



SMS Newsletter

Fall 2022



Happy Fall! We've had a busy start to our school year, but we're well on our way and excited for the next few months of fall fun and the changes that come with the changing of the seasons. Happy Fall!



Halloween Costumes—Pictures, Please!

As we get closer to everyone's favorite dress-up holiday, please remember that costumes should not be worn to school. They create a lot of distraction and are rarely a practical and washable clothing choice.

We will be talking a lot about Halloween and the children love to talk about their costumes, so if you have a picture that you can share of your child in their Halloween costume (from this year or another) send it in. We'll be sharing them at circle time and taping them up on our blackboard to make a "Halloween Parade" for us to enjoy this month.

Printed photos are preferred, but you can email them in if you don't have easy access to a printer.

Extra Clothes Bag Restock With the weather cooling down, it's time to check those extra clothes bags and make sure they're stocked with long sleeves and pants instead of t-shirts and shorts.

It's also always a good idea to have a sweatshirt or sweater in your child's coat cubby that can stay at school during the week. Many children get cold after nap and it's nice to have an extra layer of clothing close at hand.



Snack Portions Please be mindful of the amount of food you are sending in for your child's morning snack. The snack table is open from 8:30 to 10:30, with children helping themselves to their snack from their cubby and sitting with friends while they eat. Some children are spending 30 minutes or more eating snack each day and missing out on valuable class work time.



Rescheduled Calendar Days

Everyone should have received an updated version of our School Events Calendar. If you did not, more are located on the sign-in/out bookshelf. This calendar reflects the changes that were made following our recent weeklong closure due to Covid.

The Family Fun Event that was supposed to happen on Friday, 10/28 will now just be an in-class fun event and we will not be closing early that day, as originally planned. The children will enjoy some Fall / Halloween themed activities during the morning and we will share a special treat for snack. You do not need to send in a morning snack that day.



Sharing Items from Home

As we move deeper into the school year, we're going to start encouraging the children to bring in items to share at circle time that relate to our curriculum studies.

Right now we are learning about fall (trees, leaves, seasonal changes), maps/directions and the 7 continents, secondary colors (orange, purple, green), and the difference between vertebrates and invertebrates.

Children can bring in pictures, realistic toy animals, or books that relate to our science, geography, and art topics. Nothing valuable or delicate, please. All items will be shared at circle and returned home.



Friendly Reminders

1. Please write the date on your child's lunch bag every morning. Tape is located in the basket above the lunch bag shelf.
2. Children should be bringing their beige "cubby bags" to school each day with their water bottle and snack inside. These bags should be brought into the classroom, not left on their coat hook.
3. Nap blankets and toys go home on Fridays and should be returned, clean, on Mondays.
4. Children need to be signed in and out each day.
5. If there is a change to your child's schedule, please write a note in the yellow notebook at the sign-in shelf, or send an email with the change.
6. Tuition is due on the 1st of the month. If the 1st is on a weekend, tuition is due the next Monday.

Scholastic Book Club With the holidays right around the corner, be sure to consider a book order from our Scholastic Book Club! You can shop their complete collection at scholastic.com and use class code YR98G at checkout. For everything from stocking stuffers to full collections, Scholastic has books for ages 0-12.

When you place your order online, it gets combined with other class orders and submitted for processing as a group order. Books are delivered to the school. If you're ordering books as a gift, just let Ms. Karen know and she'll keep your order in the office where your child won't see it.



Library Update A HUGE thank you to the many families who have either purchased books from our Amazon list or donated their gently used books to our school library! Wow! We have the beginnings of an impressive collection!

Starting in November, the children will have the opportunity to start checking out books. Library day will be on Thursdays. Books will go home in a paper folder to be read and enjoyed and returned by the following Wednesday. There will be a black plastic basket set out for returned books.

If you are interested in volunteering for 30 minutes on a Wednesday morning to help reshelve the books and straighten the library shelves, please let Ms. Karen know!



Progress Reports & Conferences

Progress Reports will be sent home the first week of November and Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Tuesday, November 8. Conferences will be 15 minutes and are optional, but recommended.

School will be CLOSED that day, but child care is available for the duration of your conference, if needed. Out of respect for the other parents, we ask that you please be on time. If you are unable to attend on the 8th, an alternate time can be arranged.

Upcoming Dates on the Calendar

October

28 Fall Fun Day (morning snack provided)

November

8 Parent / Teacher Conferences (SCHOOL CLOSED)

23—25 Thanksgiving Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)

December

16 Winter Fun Day (morning snack provided)

22 Winter Break begins (SCHOOL CLOSED 12/22 through 1/2)

January

3 School reopens