods. It is important to introduce new foods to children. Their palates are forming and exposure to many different taste, smells, colors and textures will help form the basis for healthy eating all through their life. We like to introduce foods that most people do not think of as "kid" food. Mac and cheese is fine, but why not introduce penne pasta with alfredo and spinach or perhaps instead of just green beans, why not offer asparagus spears? Children will learn to eat what we as adults eat if they are encouraged to. Children's palates change constantly. They may not like something one week, but several weeks later, they may. So ... try again. Letting your child help in the kitchen will also encourage them to eat what they have prepared with you. Please continue to send in those healthy snacks of fresh fruit and veggies that the children can share.

Have a great month and a Happy Halloween.

Blessings,

Ms. Cindie