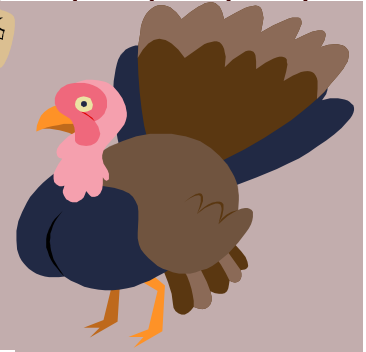


CPS & ECC Gazette



November 2011

The Directors Corner

Dear Families,

I certainly hope that everyone has had at least one opportunity to experience the beautiful colors we have witnessed this year with the fall foliage. If you haven't had a chance, you still have time to at least play in them.

As a licensed child care center through NYSOCFS, Campus Pre-School recently received notification of an amendment to public health law that requires immediate posting of influenza educational material. A **Seasonal Flu Guide for Parents**, is available in the main hallway under Health & Safety that addresses why seasonal flu is serious, signs of influenza and how to protect your child from influenza. For more information on this visit, www.cdc.gov/flu or www.flu.gov. As we step up measures to keep illness at a minimum, we realize that handwashing and keeping children at home with flu like symptoms is imperative! We do realize how extremely difficult finding last minute childcare can be, so please take the time to make arrangements with family, friends, classmates, or neighbors for assistance should the need arise. So please help us all remain healthy by washing hands upon entering classrooms and being mindful of the health policies in the Parent Handbook that was emailed in the beginning of September. A hard copy is also posted in each classroom.

We are working through a few glitches that have developed while extending our green efforts to include the newsletter and menu at our website: <http://www.binghamton.edu/campus-pre-school>. You will also find copies posted in the main hallway. Brief notifications, reminders and updates will be sent out via email, should you have questions with regard to a specific classroom, please contact that staff directly. They are available by phone at 777-2695 or leave a number where you can be reached.

If you thought the past 2 months went fast...look out! From this point forward time just flies!!! This is a busy month with Parent-Teacher Conferences, the Harvest Feast, SCRIPS, and preparation for the Holiday Breakfast 12/3.

Remember to take time to enjoy these last crisp days of fall.

Peg Smith
Executive Director



CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome aboard to the newest members of the CPS Board; Shanise Kent, Lisa Altman, and Angelique Jenks-Brown, and our special thanks to Kristina DeViscio for her years of dedication and service to Campus Pre-School.

We also have opportunity for participation on committees (Finance, Fundraising, Personnel, Board Development). Please let the office know if interested.

WEE BEAR



The Wee Bears have been developing an enhanced vocabulary, repeating words and making 2-3 word sentences. We read the same books over and over, labeling pictures, and re-stating what they are saying, demonstrating larger sentence structure and conversation skills.

As we continue to develop our big motor skills, we are practicing more refined small muscle development by pounding, pulling out and poking golf tees in a pumpkin, pulling tape and contact paper off the table.

We continue to enjoy the fall weather and love to jump in leaves.

Happy Autumn!

Kelly
Louise
Sue



BEAR CUB

Blue is our color for the month of November. We will be doing a lot of arts and crafts and drawing throughout the month. We hope you enjoy all of your child's creativity. Toddlers go through several stages of scribbling-that is their artwork. By providing this drawing opportunity, your child is developing all of those fine motor skills in their hands, fingers, and wrist, which are necessary for future writing skills. Also, one of the stages of scribbling is naming them. Take a moment to ask them about their drawings. It is always interesting to see what they have to say.

We will also be talking about the upcoming holiday of Thanksgiving. We will be talking about families, being thankful, making turkeys, and sharing in our Fall Feast. It is likely that your toddler does not have a true understanding of being thankful. We simplify this by saying being thankful is being happy for someone or something. In this case it would be family/friends to share the holiday with. Sharing is also difficult for toddlers to understand and something they will role model everyday. For our Fall Feast, each classroom will be sharing something with all of the other rooms. The Bear Cubs will be making pumpkin bread together to share at our luncheon. This is a nice time for your child to experience this concept.

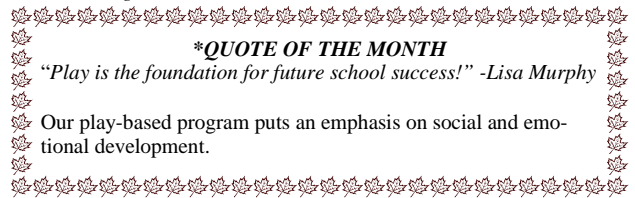
The Bear Cubs would also like to welcome 3 new friends into our classroom. Victor and Natalie on Tuesdays/Thursdays, and Aiden on Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays. Welcome to all of them and their families! We look forward to you being a part of our classroom and school.

Happy Birthday to our new friend Natalie who will be 2 on November 18th. Happy Birthday to you!

Just a reminder to parents to check to see if your child has extra clothing to change into in case they should need to. Also, be prepared for the colder weather soon to arrive. We like to go outdoors on a daily basis and your child will need warm jackets, a hat, gloves and eventually snowsuits and mittens.

Finally, it is fall conference time. I will soon be putting out a sign-up sheet. Please take the time to sign-up. We will discuss your child's progress and any other questions or concerns you may have. Each conference is about 20-30 minutes. Thank you for your daily cooperation.

Chris Cathi Megan



*QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Play is the foundation for future school success!" -Lisa Murphy

Our play-based program puts an emphasis on social and emotional development.

POOH BEAR



The Pooh Bears have really been exploring their interests in the classroom. Trains, trucks, and dress-up have been some of their favorites as well as playdough, and our sensory table that we have filled with different fall items.

In October the children experienced many hands-on activities such as picking leaves in the woods, carving, scooping our pumpkins for Halloween, and lots of painting and gluing! We had lots of fun at our Halloween Parade! Seeing what fun costumes the children choose themselves was great!

We would like to thank Sophia and her family for donating two pumpkins to our classroom for Halloween. Thank you!!

As we said our goodbyes to our good friend Nate and his family, we also welcomed our new friend, Ananta and his family to the Pooh Bear room! We would also like to welcome Katie from BU who is volunteering in our class on Mondays and Fridays.

We are so glad to see the children interacting with each other, learning new skills each day and participating in activities!

November will bring "grey squirrels," turkeys, and our Harvest Feast. We will also be working on independence and working on our self help skills.

Just a reminder to parents: Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place this month, so look for a sign-up sheet in the classroom. This is just a brief meeting to discuss your child's progress thus far if you choose to sign up.

We would like to wish Sophia a Happy 3rd Birthday on November 15th!

Nadine Heather Megan



HONEY BEAR

The children had a wonderful time getting ready for Halloween. They enjoyed making decorations and putting them up in the room. Carving the classroom pumpkin was a great experience for the children. They helped scoop out the goo with their hands and smelled the pumpkin aroma. The children had a great time getting dressed up and going on the parade.

We have been enjoying the wonderful weather this fall, but there have been a few colder days. Please check your child's extra clothes bin to be sure he/she has warm clothes and be sure your child has a coat to wear outside. Also, please label all of your child's belongings, some children have identical items, and it is hard to tell what belongs to who. Thank you!

The children are beginning to enjoy our story times. Some are asking to be read to several times a day, in addition to circle times. We cannot express enough the importance of reading daily to your child. The love of reading begins at a very early age, and they carry that with them throughout their school years. We hope you also find time to cuddle up and read a favorite story daily.

During the month of November we will be talking about our families and what we are thankful for.

The fall parent/teacher conferences will be held in the next few weeks. The sign-up sheet will be by the parent sign-in, if you want a conference, please sign up. If you cannot make any of these times on the sheet, please let me know.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Brenda Irene Mary



TEDDY BEAR

Wow! Where did October go? Time is going by so quickly. We have been very busy getting ready for fall and Halloween. We have been working a lot on our cutting skills and all of the children have improved since September. You will notice many projects coming home that they have cut themselves or with a little help. They are all very proud of themselves.

Thank you to all of the families that brought in Halloween goodies.

In November, the weather is going to start getting colder-make sure you label all winter accessories (ex: hat, snowpants, mittens, and boots). Many of the children have the same items and it is easier to keep track of them. If you wish, you may leave these items here at school.

Also in November I will be doing parent/teacher conferences. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the *Information Board* in the classroom. This is a nice time for us to sit and talk about how your child is doing in school and discuss the goals that we will be working toward.

We will be talking about animals in winter, hibernating and migrating.

We would like to wish Lucas a Happy Birthday. He turned 4 in October. Happy Birthday to Will and Oscar who will be turning 4 in November.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to ask.

Happy Fall!

Gabe Michele Renee



PANDA BEAR

Many thanks to Andrea Barbis and Sheila Lothian, Kinley, and Jimmy's moms for driving us on our "Read for the Record" field trip. "Llama Llama Red Pajama" was a big hit! Some of the children are reading this story every night. Repetition is a great way to build early literacy skills with your child!

"Pandy" our newly renamed classroom mascot, has begun his adventures with the children. The children are having a blast detailing and depicting his adventures as he visits their homes! You can help encourage your child to begin writing about their adventures through scribbles, letters they recognize, or even words! These early literacy skills will help your child's vocabulary grow and better prepare them for Kindergarten.

November brings cooler temperatures and with these temperatures, brings many runny noses. One of our themes this month is "Cover that Sneeze!" We'll be exploring ways to keep our bodies and our friends healthy. You can help us at home by reminding your child to cover those sneezes to keep our classroom germ-free!

November begins the holiday season and we have Thanksgiving to celebrate! We will also be having our annual feast at school. We would also like to wish Aidan a Happy Birthday on November 16th!

Claire Jen Tina



GRIZZLY BEAR

What an awesome October we had! It flew by and was full of fun activities. We learned about Autumn and why the leaves turn colors. We also learned all about spiders, bats, pumpkins, and Halloween.

The Halloween Parades were a success. We had a great time making our Grizzly Train and the kid's costumes from home were great. The "Read for the Record" field trip was a success. We love Llama, Llama and his Mama!

November is leading us into the holiday season. Because the season is full of food, we'll be learning a lot about nutrition as well as what it means to be thankful because that is what the season is all about!

The weather is getting colder and we will still be going outside, so please be sure that your child is dressed for the weather and has weather appropriate changes of clothes in their cubby. Please be sure to label all items.

A quote from the book "Play" by Lisa Murphy:

"If you want to have intelligent conversations with children, give your own assumptions a rest, put on your listening ears and hear what the child is really saying."

Jane Healy, Creating Intelligent Conversations with your Children.

Follow this advice and you'll be amazed at the things your children say, know and can teach you!

Happy Birthday to:

Maybellene (4 yrs old)
Kai (4 yrs old)
Alexis (5 yrs old)



Nicole
Kat



POLAR BEAR

Learning writing and reading skills do not only happen inside the classroom, in fact, they can happen anywhere! Stop and think about all of the letters and words that are in a grocery store. Letter (or word) hunts are a great way to get up and down the aisles because you and your child will both be on the look out for certain things. Before you go to the store, help your child make a list of letters or words (you could use the food words from our classroom's ABC grocery bag) that he or she needs to look for. Give your child a pencil to cross the found letters or words off and away you go!

Another way to foster literacy development is through play. In the Polar Bear class, we have paper, pencils, clipboards, and notepads accessible to the children so they can write a grocery list, draw a treasure map, make show programs, etc. Making these materials available during play allows children to learn both that their writing has a purpose and the multiple functions of writing.

Happy reading and writing!

Kathryn & Jane



Reminder

CPS will be closed
November 24th & 25th
for the
Thanksgiving Holiday.

CPS Harvest Feast

All of the children and staff of CPS will feast together on Tuesday, November 22nd in the CPS gym. Each classroom will prepare a portion of the lunch.

What are the symptoms of the flu?

Symptoms of the flu can include fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills, fatigue and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. Some people with the flu will not have a fever.

SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE! SAVE THE DATE!!

Our **Annual Holiday Breakfast** will be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 8:30 am-11:00 am.

More info to come soon!

Sick Policy

In the Parent Handbook, beginning on page 28, you will find the CPS sick policy. Please refer to the handbook when questioning your child's health and whether they can attend CPS.

Stickers!!!

Our sticker supply is getting low. If you have extra stickers at home and would like to donate them for the sticker box in the office, we would appreciate it!

Thank you!!!

November is National Book Month!

What: Putnam Book Sale

When: November 12th –19th

Where: Former Maines warehouse on Terrace Ave. in Conklin, NY

Times: 11/12 1-8pm
11/14 5-8pm
11/15 5-8pm
11/16 5-8pm
11/17 5-8pm
11/18 5-8pm
11/19 1-5pm



Reminder

Fall is the time for warmer clothes and mud. Please make sure your child has extra clothes in their classroom.

Staff Birthdays

Megan O'Hearn 11/21
Karen Stone 11/27

BAGS NEEDED!!!

Some of our classrooms have a low supply of plastic bags. If you have extra grocery/shopping bags, please bring them in!