



ST. JOSEPH PRESCHOOL

Newsletter

OCTOBER 2019

**OCTOBER THEME**

During this month, we will be focusing on fire safety, leaves and pumpkins, and celebrating Halloween. The Shooting Stars will also learn about the letters D and E and bats, and take a fun field trip to Harvest Valley Farm for a fall harvest tour. The Big Dippers will learn about rectangles, favorite nursery rhymes and the numbers two and three. They will also take a field trip to the Pittsburgh Zoo. October will be a fun-filled month!

LITTLE DIPPERS: October will be a busy month for the Little Dippers. We will be discussing pumpkins, spiders and scarecrows, and as Halloween draws near, we will be making some spooky items and learning some Halloween rhymes. We will have our Halloween party on October 30. The children **can wear their costumes to school** if you wish. Pictures can be taken at the beginning of class. You may bring a treat for their Halloween bags, too. **Please, no treats with nuts or peanut butter.** There are 10 children in the class. A link to sign up through SignUp Genius for games or crafts will be e-mailed to you the first week of October.

BOOK ORDERS

The deadline for this month's book orders is October 10. Visit www.scholastic.com/bookclub to order online. Our activation code is GRPJD.

FIRE SAFETY

On October 3, Parkview Volunteer Fire Dept. will bring a fire truck to preschool for our Big Dippers and Shooting Stars to see and learn about. We will also hold a fire drill sometime this month. We will prepare each class prior to the drill.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We wish the following children a very happy October birthday:

Eli Casile - October 12
Capri Neiswonger – October 15
Elsie Bamberg – October 19
Cassie Weisband - October 31

**ABSENT CHILDREN**

If your child is going to be absent, please call our office (412-963-8885 ext. 302) or e-mail Terri@stjosephohara.com to let us know. It will help us to start class on time if we know in advance which children will not be there. Thank you.

**HALLOWEEN CELEBRATIONS**

The Shooting Stars and both classes of the Big Dippers will celebrate Halloween on Thursday, October 31. The children are welcome to bring their costumes to school. We will have our parade (outside, weather permitting) at **10:45am sharp**. Parents and siblings are invited to come for the parade and the parties (held after the parade). If you wish, you may send in a treat for the treat bags in your child's class. There are 8 Red Big Dippers, 15 Blue Big Dippers, 12 Shooting Stars in Mrs. Ann's class, and 12 Shooting Stars in Mrs. Whistler's class. Reminder: **No treats with nuts or peanut butter.** A link to sign up for games or crafts will be e-mailed to you the first week of October.

Happy Halloween!

PRAYER REQUEST

Some parents have asked for a copy of our prayers that we say in preschool so that they may use these prayers at home. Thank you for your interest.

Morning Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for this day,
May our little hands and mouths,
Give praise to you today.
Amen.

Snack Prayer

God we thank you, God we thank you,
For this food, for this food,
We are very thankful, we are very thankful,
God is good, God is good.
Amen.
(Sung to the tune of Frere Jacques)

EXTENDED WEDNESDAYS

Don't forget: we offer an extended day on Wednesdays from 11:30am to 2:00pm. The afternoons are spent playing with toys, having lunch, going to the playground or our gym, doing puzzles and crafts and much more! It is a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of free play and socialization. Extended Wednesdays are offered to all of our Big Dippers and Shooting Stars; simply let us know preferably by the Monday of that week if you would like to sign your child up. The rate is \$20.00 per child for the afternoon. Please note: we keep the doors locked during the day. At pick up time, we will bring the children to the front school doors for dismissal.

THINGS WE NEED...

- Small yogurt containers
- New or gently used kid's meal toys, or other small toys for our prize box

VISION SCREENING

The Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh will offer **free** vision screening for the Big Dippers and the Shooting Stars at Preschool on October 22. The screenings are conducted as simple games. Informational letters and opt-out forms will be sent home soon.

PITTSBURGH ZOO FIELD TRIP



The Big Dippers will be taking a field trip to the Zoo on Tuesday, October 8. They will be attending a 45-minute hands-on class at the Zoo, after which we will tour the rest of the zoo. The fee is \$10.00 per person. Permission forms and fees will be due by October 1.

HARVEST VALLEY FARMS FIELD TRIP

On Tuesday, October 8, the Shooting Stars will take a fun field trip to Harvest Valley Farms in Valencia, PA. We will have a story time, a visit to a pumpkin patch to get our pumpkins, see some animals, and lots more. Please meet at HARVEST VALLEY FARMS at 9:50am. The fee is \$8.00 per child; adults and babes in arms are free. Permission form and fee are due by October 1.

THANK YOU...

- To our playdough makers Nicole Kelly, Kaitlyn Bloom, Karine Drappatz, Jennifer Lebo, Kimberly Bowles and Lauren Murray. The color for October is orange.
- To Karine Drappatz for the fresh eggs!
- To our cutter/crafters this year: Sue Snow, Cindy Gray, Christina Ashwin, Sarah Cicero, Meghan Hughes and Mari Vandenburg.
- To everyone who purchased and sold the Kidstuff Coupon Books.
- To all the parents who filled in on our vacant snack dates.
- To Jeff Bamberg for the toys.
- To Sarah Cicero for the K-Cups.
- To Heather Bonaroti for the books.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Every Thursday, we have been sending out an e-mail with our weekly updates. If you have not received them, please check your spam/junk folder. Please let us know if you are not receiving them. Thank you.

