



Greenhills

Co-Op

Preschool Newsletter

DECEMBER 2015

Administrator's Notes

It has been so wonderful getting to know so many new to the Co-op families! We all welcome you and we love getting to work with you and your child. We continue to love working with our returning families also! We also have a great board to work with this year. Several folks stepped up to the plate after our all school vote in the spring and it is wonderful to have their help! (Thank you Amy Plante- [advertising/ publicity] mom to Evangeline in the Combo class and Jodi Ridings-mom of Sadie in the threes [recording secretary])

The hallway has been a very busy place since September. There is so much learning going on! We work with all areas of your child's development, but so many studies are now saying that the social-emotional component of child development is the key to lifelong learning. I hope that you can all tell that this area is the most important to us also. We want your child to be **fully ready** for the school years that lay in front of them!

If/ when you receive a form from me saying that you need to have your child's medical statement updated, please make sure that the form that I send to you is the one that you use. (It has a revision date of 6/2015) We have had a couple of Dr's offices using much older forms that they must keep in their files. The state will not accept these older forms and you will need to go back to your Doctor and have the correct form filled in. Also, when you receive your reminder, please make your child's appointment. It can be a long wait to get in for a well child check up and we need to keep all of our records in compliance with the state rules. If your form becomes outdated, you will need to keep your child home until the new form is in my hands. (I don't like to do that to your child...)

I hope that you are all checking your child's school bag on a daily basis. There is a lot of information that comes home in/on those bags!

Continue loving, nurturing and reading with your child, you will be making wonderful memories for yourself and your child!

See you in the hallway!

Jan Johnson

Threes News

Wow! I cannot believe that it is the end of October already! Our class time seems to go by so fast, which makes the year seem to be flying by! As you 3's parents know, we have a very busy class this year, but they are all so cute and every one of the children have shown so much growth already! We actually have a few moments of every one listening, remembering their body space, being kind, etc. at every circle time now. :) Our "carpet rectangles" seem to be helping somewhat... When you are three it is so hard to stay focused all the time.

We have had so many fun adventures already, and so many more are coming! The day in the park was so beautiful and the children were able to use up so much energy in a very fun way!

Everyone was so brave when we hosted

"Firefighter Julie" and her helpers. Check out our facebook page and look at her photos that she posted! Some really cute shots! We are enjoying reading each other's' books about themselves and so many other things that go on at school! We do try to stay busy!

We will be looking forward to our Thanksgiving feast and then onto our Christmas Party. With so much going on before and in between those days. Please keep checking those school bags for more information about those 2 special days, but also about so many other things going on at school!

Thanks you so much for sharing your delightful children with me. I truly am enjoying getting to know and love them!

Co-operatively yours,

Jan Johnson

Fours News

Well, another year is well under way, and we would like to welcome you to the Four's program.

We are looking forward to working with and getting to know your children as the year goes by.

We have gotten off to a great start, as the children are becoming comfortable with our routine, and are making new friends and becoming better acquainted with old ones.

During the month of September, the Fours spent time learning about themselves and talking about what makes each one of them unique and special. We started working on our letters and letter sounds, and they are doing a great job coming up with objects that begin with our "letter of the week". They

began working on their journals, and we started putting pictures in their photo albums. (Please feel free to check either of these out when you are in our classroom!) Buddy

Bear has been visiting the children for a few weeks now. The children really look forward to their turn to have him, and they are sharing great stories about their adventures together!

Reminder: Please return Buddy the following class day. You may use one side or both sides of the page in his book. Wash Buddy in a pillowcase when he seems dirty or if your child has had him and has been sick. Also, please make sure that all of Buddy's belongings (his book, clothes, pencil box, toothbrush,



crayons, and pencil) are in his bag, too. The children notice right away when something is missing.

October has been a busy month so far, with lots of learning about fire safety and prevention, and an awesome trip to the Greenhills Fire Station. The kids had a blast squirting the fire hose, "driving" the fire truck, and checking out the ambulance. (We got some great pictures, so check them out!) We are enjoying the cooler Autumn weather and lots of Fall and Halloween projects and activities. We are really looking forward to Pumpkin Night with Dad on Wednesday, October 28th, and we really hope that all of our dads can make it (a grandpa or uncle could fill in, if necessary). Our Halloween party and parade will be on Friday, October 30th. FUN!

During the month of November, we will talk about Community Helpers. The children will enjoy playing doctor, nurse, veterinarian and/or patient. We will make pizzas on restaurant day and have our very own classroom grocery store. We will be learning about the Native Americans and on "Indian Day" the children will dress up as Native Americans with "school-made" headdresses and vests. We will sit around a pretend campfire and eat popcorn for our snack, and they will each receive an Indian name. We will learn about the Pilgrims and the first Thanksgiving, and talk about all the things we are thankful for. We will celebrate

Thanksgiving with our traditional co-op "Thanksgiving Feast". We will make butter and fruit salad and enjoy a "pot luck" of other delicious treats (dressed up as Pilgrims, of course!)

December will bring the holiday season, and we will be celebrating with many fun and exciting activities, as we remember the true meaning of Christmas. This is a season of sharing and giving and the children will be making many Christmas projects and gifts. On Friday, December 11th, we will be walking over to Greenhills Commons to visit the nativity scene and decorate a tree – or bush - with edible ornaments for the birds. (We will also be checking out the store windows for Christmas decorations, and then heading back to school for hot chocolate.) We will be practicing every day for our Christmas program, which will take place on Friday, December 18th at 11:00am. Family and friends are invited to come to the program and to take pictures and videos. Following the program, there will be a special visitor - Ho! Ho! Ho! - who will spend some time with our students and their siblings.

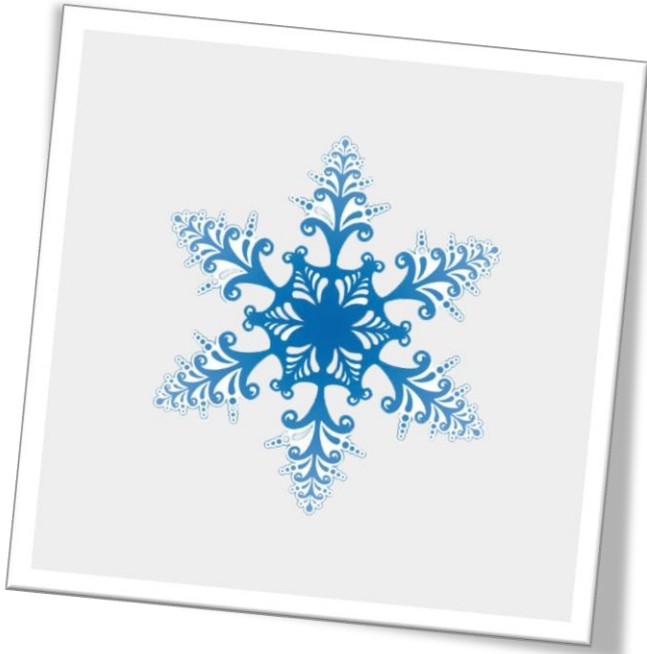
During the hectic holiday season, please remember to take a few extra minutes out of your busy schedule to enjoy fun activities with your children – things as simple as looking in shop windows and at Christmas lights. Children grow up so quickly. Please grab a few extra memories while you can. Thanks for sharing your little ones with us. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas Season.

Sincerely,
Kathy Curry



SCHOOL CLOSINGS

Just a reminder that the preschool follows Winton Woods City Schools for school closure. If Winton Woods has a 1 or 2 hour delay or is closed, we are closed.



COMBO NEWS

We are off to a great start in the Combo Class. September was a month of getting to know one another, learn the rules and routine. We are practicing using our words to get what we need and learning behavior that is consistent with a caring environment.

In September we have reviewed colors and shapes, performed a few science experiments and started learning/ reviewing letters and their sounds. We worked on fine motor skills by practicing tracing, tearing, and gripping. A visit from local musician, Joanie Whitaker was a nice way to end the month with a music class complete with rhythm sticks, her guitar and Drummy, the monkey. I hope your blueberry cobbler turned out as delicious as ours did! The scent alone was mouthwatering!

Early October brought visits to our classroom from Brian Gill of Cool Critter Outreach. What a great way to kick off letter C week by learning about unusual reptiles and their characteristics.

Fire Prevention Week helped jumpstart our Safety theme as the students had the chance to meet a fire fighter up close, sit in a fire truck and squirt the fire hose. Our discussions centered on how to stay safe and what to do in case of an emergency. Developing self care skills is crucial to child development. We appreciate the efforts of the Greenhills Fire Department and the outreach they offer to school groups such as ours.

October brings our work with numbers, starting with one to one correspondence and practice writing our numbers 0 through 10. Our other units for October include positional concepts and gravity as well as opposites and nocturnal animals. Our weekly nursery rhymes are more than fun; they are helping to build vocabulary, imagination, and rhyming sense. Don't forget our Combo Pumpkin Night on Wednesday October 28th. Look for Conference Sign up in the hallway. Conference day is November 5th. There is no class this day. Sign up early and pick your 15minute time slot to discuss how your child is assimilating into the preschool classroom. Tuesday November 24 is our Thanksgiving Celebration. We will celebrate by sharing family recipes and dishes with the you and your immediate family. Look for more information to come home at the end of October.

December will bring cooler weather and the joys of the season. We will be busy baking, decorating, and creating, as we get ready for the holidays. We will continue to work on letters and numbers as well as exposure to sight words. Our holiday party will be classroom games and a visit from St. Nick!

As the year progresses and our days become busier, take time just to be together. Read a book, take a late fall hike, bake cookies or watch a movie together. These are the times your child will remember most.

Sincerely,
Mary Jo Berlon



Special Events Report

Hello! Great news from Team Special Events: We are on pace to surpass this year's quota of 100 Fun-Time Noggin Memories! With just 2 events, our output is already at 42 F-NOMEs! Hot diggity! Best group ever!

Here's a quick rundown of highlights and upcoming:

- September's Meet The Parents / Popsicle Night went great. Children and parents were popsicled to their hearts content. Miss Joanie played some fantastic music. And parents got peace of mind knowing they chose the best preschool for their superstar.
- October gave us Pumpkin Night with Dad. Spooky silly pumpkins found their way into the happy hands of kids and donut holes found their way into our bellies. Yum!
 - Very big thanks to the **Biedenback** family, the **Noel** family, & the **Reardon** family for set-up and clean-up of the 3-year-old class!
 - Extra special thanks to the **Green** family, the **McDonough** family, & the **Potter** family for set-up and clean-up of the 4-year-old & combo classes!

Santa Claus is coming to town! Jolly Old St. Nick will be visiting with all the classes during their Christmas parties. The kids love it, so be sure to have your cameras ready!

Pop Quiz! What's the best committee to be a part of?
TEAM SPECIAL EVENTS! HUZZAH!

Mark Stephens, Fun Manager, TSE
Jeanne Stephens, Secretary of Fun, TSE
Carolyn Stephens, VP of Fun
Charlie Stephens, Intern



Fundraising Report

We're off to a fantastic start to fundraising this year! We have earned over \$1800 in profit so far this year. Great job! Our next fundraiser will be the

Usborne Book Fair on Nov 11 & 12 from 8:30-3pm.

After that will be Poinsettias (late Nov),

Plant Sale (Jan), and another Yankee

Candle Sale (Feb) and Usborne Book

Fair (Mar).

Letters detailing your progress towards your mandatory fundraising commitment will be sent home in early January, and a follow-up letter will

be sent again in April. This should give everyone a clear understanding of where they stand.

Please call me if you have any questions or concerns about your ability to reach your commitment.

Always remember that each campaign is purely voluntary and participation is entirely of your choosing. Pick and choose the programs that work for you to reach your fundraising requirement.

If selling merchandise doesn't suit you, please remember that your commitment amount can be paid off (by cash or check) at any time.

Thanks again, and many blessings for a wonderful holiday season.

Erin Mann

Fundraising Co-Chair

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