



Dickinson College Children's Center November 2014



From the Director's Desk

It's hard to believe we are heading into the month of November. Although I love the holidays, usually the bad weather and the Flu are not far behind. As always, we have a lot going on here at the center. Please take the time to read the newsletter and let me know if you have any questions or concerns that I can help you out with.

The Advisory Committee has welcomed a new college member, Christine Baksi. All members will meet in November. The Advisory members meet bi-monthly and take part in providing input for the center policies and procedures.

The Shippensburg students have been busy preparing a night of fun for the pre-school classrooms. The event will be held for parents and children sometime in November. More information to follow.

The center has begun the 45 day evaluations and the fall conferences with parents. The state online reporting for the fall date was completed and results will be obtained within a few week

DCCC participated in a Diaper Drive. The Diaper Drive was sponsored by our Kindergarten Class and will benefit the families served by Project Share and the Salvation Army. Staff also continue to donate their time for the Infant Room at Project Share during the monthly Saturday distributions.

Plans are underway to permanently install a Shade Structure on the Infant/Toddler Playground. The installation of the frame is scheduled to take place this fall but the actual shade structure will not be used until spring.

The DCCC Task Force is set to meet during the month of November. The members include individuals from campus wide. The Task Force will address financial concerns of the college and will look at ways to increase revenue for the center.

Staff have been working hard at setting individual goals and will be taking part in their annual self- assessments. Many staff have been taking online trainings and will continue to attend evening courses when available.

The Infant Room will be participating in a free service offered, Technical Assistance from the Stars Program. The TA will help Teachers in working with the layout of the room and the flow of the schedule to increase supervision at all times. The program will also aid in increasing our scores within the ITERS scale.

We also met with our Child Care Health Educator at the end of the month. We reviewed center Health Policies and talked about ways to meet the special needs of our children. Our main goal was to discuss and set up Pediatric First Aid for our staff. New guidelines have decreased the class size, making it difficult to schedule.

Thanks for your continued cooperation and support. Have a great month! ~GINA

Dates to Remember:

11/14—Turkey Trot
(11/17—rain date)

11/20—Center
Thanksgiving Feast

11/26-11/28—
CENTER CLOSED

12/1—DCCC Re-
opens

12/3—Vision
Screening for
children 2 years and
up.

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In consideration of our staff...

The Children's Center closes promptly at 5:30, with the Infant Room closing at 5:15, each evening. Family members should arrive at the Center with enough time to pick up their child, gather their child's belongings and exit the building by 5:30.



FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Ongoing:

*Giant Bonus Card Numbers-If you did not give us your bonus card number last year, please either sign up online or turn in your number at the office. Thank you!

*Nell's Gold Card & Target Red Card-Please find information on how to register for these on our website at: http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20075/children_s_center/1055/fundraisers

Recent Totals:

Red Robin-\$55.52

Box tops- \$481

South Side Deli -\$50

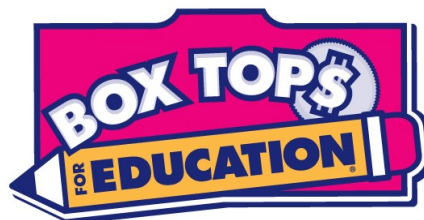
Total Amount Raised: \$2833.14



Current:

Promotion Motion—Turkey Trot November 14th

Goal for the year: \$15,000





Ducklings



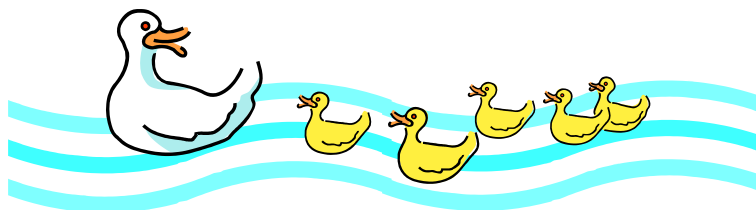
October has been such a lovely month! We welcomed fall into our classroom, exploring pumpkins, gourds, fall flowers and dried leaves and celebrating the season in song and story. We experienced our first School Picture Day and our very first Halloween! We thank pre-K teacher Miss Mandy for organizing the annual Fire Safety event. Although the rainfall prevented the infants from visiting the big red fire engine parked outside, were able to see it from our hallway windows and we clearly heard the fire engine sirens! Thank you, parents, for the first of many parent-teacher conferences in the life of your little one. We value that time together to share in the progress, goals and expectations for your child.

In early November the Promotion Motion campaign will take place to highlight the importance of physical activity and exercise in the lives of children. The infants will participate with music and floor play to promote rolling, creeping, crawling, standing, cruising and walking....they are becoming increasingly mobile by the day! We will continue nature strolls and exploring our neighborhood, as well as daily playground or big room playtime – please think about the cooler weather and the need for warmer outdoor clothing and footwear. We will participate in the Mini-Turkey Trot on November 14 at 11:15 am in the front parking lot – please join us! Those older infants who have started table foods may participate in the Thanksgiving Feast on November 20th – more information on these events will follow in the coming weeks. We will talk, sing and read board books all about the fall feast of Thanksgiving.

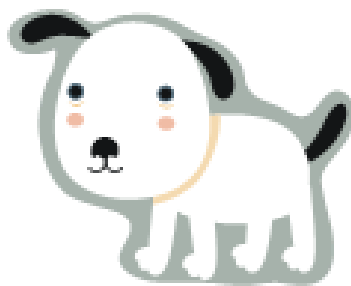
Reminders:

- *Please continue to label all of your baby's belongings, especially bottles.
- *Please be sure to send in extra clothing that is appropriate for your baby's size (we grow fast!) and the cooler season.
- *Please take care when entering and leaving the room – our older infants are becoming very mobile now and we want to avoid injuries, pinched fingers in gates, or crawling babies escaping to unsafe areas.
- *Please send in family photos, if you have not already done so. We talk about family members, friends, pets and all that we are thankful for during the month of November.

~SANDY, LYNN, TORY & JODY



We have had a busy month! We enjoyed doing our art projects. We have been pointing to our spiders, pumpkins, and the silly orange scarecrow. The "Itsy Bitsy Spider" song has been sung almost a million times. We looked at the fire trucks when they came to visit and pushed the pretend fire trucks around. Touching the bumpy gourds and painting some real pumpkins was great fun! We ended the month with our fun parade through the campus!



Thanks families, for taking time to meet for conferences. Everyone is doing a great job learning our routines.

Please remember to wash your child's hands before coming into the room. Please hang up their outside coats on the hooks outside our room. Also, check the bins and make sure we have changes of clothing, diapers and wipes.

We are ready for another month of learning and fun!

Next month we will enjoy some apples and taste them in some different ways. We will talk about being Thankful with Hearts and Hands. During another week we will explore Fun and Friendships. Since we love singing songs, we will have a Silly Song week. Remember we have our Turkey Trot this month on November 14th. We also will be looking forward to the Center's Thanksgiving Feast (details will follow).

Yellow Pups

If you have any questions and concerns, let us know.

~MARSHA & DONNA

Blue Puppies



Ahhhh! Fall is a great time of year! So many neat things happening!

What are those funny, fuzzy animals outside our window? Squirrels! They are everywhere. We are having fun watching them run around on our playground, we will also finger paint a squirrel and sing silly songs about them.

After that we will look at what fall has to offer. We will have fun with leaves as we paint with them, count them, identify their colors and make a leaf "glitter" collage on contact paper. We will have them in our sensory table as well.

With Thanksgiving around the corner the puppies will be making a finger print Indian corn cob, color fruit for our cornucopia, and talk about being a nice friend. We will make a friendship wreath with our handprints and enjoy a Thanksgiving feast together! Gobble, Gobble, turkeys are on the menu, the puppies will paint with feathers and make a hand print turkey and sing some funny turkey songs.

The puppies are still very interested in the kitchen area as we play with pots and pans, we also like to wrap up baby dolls and carry them around. The block area is also a fun spot as we send cars down the garage ramps and put animals in the farm.

REMINDERS:

- ~Check to make sure your child has seasonal extra clothes.
- ~Start thinking about bringing in hats and gloves/mitten as the mornings are cool.
- ~Please remember that we cannot serve mangos or foods that contain mangos.

~CATHRYN & LACI



Yellow Honey Bees

The old saying "time flies by when you having fun" is so true. I can't believe we are in November already. we will start the month off with a fall theme. We will do leaf art, play in some leaves and continue to review and explore colors and shapes.

We will then talk about Pilgrims and Native Americans and how the Native Americans shared food and helped the pilgrims learn to plant foods. We will discuss what kind of food they planted and will prepare corn bread. During this week we will make pilgrim hats and receive Native American names (which Ms Barb and Ms Alisha will make up for us).



During the following week we will talk about turkeys. Some art projects that we will do are paper plate turkeys, tracing hands to make a turkey, sun catcher turkeys, and a brown bag turkey. We will have our Turkey feast on 11/20/14. (More information to come)

We will end the month talking about what we are thankful for. We only have two days this week (Monday and Tuesday—11/24 & 11/25). The Center will be closed on 11/26, 11/27, and 11/28. Please have a great holiday with your families and we will see you in December.

Please make sure you are checking your child's folder at the end of each day. Thank You.

Ms. BARB & Ms. ALISHA

Blue Busy Bees

Greetings from the Blue Bee room. Our bees had a very busy and fun filled October. Our themes for October were: Health and Fire Safety, Apples, Pumpkins , and Spooky Fun. We enjoyed a visit from some fire fighters which included seeing the fire truck. We loved tasting different apples and making an apple pie as a class (of course eating it was even better!). We made a jack-o-lantern and learned all about pumpkins. The bees were excited to make a pumpkin pie too. We wrapped up October with Spooky Fun week and had a ball walking to the HUB in our costumes!

Our themes for November will start with Hibernation. We will talk about what happens in the fall (some animals hibernate, some gather food to store for the winter, etc.), how the leaves on the trees change colors and the temperatures outside get cooler. Following Hibernation will be our Fall Colors theme. The children will learn more about what happens in the fall and we will discuss the changes that we see outside. Music and Movement will be next. The bees will experience different kinds of music from different eras, countries and different styles of music. They will also learn to do new, expressive movements to music. We will close November with the theme of Turkey Time. Our little ones will talk about what they are thankful for and what families do for Thanksgiving. We will talk about the first Thanksgiving, the Pilgrims, Native Americans, the Mayflower and more. We are looking forward to a great month with the Bees learning and growing!

Reminders:

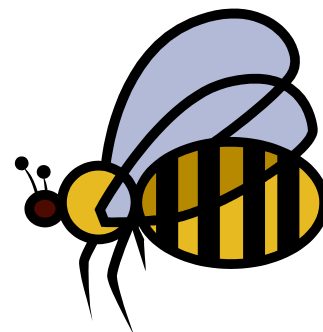
* Please check your child's cubby for clothing and consider the colder weather coming up. Also, LABEL everything! We often find clothing and/or lunch items without names on them (initials are ok too).

Areas we continue to work on:

Proper hand washing, good table manners at lunch, cleaning up lunch items, cleaning up toys and putting coats and hats on. Potty training for those who are still in diapers or pull-ups.

Happy Fall,

~Miss JODY & MISS PAM

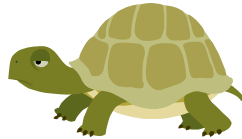


Yellow Bear Cubs



The Teddy Bears have been learning about feelings and giving compliments with help from the PATHS puppets, and we will be learning to "Do Turtle"

when we are upset within the next few weeks!



ous food groups and healthy eating habits! We will have a great time Living off the land and playing the Little House on the Prairie movie clip, to learn how farming and life has changed over the years.

We loved dressing and acting like firefighters during fire safety week! We had a lot of fun playing with leaves and going on a leaf hunt as well as exploring the inside and outside of pumpkins! Everyone enjoyed our spooky week and playing Trick-or-Treat!

I loved talking with everyone at conferences in October, and sharing all the exciting growth we have been seeing. I am looking forward to watching them grow throughout the rest of the year!

We will all become food experts in November, since we will be learning about the different farms that our food comes from as well as the vari-

With the winter weather upon us please remember to send in hats, gloves/mittens, and seasonally appropriate coats. We will go outside as long as the temperature FEELS like 25 degrees or more! Please send boots, snow pants, and waterproof mittens in by the end of November, so we are ready for winter weather! Also check the extra clothes bins for seasonally appropriate clothing!

~MANDY & CHERI



Blue Bears

November is another fun-filled month! We have so many activities planned to squeeze into this short month. We will begin the month with our nutrition week. Every day at lunch we will put up stickers on our "My Plate" poster depending on what food groups we find in our lunches. We will then talk about life on the farm and different types of farm animals. The kids love playing with all the different farm animals and barns in the room. Ms. Mandy even brings in some real items to discover from the farm. This leads into living off the land, where we talk about what it's like to live long ago and actually have to live off the land. We have activities set up in our room for farming, fishing, cooking over a fire, washing clothes and living in a tent. The kids love all these activities and pretending to be pilgrims. We spend the last short week doing a few thankful activities and getting ready to spend time with family and friends!



A few dates to remember for the month:

November 14th is the Turkey Trot (rain date November 17th) to coincide with our Promotion Motion fundraiser.

November 20th is the Thanksgiving feast. We will let you know the cost when we know!

DCCC will be closed November 26th –30th for Thanksgiving Break. Enjoy the extra



time with your families!

Thank you for taking the time to come to conferences. We enjoy spending the time talking with each of you! We can't believe we are writing this, but the hooks in the hallway are ready for snow pants and boots, so please bring in an extra pair for your child towards the end of the month to leave here at the center. Check your child's extra clothes bin to make sure they have seasonally appropriate clothing and enough of it. Also keep your eye on the bulletin board above the cubbies for notes, upcoming events and permission slips that we may have up throughout the weeks.

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

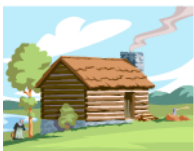
KRISTEN & ANGE

Bunnies



Wow! Just the other day I had to do a double take when I was looking at my calendar because I cannot believe that it is November already! October was such a busy month it just flew by! We talked about fire safety, community helpers, leaves, pumpkins and Halloween. We enjoyed getting to see the fire truck and the ambulance, farm to preschool day, carving our pumpkins and participating in the fall harvest activities.

November will be just as packed with fun! We will be learning about germs where we will see how well we wash our hands by using a special light and how germs can make us sick. We will then move into a week about living off the land where we will learn about how people lived before things like lights, TVs, and running water. During the next week we will explore thankfulness. We all have so much to be



thankful for and we will be spending the week talking about them and learning the difference between something that we want and something that we need. We will be learning the letters K, L and M. Please continue to practice at home.

This is the month for our PROMOTION MOTION activities where we will also be talking about being active and healthy and to do that we will be going down to the big room in the morning to participate in a physical activity and to wrap up promotion motion we will have our TURKEY TROT!!

**** To create our costume this year we will be asking that each child brings in \$3.00 by no later than November 5th to give me time to go by the supplies and then create our costume.** Thank you so much in advance.**

Important Dates to Remember

November 5: Please turn in your \$3.00 to us

November 14: Turkey Trot (more information about this event coming soon)

November 17: Rain date for Turkey Trot

November 20: Thanksgiving Feast

November 26-28: DCCC will be closed

Reminders:

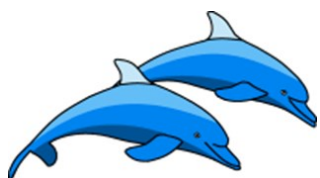
*Please check your child's mailbox daily

**Update the clothes in your child's bin. It gets chilly in our classroom sometimes so it is always good to have a sweater or light sweatshirt too.

As always if you have any questions or concerns please let me know.

~Ms. BRITTNEY AND Ms. DEBBIE

Kindergarten Dolphins



October was quite a busy month! Our "Color Days" were enjoyed by all and the children are doing a great job of learning to read their color words!

We also learned a lot about safety, occupations, and resources in our community. We especially loved the visits from some of our parents who came into the classroom to share about their occupations... Thank you, Anthony, Kaamal, Karen, Rochelle, John, and Shuchi! Next month we'll take a trip to Project S.H.A.R.E. to deliver the diapers we collect from our center-wide Diaper Drive. While there, we'll also get a tour of their facility and learn about the wonderful service that they provide to our community.

Since the beginning of October, the kindergartners have been counting down the days until our Fall Harvest/ Halloween Party! Thank you to all who came to watch us in our parade and to all who volunteered to help out for our afternoon party games.

As November begins, we'll be focusing on the changes we see occurring outside. We'll examine leaves and learn about why they change colors and fall to the ground in the fall. We'll find out what various animals do over the winter, and we'll take note of the changes in our DCCC garden.

Also in November we'll be learning about the USA. We'll learn about some famous American symbols and will find out about some things Pennsylvania is known for. We'll identify our country and state leaders and will talk about what it takes to be a good leader. We'll look at what life was like long ago for the early settlers and Native Americans, and will compare that to our life now.

We look forward to starting the Promotion Motion Program this month, and are really excited about making turkey costumes and hiking over to Biddle Field for the Turkey Trot! We hope you will be able to come over to surprise your child and watch us all dolphin "trot" around the track!

Please be thinking ahead to December, and consider coming in to our classroom to share about a special tradition that your family shares (holiday or otherwise). Perhaps your family gathers around the piano to sing songs together... or puts shoes outside for St. Nicholas... or lights a menorah for Hanukkah... or reads stories before bedtime. We'd all love to learn more about our friends' families and their special traditions.

As the weather begins to turn cooler, it's time to think about warmer clothing, and yes, even winter gear. Please check the bin at the bottom of your child's cubby and make sure that he/she has long pants, a shirt, a sweatshirt, socks, and underwear. We recommend that you have an extra set of boots, snow pants, mittens, and a hat to keep at DCCC. There will be cubbies labeled in the Big Room where your child can keep his/her winter gear.

~ Ms. Katie & Miss Cheri

