

VPK & WRAP AROUND

October & November



Welcome Fall!

Everyone has done such a wonderful job adjusting to our VPK schedule. The Children are coming in on time and ready to Learn! The transitions of the early mornings and late afternoons seem to be running smoother. We had so much fun learning all about apples! We are glad to see that more children are wearing closed shoes more as we are active outside running, jumping, riding bikes and other amazing outdoor learning. Please remember to remind your children to sign in in the morning on the clipboard by the front door and to flip their "Who's here today" card when they get inside the classroom. Thanks to everyone who was able to provide school supplies for our classroom.

We are going to start our new unit "All about Me" which is a reflection of self, family, friends, interest, and dislikes. The children will enjoy this as many children in our classroom already know each other. We would like to see if there are new facts that the children do not know about their classmates. We also have some new faces that will have fun expressing self. I will adjoin the "five senses" and their functions with "all about me". We will be covering the foundations of the Shapes and their mathematical terms, Numbers 1-20 not just counting but, knowing the number out of order. For our letters, we will be understanding the sound and words that begin with that letter. We will also cover the colors and telling time. We have already started to at least cover the hours ... not minutes. (1 o'clock, 4 o'clock, and so on). Our unit also covers "health and safety" which will be tied into community helpers. If you would like to come in and discuss with the children anything about your career as a community helper or Health and Safety field, please let me know. We have scheduled this into the first two weeks of October. The children always enjoy and learn a lot from that tangible fireman who comes in his fire suit or that special nurse who tells their story, and can bring working tools, and the police officer who shows us how to call 9 1 1, and his/her role in law enforcement.

If anyone has any working tools for our classroom we could use them to teach the children. Some ideas are blood pressure machines (even if its broken, the children love to explore the cuff and put in on their arm); Doctor paper (the kind we lay down on at the doctors) & masks. We picked the medical field as an example. Any field that we could use, we would just love.

At the end of October, we will be exploring Spiders, matching letter spider webs, learn some spider movements, and songs. We will also learn about pumpkins, corn and all about "All Souls Week." We will also make Butter from scratch with the children to eat with our corn. The Middle of October, we will need Corn, Pumpkins, and Gourds as we will be learning from those items. We will carve our Jack-

O-Lantern, taste pumpkin pie, and learn from the seeds. We will weigh, measure, and paint with the different kinds of pumpkins and gourds. We will read many stories about pumpkins and continue reading some of our Halloween books as well as singing our Halloween songs.

At the end of October, we will be having a "All Souls Day" Celebration and celebrate Halloween with our annual "Trick or Treat" between classes and a special snack. If you can donate a bag of candy to help with our trick or treating, it would be greatly appreciated. Please check the labels. Remember we are a peanut free center. When choosing a costume, please remember we have very young children in our center and all weapons should be saved for home. Please watch for a sign-up sheet for more information.

Our Discovering God's and Bright Beginning's World religious education program will offer us lessons about celebrating Fall. Our study topics will be: Joseph in prison and shares his food. Joseph forgives his family, God cares for a widow, I can pray to God and thank Him for his goodness. Birds feed Elijah. God helps Naaman.

Lastly, In November, the children will be learning all about the end of Fall as it is such a special time. We will be covering Fall, the cooler weather, Leaves, Family, and Thanksgiving. Parents please remember the cooler weather means layers of clothing because sometimes, its warmer during the day. Please label your children's jackets and sweaters. We will continue learning about Fall and learning about Pumpkins, Leaves and Harvest. Our class will be learning stories, songs and learning activities such as matching upper and lower-case letters on fall leaves, exploring different kinds of pumpkins and gourds. We will be learning about Thanksgiving and focusing on families. We will discuss where we live, our families and how we celebrate Thanksgiving together. To celebrate Thanksgiving, we will talk about what we are thankful for: Our families, Our Friends, homes and school. We will be reading many stories about Thanksgiving and learning of this important event through many ways, such as art, songs, children's poetry and food. We will be having our annual Thanksgiving celebration at the end of the unit. We will let you know more about it the closer we get to the holiday.

Thank-you for all you do. Thank you for entrusting us with your world ... your children. If you have any suggestions, please let us know. We do try to connect once a day with either who drops off or picks up your child. We know a lot of you want to know what we did in the core learning part of the day. The learning wall is every day and ongoing and the core lesson is always posted between our two restrooms on the long paper. If you still would like to talk to Mrs. Ida, sometimes she might not have arrived yet or has already gone home. If you don't see her, feel free to call her at the school. We are all here for your child.

Mrs. Ida

Miss Riley

Sister Donna

Miss Victoria