



Greenhills Cooperative Preschool

September/ October 2016 Newsletter

21 Cromwell Road | Cincinnati, OH 45218

(513) 825-5300

Enhancing Education Through Parental Cooperation for over 50 years



A great BIG thank you goes out to the OUTSTANDING family that anonymously donated a new vacuum to the school! What a fantastic surprise and a much needed one as well! Thank you so much!



Administrator Notes

What a wonderful start to our new school year we have had! Other than a bit warm on Parent's night, we have been blessed with not too many hot days at school and now the fall cool fronts seem to be coming in. Looks like we should have some great outside days for awhile!

We are pleased to be able to introduce Mrs. Heidi Doose as our new Pre-K Teacher. She comes to us with great experience in the Early Childhood Education field and we are all looking forward to working with her.

I have a few requests from our aides and myself to pass on to all of you. First, please try to dress your children in clothes that they can fairly easily get off and on while using the bathroom. We understand that some buttons and zippers can be hard for little fingers, but some coveralls, etc can be extremely hard for the little ones to work. If they cannot help themselves at home with certain items, they probably will not be able to achieve success with us in the area of self help at school either. :)

Next request is to **please** try not to use the vacuums to clean up spilled sand or other "heavy" items around the sensory tables in the classrooms or "muscle room" I have needed to bring home 2 vacuums already this school year to see why they were not working. Both had "blown" the bag off and were full of sand throughout the inner workings. It is possible that some of the "damage" was left from last school year, but please try to remember to shake the rugs outside, before using the vacuum on them. My husband will be very thankful also!

Now, onto some big THANK YOU notes! THANK YOU to the Emma Leggett (4's class), her Grandma and Aunt Kristi. Grandma has a knack for knowing what we can use and finding great bargains for us. We have a new wood-

Pizza set in the kitchen play area and a hand full of new black sharpies. Aunt Kristi has made the decorations for our WELCOME sign at the bottom of our stairways! I have some new Halloween ones to put out next week!

THANK YOU to Carolyn Stephens (Pre-K) and her family. They have donated a large bag of stickers for the children to use. Who doesn't love stickers!!

And, THANK YOU to Ava Nichting (4's class) and her family for a large ziplock bag of index cards. We use them in the office, but we now can also let the children use them.

The **BIGGEST THANK YOU** goes out to all of you for entrusting your child/children to us this school year! We all pledge to do our best to love, encourage and enrich their lives. We know that our lives will be enriched by all of you. Thanks for joining the co-op family!! We do have 1 opening in the 3 year old class and 3 in the Pre-k class. If you know anyone that might be interested, please give them our name and number.

I look forward to seeing all of you "in the hallway" --- Jan Johnson



3's news

We are off to a great start this year! We have some very fun loving, busy little ones and some with apparently very small bladders, (our aides have been making MANY trips to the bathroom throughout the day) but we also have 13 children with very beautiful smiles and a great sense of adventure. The goodbyes have been almost tearless and the hugs from your little people have already been multiplying every day!

September has found us getting to know about each other in many ways and to learn about some of the "rules" at school. ie; hands are not for hurting, raising our hand at group time to let us know that you have some important words to say, learning about our own body space and how to let others know if we are feeling that someone is too close. How to sit "criss-cross- applesauce , hands in your lap" That it is the "special Helpers" turn to ring the bell for clean-up. Etc, Etc. There is so much to learn at three! I was told many years ago that watching the 3s at circle time is like trying to train a jar of crickets to sit at the same time. What a joy filled jar of crickets we have this year! Remember those beautiful smiles and great hugs that I mentioned before, that fills me with the knowledge of "they will grow up". We have also started on our journal work each day during "choice time".

October will see us talking about Community Helpers (including a wonderful visit /lesson from our incredible volunteer Greenhills Fire Fighters), comparing different types of apples and even making some delicious apple crisp and doing lots of fun fall activities. Speaking of which, be on the lookout for information about our annual Pumpkin Night with Dad later in October. Also be on the lookout for a signup sheet in the hallway to sign up for supplies for our classroom Halloween Party. Don't worry if you don't sign up for this party, you will have extra chances for other parties throughout the year.

We will also be taking a fall hike at the Winton Woods Parcours trail on Tuesday ,October 18th. A permission slip will be coming home soon.

Thank you for sharing your little ones with me this year. I know that we will all have fun learning from each other!

Jan Johnson



Fours News

Well another year has begun 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 on. We have gotten off to a great start, as the children are making new friends and becoming re-acquainted with old ones.

During the month of September, the Fours have spent time learning about themselves and talking about what makes each of them unique and special. We made face cookies for snack, began our journals, began our individual photo albums, worked on our "All About Me" posters, and even had our bodies traced for a class portrait. (Check them out in the hallway.) On Teddy Bear Day we all brought our bears to school. We had lots of fun together - and the bears were very well behaved. Buddy Bear began going home with the children this week. If Buddy hasn't visited your house yet, be on the lookout because he will be coming soon. He will be sent home according to the order of the hook tags. **Reminder: Please return Buddy Bear the following class day. You may use one side or both sides of the page in Buddy's book, and please make sure that younger siblings don't scribble in it. 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 clothes, toothbrush, crayons, pencil, and pencil bag) are in his bag, too. The children notice right away when something is missing!**

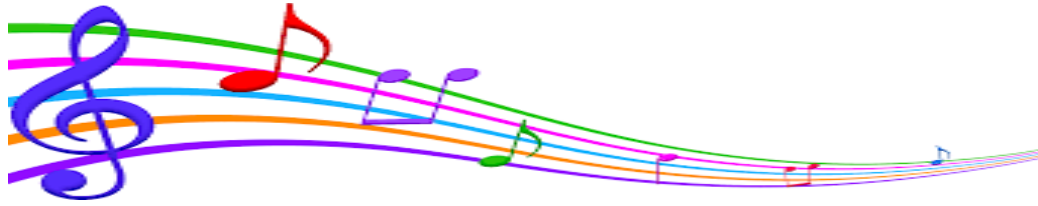
We spent the last week of September having fun with apples. Our activities included an apple tasting contest, making Apple Crunch, and making a very cool apple tree using coffee grounds for bark. (We know many of you coffee lovers will enjoy "sniffing" that bark!). We also began working with letters and letter sounds (one letter per week - the children are having fun trying to think of words that start with the letter of the week.)

We will spend the first week of October talking about fire safety and prevention, the proper use of "911", and how the firefighters and police officers are our friends. We will walk to the Greenhills Fire Station on Wednesday, October 5th. The kids will get to practice fire safety, sit in a fire truck, and squirt a fire hose. It is a really fun field trip, and we hope all of you will be able to participate!

During the month of October, we will be discussing Autumn and its many changes. We will enjoy cooler weather (we hope!), and be on the lookout for busy squirrels and beautiful fall leaves. (We will even write stories about our good friends, the mysterious leaf creatures.) Along with Autumn come the many activities of Halloween. We will have Pumpkin Night with Dad on Wednesday, October 26th 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 Monday, October 31st. Watch for more information on all of these events. (Also, please note that fall conferences will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10th, with no school on the 11th.)

As the weather changes and it becomes cooler outside, please dress your child according to the weather. We will be going outside whenever possible. Thanks!

Co-operatively yours,
Kathy Curry



Mrs. Curry's Circle Song

Put a smile upon your face, let's hear you whistle (whistle).

Put a smile upon your face, let's hear you sing (la la la).

Put a smile upon your face, and clap your hands (clap).

What a lovely way to start each day, with a smile upon your face!

(Sing it again!)

Four's Recipe for Apple Crunch

In a muffin pan or baking dish, layer:

Graham cracker crumbs mixed with melted butter

Applesauce

Cinnamon and sugar

Repeat 1, 2, and 3 as desired. Heat in warm oven and serve warm. Yummy!



Caramel Fondue

(by Mrs. Gaige)

1 pkg. (14 oz.) caramels

2/3 cup light cream

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup miniature marshmallows

Put cream and caramels into pot on low. Add marshmallows.

Add more cream if too thick.

Serve with apple chunks. Great around Halloween!



Pre-K News

Happy Autumn Pre-K Families!

I am so happy to be joining the GCP family as your child's Pre-K teacher. I encourage you to stop by and introduce yourself if we have yet to meet. Please feel free at any time to talk to me any time about any concerns you have for your child. My email address is: poet63@hotmail.com

It's been fun getting to know my new students - they're a great bunch! We were able to start the second week of school with the first letter of the alphabet. You can pretty much count on the continuous addition of a new letter each week. You might also see the addition of some new learning centers and materials, such as the workbench and additional shelving.

Here's an example of our letters and themes for Sept. and Oct. 2016:

Sept. 19-22: Aa, Apples

26-29: Bb, Bears

Oct. 3-6: Cc, Colors

10-13: Dd,

17-20: Ee,

24-27: Ff, Fall

31: Costume Party (no scary costumes, please! i.e. : witches, vampires, werewolves, etc)

Professional Profile

Education: B.S. Biblical Studies and Christian Educ., Cincinnati Christian University.

Experience: Thirty plus years as Lead teacher in an early childhood education field, twenty four years in an administrative role.

Personal Philosophy: "We are all given a Godly gift to succeed at something in life. Our goal is to find that one thing and do it with great passion. My passion is working with young children and introducing them to a wonder filled world of learning, and exploring their potential." It's my goal to make learning so much fun that they look forward to school each day.

-2 years, Ukrainian missionary

-3 years, Nigerian missionary, Back2Back Ministries

-Children's author, "As The Sun Said Goodnight" (Tate Publishing)

She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future.

~ Proverbs 31:25, NLT

Heidi Doose

Is This The Fundraising Section? It is? Hot dang!

FUNDRAISING

It's the 1st newsletter of the 2016-2017 season! Hooray! Here is the news from Team Fundraising. Our first 2 fundraisers just finished! The always popular and wonderfully scented Yankee Candles surprise me with their fantastic candles - Pumpkin Ginger Bark? Yum! The inaugural run of Kid Stuff coupon books also were a hit. My fundraising wife and I scanned the pages and decided, with all the amazing offers, we're gonna take a mini vacation to Columbus come Spring (we're probably also gonna eat at Tom+Chee because grilled cheese donuts!). I don't have any numbers yet from these, but early results show you all really care about our school. Thank you! We're not done, though! Guess what is coming down the pipe... Butter Braid Pastries! Make some room in your freezer! In fact, probably just buy another freezer. These things are good! This fundraiser starts October 10th. All of us will gain too much happy weight starting November 7th. :-)

November brings another new fundraiser to the co-op. The School Kidz Holiday Catalog fundraiser will kick off. If you are too anxious, go to www.SchoolKidz.com/fundraising and check them out.

Finally, and this is way near the end of November, the first Usborne Book Fair is on November 30th and December 1st.

We'll see you all at school! Respectfully,
Your Team Fundraising Overlords (Jeanne & Mark Stephens)

**WE PUT THE
FUN
IN FUNDRAISING**



CLEANING UPDATE

If you can not make your scheduled cleaning please contact Kimberly Bain 903-6556 and her email is kimberly.r.bain@gmail.com. Please disregard previous contact information!

SPECIAL EVENTS



Pumpkin Night with Dad is just around the corner! It will be a fun-filled evening for you and your child. There will be pumpkin carving, singing, and treats for everyone. We will provide the pumpkins; all you need to bring is a carving knife and large spoon.

The dates and times are as follows:

Tuesday, October 25rd

Mrs. Johnson's 3s class

Mrs. Doose's Pre-K class

6:30pm to 7:15pm

Wednesday, October 26th

Mrs. Curry's 4's class

6:30pm to 7:15pm

If dads are unavailable to attend, an uncle, grandfather, or close family friend is welcome to accompany your child. We look forward to seeing you there!

Rachel Breen

Special Events Coordinator

(513) 532-6955

racpud@yahoo.com





FALL MAZE

SHEKNOWS

HELP THE SQUIRREL FIND THE NUT.

