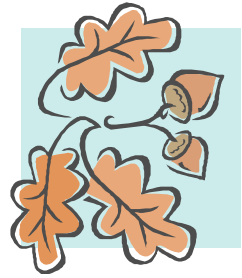


October 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Owls, Spiders, and Bats						¹ <u>October Godly Play</u>
² Pumpkins	³ Tuition Due	⁴ Children's Chapel	⁵ Children's Chapel	⁶ Children's Chapel	⁷	⁸ Jesus and Zacchaeus
⁹ Transportation	¹⁰ No School Columbus Day	¹¹	¹²	¹³	¹⁴	¹⁵ Calming the Storm
¹⁶ The color orange	¹⁷	¹⁸	¹⁹	²⁰	²¹	²² Jesus and the Paralytic
²³ The letters P, S, T	²⁴	²⁵	²⁶	²⁷ Halloween Parties, 2 day classes	²⁸	²⁹ Parable of the Good Samaritan
³⁰ Squares	³¹ Halloween Parties	Join us for the costume parade immediately after drop off, on the day of your child's Halloween party!				



Blessings News October 2011

(630) 904-9898 www.littleblessings.org



From the Director.....

September was a great month, filled with getting to know new friends and teachers, and learning to work together as a classroom community. One goal each teacher sets for her class is to foster a sense of family for the children, where they look out for each other's needs, and show compassion and care for one another. First we emphasize a caring classroom community where all can feel secure and loved, and then we help the children look further into the world around them. Participation in activities such as Godly Play, Children's Chapel, and service projects help children understand that God loves them, and in response to this love, we reach out and help others in need.

Our September Godly Play stories were *Jesus and the Children*, *Creation*, and *The Garden of Eden*. Each story taught the children something important about God's love for us. Using small wooden figures and other story props the children were able to visualize events such as Jesus taking children in his arms and blessing them, the sequence of the creation story, and Adam and Eve leaving the garden but knowing that God's love was still with them. Each month brings three or four new Godly Play stories.

Children's Chapel begins on October 4 and 5. Chapel quickly becomes a favorite each year for the children, their teachers, and the parents. Right after drop off, we meet in the Worship Space, and the children are seated with their teachers. Parents are encouraged to attend, if possible. We start with a song that Ms. Lisa taught the children during Music; next Pastor Mark does a short skit or message, and we finish with a prayer and closing song. Chapel is a very meaningful way to begin each month. Look inside this newsletter to learn which day your child's class attends Chapel.

From time to time throughout the year, we participate in service projects. These are an opportunity to reach out to others in need, while teaching children compassion. In September, school supplies were collected for local children. During the month of October we will hold a second service project. One of the monthly themes is to explore the concept of peace, what it means, and how we all can be peacemakers. In caring for others, and reaching out to them, we can make the world more peaceful. This service project is one that children will really embrace; a birthday in a bag! We will be collecting supplies and treats that will be sure to make a child's birthday special.



Thank you for your support during this new school year! ...Ms. Stephanie

October Service Project: Children Helping Children!

During the month of October, Little Blessings families will be asked to help children in need by supporting Humanitarian Service Project's (HSP) "Party-In-A-Bag" program. A Party-In-A-Bag is given to each of the 800 impoverished children served by HSP. These kits help them celebrate when their big day arrives!

We are collecting:

Cake Mix	Frosting	Candles	Balloons
Streamers	Cups	Napkins	Book for the birthday child
Tablecloths	Plates	Party Favors	Treat Bags



We are Looking for Hospitality Volunteers

The Little Blessings Advisory Board provides support to our preschool in so many different ways! They are currently working on plans to "treat the teachers" on special days such as conferences and training workshops. Please contact our Advisory Board Chair, Maria Dresnin, at mdresnin@att.net to learn more.



**For Everyone's Safety:
Cell phone use is discouraged
during drop off!**

Which Day Does My Child Attend Chapel?

Tuesdays

All 2 day classes
4am100
4am224
4am144
4pm144
5am226
Kpm224

Wednesdays

All 3 day classes
4am246
5am146



Have you noticed the Paper Retriever bin in the lower level parking lot?

For every ton of paper collected Little Blessings will receive money! We accept:

- Newspaper
- Magazines
- Catalogs
- Mail
- Office Paper
- Paperback Books
- Hard Cover Books with covers removed



Thank you!!

Fall Conferences and the Scholastic Book Fair

are just around the corner...

Who does my child play with? Does she participate during circle time? What does he enjoy most, are there areas where he needs encouragement to try new things? What can I do at home with my child to extend learning?

These are typical questions that will be discussed during conferences on:

Thursday, November 10.

Conference sign ups began on Curriculum Night in September, and will again be posted outside of your child's classroom beginning October 24. We encourage all parents to sign up for a conference, and learn more about their child's adjustment to Little Blessings!



Stop by the upper level Gathering Area after your child's conference, and visit the Scholastic Book Fair. Books for preschoolers and their family members will be available, at reasonable prices. Little Blessings receives a percentage of all sales, so this is a good way to support the Little Blessings Scholarship Fund while adding to your child's book collection.

Be sure to check the "teacher wish list" and consider purchasing a book for your child's classroom library.

Halloween at Little Blessings...

Pumpkins, bats, owls, and spiders, a little parade and party, and a lot of imaginative dress-up are the ways we celebrate Halloween at Little Blessings! Parents are invited to join us for pictures and the costume parade. Please do not dress your child in a costume that is scary or threatening. Lightweight clothing should be worn underneath as most children like to remove parts of their costume as the day goes on. After the parade, parents will say good-bye to their child and we begin the day. This will include usual preschool activities, a walk through the pumpkin room, and a Halloween party provided by "party parents."



Ms. Tracy's Kindergarten Corner:

We are so excited to be in Kindergarten! In September we spent time getting to know one another and talking about classroom rules (a favorite is "no escaping!"). We have already begun learning sight words, writing in our journals, and working on alphabet books. We are learning about patterns, and finding different ways to create them. We have produced graphs and played a dice game called Roll and Record. One day, we each got a number, and we had to position ourselves in numeric order—without any help! This also helped us learn position words such as first, second, third, etc. There was also time to paint fall trees, and make an apple collage. We've had a terrific first month, and are looking forward to October with changing leaves and Halloween!