



OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



2

2-6

9

10-13

16-20

19 & 20

23-27

27

30

30-11/3

Payment #2 Due

Firefighter Unit

SCHOOL CLOSED - Columbus Day

"Where the Wild Things Are" Unit

Fall Unit

School Picture Days

Halloween Unit

Halloween Parade

Payment #3 Due

Children's Book Week



Learning Tree T-shirt days: 6, 12 & 26

Looking ahead...

Nov. 10

Veteran's Day - SCHOOL CLOSED

Nov. 23 & 24

Thanksgiving Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED

The school year is off to a great start! Even though things are falling into place, this can be the time when some students might start to resist coming to school. Remember to be positive and encouraging. The teachers make it their priority to make every child feel safe, secure, and welcome. Please take a moment to read the article called – "Sharing thoughts about Hellos and Goodbyes". Also, please remember, we are always here to help!!

School Picture Days will be on Thursday, October 19th and Friday, October 20th. We will post more info in the foyer about pricing and background information as we get closer to the picture days. There is no pre-ordering necessary. You will receive an email with your child's assigned picture day. Please note that the company is remote so there is no physical studio to do make-up pictures.

To avoid traffic jams and/or parking issues, please follow the painted arrows in the parking lot. We have had a few near accidents and some backups due to cars entering and exiting the wrong way. Please be mindful of this and keep the direction of the parking lot flowing counterclockwise.

Our Instagram pages are up and running. (Please note that your child's participation is optional, and you may opt out of having them posted at any time, by letting the office know.) As a reminder, Instagram is done in addition to the many things that teachers are already doing throughout their school day, so please be patient as we get into a good "posting routine". If you are having trouble finding the correct page, the QR codes are posted nearest your child's grade's lesson plans. You can scan the code and it will take you directly to the page. Please remember that pages are private and only visible to our current families. If you have an Instagram handle that is not easily recognizable, please let the office know so that we can accept your request.

Unfortunately, you probably have heard (or felt!), that the mosquito problem has been pretty bad all over the place. These current breeds of mosquitoes do not need large amounts of water to breed and are biting in clusters. We have contacted Vector Control to survey the area and make sure that there are no issues on our end. Additionally, we have a monthly pesticide company that comes out one weekend a month to do exterior spraying of the building. They have also informed us of the large number of mosquito issues that have reported to their company. We have read quite a bit of information that says the mosquitos will likely stick around for some time, and many resources suggest using deet products, and/or clothing that covers a good portion of the body if you or your child are susceptible to insect bites.

We hope that you are enjoying hearing about what your children are learning so far! As a reminder, Weekly Lesson Plans are posted in the foyer which will tell you what the teachers have planned for each week. You should be checking your child's bin in the hallway at pick up time for any schoolwork, art projects or important things to take home. At the end of October, the teachers will post a short bio and goals for the school year on the Instagram pages so keep an eye out! The academic teachers will send home some info about their curriculum, and the Preschool Tots teachers will send home some classroom info to you as well. You will receive a progress report in January and then again in June, which will show things that have been covered in the various classes, as well as the milestones that your child has reached.

On **Friday, October 27th**, we will have our Halloween Parade at School. If your child does not attend school on Fridays, you are welcome to bring them for the parade. However, due to required ratios, your child must stay with you until the parade begins and rejoin you once it concludes. Approximate time for the parade is around 10 minutes (2 or 3 laps around the playground). * **Please note that parades will start at their designated times, so plan accordingly for parking and drop off.** *

Your student should wear their Halloween Costume to school that day. However, please note that costumes are completely optional. If your child would like to wear their costume to school, please see the guidelines below---

Students who want to participate will come to school with their costume on OVER their regular school clothes.

***All costumes and pieces MUST be labeled with the child's name.**

***Appropriate school shoes MUST be worn.**

***Weapons of any kind are not allowed**

Half Day students will wear their costumes for the duration of their school day. Full day students will be changed out of their costumes before lunch time. Please bring a labeled bag for your child's costume to go into. Costumes can be taken home when you come to pick your child up. ***Please double and triple check that you have all pieces of your child's costume before you leave.***

Parade Times:

Pre School Tots/Toddlers: 9:15am PROMPT

Pre School: 10:15am PROMPT

Pre Kindergarten: 11:15am PROMPT

This is the first event of the school year. So please keep in mind that due to the large crowds, and change in the daily routine, kids may resist participating, be nervous and/or will likely have tears when parents have to go back to work. That being said, once we have paraded around the bike path 2-3 times, we will exit through the side gate and take the kids back to their classes to change. So please make sure to grab pictures early on in the parade. Please exit once your child's parade has concluded so that the parking lot can clear out and students can get back to their day. If you are taking your child home after the parade, please be sure to let a teacher know and sign them out for the day.

****On the actual Halloween holiday, the kids will do fun activities in their classrooms during their regular school day.**

REMINDERS:

*Tuition Billing Statements will be emailed from Notifications@ProcureMessagingService.com to the emails listed on your account, the week before tuition is due. Please remember to check your email for the amount, and/or update the office with your email contacts. Tuition is billed on a 4-week billing cycle and not monthly. Payments are due on your child's first scheduled day of attendance in order to receive the discounted rate. As a reminder, you can always pre-pay with a post-dated check to avoid any confusion. Acceptable forms of payment are cash, check or money order.

*All special snacks for birthdays or holiday party donations MUST be store bought and NUT free.

*Please check your child's bin at pick up time for anything that may need to be taken home.

Dear Families:

Now that we are getting settled into our school routines, you might find that your child may begin to resist coming to school. It is a very normal occurrence that many families encounter at some point. For most children, it is just a phase and will pass. Hopefully the following article will be helpful to any of our families that may be experiencing this little bump in the road.

SHARING THOUGHTS ABOUT HELLOS AND GOODBYES

Every day you and your child say good-bye to one another in the morning and hello again in the afternoon. These hellos and good-byes are children's first steps on a lifelong journey of learning how to separate from and reunite with important people in their lives.

Learning to say hello and good-bye to the people we love is a process, not a goal to be achieved in the first week or month or even year of preschool. Indeed, after many years of experience, we adults sometimes find it difficult to separate and reunite.

We focus on hellos and good-byes in our program because they are such a major part of your child's life today and always. Being able to separate is necessary if children are going to develop as independent, competent people. Being able to reunite is necessary to building and maintaining caring, long-term relationships.

How we can work together:

- *Remember always to say goodbye.* By saying goodbye, you strengthen your child's trust in you. Your child can count on the fact you will not disappear without warning. When you let us know you are about to leave in the morning, we can help you and your child say goodbye. Goodbyes are best when they are done quickly. Prolonging leaving and/or coming back in after you have said goodbye causes confusion to the child and often times makes them more upset.
- *We can work together to create a hello and goodbye ritual.* This may be as simple as giving your child a giant hug, or doing an "I Love you" sign before you leave. Having a ritual offers you both the comfort of knowing what to do. ***When dropping off, ALWAYS walk your child out to a teacher so that they can acknowledge that you are leaving, and give you a hand if needed.
- *Be aware that sometimes goodbyes and hellos will be "bumpier" than others.* As we all know, goodbyes and hellos can stir up many deep feelings. These feelings combined with your child's stage of development and other factors such as being hungry or tired, can make saying good-bye and hello difficult at times.
- *Bring in family photos and other reminders of home that you want to share.* Seeing these special objects will help your child feel connected to you throughout the day.

By working together, we can help your child feel comfortable, secure, and competent in school.

