

GRACE CHURCH PRESCHOOL

November 2009

Perhaps teaching is really a mutual experience between the younger and the older, perhaps all there is to be learned is what they can discover between them. – Amanda Cross

Thank you for allowing us to DISCOVER with your children.

FOCUS ON FAMILIES

During November our program will focus on families, Native Americans, Pilgrims, and Thanksgiving. We encourage the children to talk about each person in their family and what makes them special. We ask that everyone send in a family picture as soon as possible. If you have to send in 3 or 4 snapshots to represent the complete family, that's fine. If you have already sent a family picture, THANK YOU!

MOVEMENT MOMENT

Balls and Jump Ropes this month! The more time we get to explore and play, the better our skills become. When the ropes are stretched out on the floor we can jump back and forth over them in all sorts of ways. The more we jump, the stronger we get. We're having fun running and leaping over the long ropes too. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we think about how very thankful we are for our strong, active bodies.

MUSIC MINUTE

October was a spooktacular month in music. Your little trick-or-treaters danced and sang about pumpkins and scarecrows. We learned silly Halloween songs and fingerplays. In November we will be singing about all the things that we are grateful for, especially our good friend, Mr. Turkey. ENJOY!

Sing to "Pop Goes the Weasel"

A turkey is a funny bird,

His head goes wobble, wobble,

He knows just one funny word--

Gobble, gobble, gobble.

Lynn Beaird

Loma Linda, CA

Sing to "If You're Happy and You Know It"

Hello, Mr. Turkey, how are you?

Hello, Mr. Turkey, how are you?

With a gobble, gobble, gobble,

And a wobble, wobble, wobble.

Hello, Mr. Turkey, how are you?

FOOD BASKETS

In conjunction with Thanksgiving we discuss what we are thankful for and how we can share our happiness with others who do not have as much as we do. We will be packing Food Baskets with the Outreach Committee of Grace Church. Please help your child pick out some canned goods (from the attached list) to share with a little boy or girl who needs a good meal. You can send these items in anytime during November.

FUNDRAISERS

Thank you for participating in our Constructive Playthings and Old Country Gardens fund-raisers. We are saving our money to buy a die cut machine for the teachers. This machine and die cuts will save teachers time and money as they prepare classroom activities.

We truly appreciate your support of our fund-raising efforts. By offering a variety of fund-raisers (some specifically requested by our parents), we hope that everyone might find something they can support. We do not expect each of you to participate in everything offered nor do we advocate soliciting anyone other than those you know who might be interested in the products being offered.

THANKSGIVING FEAST

Our Thanksgiving Feast will be on Tuesday, November 24. We have no school on November 25, 26, or 27. Many thanks to Julie Saunders who has volunteered to be this year's "Turkey Chef".

GUMPS GRO

Please continue to buy Gumps Gro gift certificates. We receive a 5% profit from each sale which helps us continue to provide the quality program that exists at Grace Church Preschool. A Zoob Junior 55-piece set costs \$50. Pretend and Play Healthy Eating sets are \$65.99. Thank you for your interest and participation in this fund-raising effort. Remember, it costs you nothing extra (we make the money from the stores, not you), but Grace Church Preschool reaps great rewards.

CONFERENCES

Conferences are scheduled for November 6 and 9. There is no school on those days. Childhood I & II classes do meet on November 6. There are no conferences for Childhood I or II.

Conferences are very important as we get to learn about your child at home and you get to learn about your child at school. Please make arrangements to come to your conference without any children. Devote this 20-30 minutes entirely to learning about your preschooler. If your child care falls through at the last minute, call the school and cancel your appointment. Teachers will try to reschedule when you can give your undivided attention to learn about your child.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

Because the weather has turned chilly, it is time to exchange your child's warm-weather clothes for something appropriate for winter. Please assemble a complete change of clothes for us to keep in the room for those unexpected emergencies. Make certain that they are labeled so we can get them into the correct box.

NO BOOK FAIR / PLEASE BUY FROM BOOK CLUBS

We will not have any Book Fairs this year. We are sending home more Scholastic Book Club fliers this year. These will provide you with many worthwhile selections at reasonable prices, and we will be able to get some school supplies as a result.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Thank you to those parents who are helping arrival and dismissal flow smoothly and safely. Having your carpool numbers hanging on your mirror is extremely helpful. Being on time is very important to your child. It makes the transition from home to school much easier. Please be sure your child stays buckled until a staff member is at your car door to receive your child. All children should exit the car on the passenger side with the help of preschool staff. Please pick up your child on time. Our staff have many commitments after school hours.

As always your child's safety comes first. Although we are helping with seatbelts, you have the final responsibility for your child's car safety. Please check your child's seatbelt and make certain it fits the way you want it to fit. After loading, please remain in line until the cars in front of you are loaded and moving to exit on West Street. (Don't pull out and around the cars being loaded in front of you.) Thanks for your help.

CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG DATE

Although more information will follow in the December newsletter, please note the following as the date for this year's sing-along:

December 16, 2009 10:00—11:00 am All classes (Childhood I & II are not involved)

Happy Thanksgiving!!
The Staff

DATES TO NOTE

Nov. 1—Tuition Due (Payment #4)

Nov. 6 & 9—No School (Childhood meets on the 6th) – Conferences

Nov. 25, 26, 27—No School -- HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Dec. 16 – Christmas Sing-along No Lunch Bunch

CANNED or BOXED GOODS NEEDED FOR FOOD BASKETS

Gravy
Sweet Potatoes/Yams
Baked Beans
Tuna Fish
Beef Stew
Applesauce
Soups
Stuffing Mix

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Cranberry Sauce
Green Beans
Corn
Other Vegetables
Fruit Cocktail
Jello