



# October News Kindergarten A



## Literacy Update

We have been looking at a number of stories about beginning school, making friends and how to share and get along with others. The children have enjoyed reading our Chicken Soup with Rice poem about September as well as a number of poems using high frequency words, or "popcorn words" as we like to call them in Kindergarten. (They 'pop' off the page because they are important)

This month, we will look at a variety of non-fiction and fiction text relating to the other areas of the curriculum including: Eyes, Noes, Fingers, Toes, Pumpkins, The Monster's Party, to name only a few! We will also look at where and how writers get their ideas for writing stories and letters.

We will begin **Literacy Work Stations** in our morning Literacy block from 9:30-10:00 each day. At Literacy Work Stations, the children work in teacher-selected partners at 2 different "Centres" per day. The children are to work together to complete outlined task and are to stay at the centre for 10-12 minutes before all children move to the next centre. The centres, while craftfully disguised as 'play' are Literacy based and designed to help enrich your child's Early Literacy (reading & writing) development. 😊

Here is a glimpse at some activities taking place at our Literacy Work Stations this month:

**Playdough Station** - The children have been practicing sounding out words and now they have the opportunity to stamp a picture and then stamp the sounds they hear beside it. They are getting very good at listening for the sounds in words.

**Sand Station** - This month the children will have the chance to dig around the 'pumpkin patch' in the sandbox looking for letters, popcorn words and names of their classmates, all written on pumpkins!

**Writing Station** - The children will have an opportunity to draw and write about Halloween, concentrating on proper pencil grip, paper position.

**Letters/Sounds:** Pp, Nn, Cc/Kk

**Word Families:** -it, -up

## Math Fun

In September, we had a great time working on counting up to 30 and beyond. The children practiced counting objects using one-to-one correspondence using various math games and activities. We read stories about numbers as we counted each day on our 100's Chart. We even welcomed our new friend Zero the Hero on our 10<sup>th</sup> day of school! Zero is a friendly dog who stops in with a special math activity as well as treats shaped like 0's! On our 10<sup>th</sup> day, Zero had us placing one smartie on each square of a ten frame mat and when finished, we could eat them! (How exciting, let me tell you!) We look forward to having Zero the Hero back again on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of school and beyond.

This month our focus in math will be:

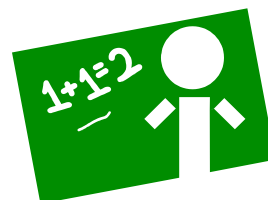
- Identifying and extending patterns
- Measuring and comparing quantity of every day objects
- 



If you happen to have a collection of items that we could use as math manipulatives, please do send in to school with your child. This may include but is not limited to:

- o Bread bag tags
- o Bottle lids
- o Buttons
- o Beads
- o Soy beans

We will also continue to practice number recognition, patterning, adding and subtracting as part of our kindergarten day and calendar activities.



## Science

This month we will be exploring the life cycle of the apple and pumpkin. We will have the chance to take a look inside and feel around a pumpkin, count the seeds and roast them!

In our Wings of Discovery Kindergarten Science program, we will look at the unit "Healthy Me!" and talking about healthy food choices.

With fall here, we will continue to investigate and observe signs of fall all around us.



## Religion/Personal/Social/Emotional

This month, we will talk about who and what we are thankful for in preparation and celebration of Thanksgiving Day. In preparation for All Saints Day, we will learn the story of St. James, the patron saint of our school. The Rosary Program will begin this month with our first session on Thursday, October 8. Father Chris will visit our classroom as well.



We will share many stories from the Bible to learn more about Jesus.

We will continue to work on the skills of good listening and making eye contact while listening and speaking.

## HOME CONNECTION

Please continue to support your child's learning at school by completing the Jolly Phonics letter each day. Reading with your child for just 10 minutes each night gets them off to a great start at developing the necessary skills for school readiness. Again these activities help reinforce the skills your children are learning at school.



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS/ASSISTANCE!

We are looking for some help on **Monday October 26<sup>th</sup> to carve pumpkins!** Please write me a message in your child's Communication Book, including the time you are available. I will contact you with further details in response to your note.

We can always use play dough in the Kindergarten classroom. If you are able to make a batch at home to send in, it would be greatly appreciated and enjoyed! I have been using a Kool Aid play dough recipe and the kids seem to love it's yummy smell!

Thank you for a great start to the school year! With your support and hard work, the Kindergarten children are off to a great start! ☺

## Other News

It's so hard to believe that October is already here! Wow! We have had a busy and fun month of September learning routines and getting to know each other. I have enjoyed spending time with and getting to know your children and am looking forward to being a part of your child's learning adventure at school!

As the weather gets chilly, please remember to send your child with extra warm clothes, mitts, hats and a coat. Having each item labeled is helpful for when they inevitably 'go missing'!

I will be sending out a link to the new St. James Kindergarten website later in the week. Please keep an eye on your child's Ziploc and/or email for further information.

**Orange and Black Day for KA is on Thursday October 29.** Instead of wearing Halloween costumes, I ask that your child come to school wearing Orange and Black clothing. We will celebrate with pattern activities, treats and games.

I hope everyone has a fantastic Thanksgiving spent with family and friends. As always, please contact me at the school if you have any questions regarding your child's time at school. ☺

Miss Sarah Noakes, OCT