
❖ Preschool Prints ❖

Nathalie B. Hammond Preschool Inc. 737-8726

October 2011

Halloween Festivities

We will celebrate Halloween with a parade and a nutritious feast. The children may come to school dressed in costume. Please keep this simple! **Sneakers must be worn.** Have children wear light weight clothes underneath their costume. If this is not possible, pack their clothes in their tote bag. **We will change out of the costume to play outside if the weather and time permit.**

If a child does not wish to dress up that is fine. If they just want to share a small part of the costume with their class at circle time that is okay, too. A wand, crown, cape, hat, or any simple piece of the costume is acceptable. **Please no toy guns, swords or weapons of any kind.**

The Halloween festivities planned **include:** a visit from the Great Pumpkin who will talk with the children about Halloween safety. The children will then act out the story **The Big Pumpkin.** A nutritious meal will be served to conclude our celebration.

PARENTS, a sign-up sheet for the party will be posted on the Information Board as you enter the building. Please sign up for a special treat to contribute for our party fun. Please check the calendar for your child's Halloween celebration.

Three-day and Five-day Pre-k The children in the three-day and five day programs will participate in a very special Halloween Activity. We are calling it Trunk or Treat. Look for a special email identifying what is needed and how parents can help with this fun experience. Sign up sheets are posted on the parent board.



Here is a future firefighter in the making. Our children learn that firefighters are our friends.

Little Theater Day

The 3-day and five day pre-k children will participate in our first Little Theater Day of the year on October 5th. The pre-k classes will re-enacted the landing of Columbus in the new world. To do this the children will take the part of sailors, King Ferdinand, Queen Isabella, Columbus, and the "Indians". Costumes, props, and music add a special bit of magic.

At Thanksgiving, the children will play the part of the Pilgrims and Indians in the re-creation of the First Thanksgiving. This celebration will culminate with a sumptuous feast.

For the December Holidays, the parents, grandparents, and siblings are invited to school for a special holiday Sing-Along. Check the dates posted on the December calendar.

Rainy Day Pick-up

Rainy day pick up is inside the building. Parents of Mrs. Cannon's Pre-k please wait for your child in the gym room. Parents of Mrs. Marshall's pre-k and three year olds please wait in the enrichment room for your child to be dismissed to you. Mrs. Thompson's three year old classes wait in the hallway outside her classroom.

No one is to park in the fire lane outside the preschool entrance. Follow regular parking policy for dismissal. I or another staff person will be available outside to dismiss the cars. Safety is our number one concern here at Hammond Preschool.

Fire Lady Visits

Fire Prevention Week is October 3rd through the 7th

Mrs. Diane Silverman, our fire lady, will visit on Wednesday, October 12 and Thursday, October 13th. Mrs. Silverman will discuss: examples of good fire and bad fire, what to do if matches are found, the stop, drop, and roll procedure, and how to crawl out of a smoked-filled room. The children also will have an opportunity to try on some fire fighter equipment and experience a fire drill.

The three day and five day pre-k children will visit Fire Station 9 on Delaware Avenue in Newark on Wednesday, October 19th. Permission slips will be sent home on Monday, October 17th.

Due to limited parking around the fire station as well as close indoor quarters inside the fire house, only the children and staff will participate on this trip. We thank you for your cooperation and we will request your help again for future field trips.

Independent Life Skills

Parents, we need your help in fostering independent life skills in our children. We are encouraging the children to do the following:

1. Walk into the building and to their classroom on their own two feet. This is also encouraged at dismissal time.
2. To hang their tote bag and coats on their hooks themselves. This is so they can find their belongings when they need them at play-ground time, dismissal time, or anytime during the morning.
3. Dress in clothing appropriate for a three or a four year old. We are encouraging self-help skills when using the bathroom. Belts and overhauls are too difficult for little fingers to manipulate. Children become very frustrated when they cannot accomplish something on their own. Pants with elastic waistbands are preferred. That way a child can pull up and down his pants himself and feel good about becoming independent. **NO BELTS!**
4. **Hand washing is so important!** Please encourage them to wash hands after using the bathroom at home, too.
5. Potty trained boys are encouraged to stand to urinate. This is not encouraged for the child in the beginning stages of potty training.

Our goal is to help each child feel good about what they can do for themselves.

Reminders:

Cutting Skills

The children are working on their **cutting skills** in school. This activity strengthens fine motor control. Please encourage your child by **supervising** some cutting activities at home on rainy days. Coupons, scraps of paper, pictures from magazines are good for children to practice cutting.

Medical Forms

If your child has a birthday after September 30th and also has a medical form on file with us please, send in the new medical form as soon as your child has his wellness check. This completes the registration process for this year.

Wishing Well

On the wall across from the parent information board is a Wishing Well. The teachers have designated this location to post items they feel they can use in the classroom. For example: A teacher in our 4 year old program asked for a broken VCR. A parent in her class saw the request and brought in a VCR for the children to take apart and hammer on. They enjoyed this experience immensely.

Please check the Wishing Well periodically for any special requests. Take the post it off the wishing well that way we know that a person is filling that request. Other needs: The staff is requesting the following items: shoe boxes and used tennis balls.

Parents

Colors

During October included in the weekly themes is the color of the week. To reinforce this concept the children are encouraged to wear the color designated for those days. Please know this activity is optional. Colors and themes are posted on the calendar

Personal Safety Program

The children in the three day and five day pre-k programs begin the personal safety program this month. Look for the parent information about each lesson on our web site. Each lesson introduced is identified on the calendar. Click on Safety. If your child has any questions you will have some background as to how to answer him/her.

Weather Alert!

Please listen to WDEL 1150 or WILM 1450 in the morning for word about school cancellations when the weather and roads are questionable. You may also call the school's voice mail system after 7:00 a. m. for our school announcement. (737-8726) Also check our Web Site for our school closing or late opening announcement.

Fund-raising

Please remember to use Amazon.com for any holiday purchases this holiday season as well as through out the year. Use the link from our web site so our school will receive up to 10% profit from your purchase. We will use all monies earned toward field trips, speakers, or supplies. **Thank you for your**