

Due West UMC Preschool/

NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR

- 1 Tuition and lunch bunch fees due
- 3 Space program—4s
- 5&6 Story Time—2's
- 10 Field Trip to Marietta fire station—
Mrs. Davalos & Mrs. Kehoe
- 10&11 Tumble Time—1 & 2s 6&7
- 10&13 Spanish classes—3-5s
- 12&13 Individual & sibling pictures
- 13 Laminating Day
- 17-21 Usborne book fair (see article)
- 18 Open House—Ashford, Deiters,
Morrison, Kehoe & Armentrout
6:00PM in classroom
- 19 Staff Meeting—early release, 12:00**
- 19&20 Music classes—1-5s
- 20 Open House—Moskal, Dreyer, Davalos,
& Micale—6:00PM in classrooms
- 21 Holiday Market committee meeting
9:30AM in the Miracle Basket Cafe
- 24&25 Chapel—2s—5s
- 26&27 Spanish classes—3-5s
- 28 Field Trip to Marietta fire station—
Mrs. Micale & Mrs. Armentrout
- 27&28 Fall Progress Reports—3s-5s
- 28&31 Fall Special Snacks



HOLIDAY MARKET



Mark your calendars now for Saturday, November 5th 9:00-2:00 for the sixth annual Holiday Market. It is a fun day with shopping (over 40 vendors with all kinds of craft items, food, jewelry, and gifts), an extensive silent auction (including an item from each preschool class), a bake sale, and live entertainment. The preschool parent Holiday Market Committee sponsors this great event with lots of help from all of you and businesses in this area and beyond. We'll be sending home a packet of information for ways that you can be involved in this great event. The proceeds will be used for classroom materials and equipment. The next committee meeting is Friday, October 21st at 9:30 in the Miracle Basket Café and nursery is available. Let Mrs. Coffeen know if you plan to attend and if you'll need nursery.

FIELD TRIP

The first field trip for the four and young five-year-old classes will be October 10th (Mrs. Davalos & Mrs. Kehoe) & Oct. 28th (Mrs. Micale & Mrs. Armentrout). The children will visit the historic Marietta fire station on Haynes Street. We must have a signed permission slip and car/booster seat for every child who goes on the trip—no exceptions.



Parents, if you would like to be a driver for our field trips, we must have your field trip driver form and a copy of your driver's license and car insurance information on file in the preschool office before you leave. We appreciate your willingness to help us.

PRESCHOOL OFFICE PHONE

If you receive the main church message when you call the preschool office number (770-590-0982), you can easily reach the preschool phone by dialing **242** any time during the message. That message is on when the church staff go to lunch—usually 12:30-1:30. I know it's frustrating to have to listen to the whole message, so dial 242 and it will ring in the preschool office!



GREAT START!

Thanks to all the teachers, assistants, parents, and children for a great start to our preschool year. We welcome those of you who are new to Due West and welcome back the returning families. We want this to be a great experience for everyone, so please help us keep the lines of communication open. We are always interested in your comments.





OPEN HOUSE

Open House is an exciting night when we invite the **children and their parents** of the older two through young five-year-old classes to come to the classrooms to experience a shortened version of the preschool day. Let your child show you around his/her room and show you his/her favorite activities and toys. The schedule will be:

October 18 6:00-6:45 PM for the following classes:

Mrs. Ashford, Mrs. Deiters, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Kehoe, and Mrs. Armentrout

October 20 6:00-6:45 PM for the following classes:

Mrs. Dreyer, Mrs. Moskal, Mrs. Micale, and Mrs. Davalos

Please arrive on time as the teachers have activities planned for the whole time. If you have two children scheduled at the same time, it works best to bring two adults so that each child can be in their own class the whole time. A parent must accompany each child. We have scheduled child care for all siblings. We'll have a room for younger and one for older children. This is a time to give your preschool child undivided attention. Please reply on the note we send home to reserve a spot for your non-preschool children.



USBORNE BOOK FAIR

We will be holding an Usborne Book Fair every morning the week of Oct. 17-21, during both Open House nights, and Wednesday night. The location will be in the first room on the right inside the door to our hall from the Narthex. It will be open every morning that week 8:30-9:30, on the Open House nights 6:30-7:15, and Wednesday night 5:30-7:00. Usborne has a great selection of children's books that we recommend for your children. They make great Christmas presents! The preschool will earn free books and cash based on the amount of purchases, so we thank you for your participation.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Children in the three, four, and young five-year-old classes will receive a fall progress report on October 27 & 28. These one-page forms are the way we let you know how your child is adjusting to preschool. If you have any questions about your child's progress report or anything else, please contact your child's teacher.



FALL SPECIAL SNACKS

October 27 and 31 will be the days our classes will have their fall special snacks. This is a very "low key" day when we celebrate fall. All that is needed is a special snack and drink and maybe a game to celebrate the day. The children do NOT wear costumes or have other Halloween type activities. Thanks to the parents who are providing our special snacks for this day!

DANCE, PLAYBALL, KINDERMUSIK, & TUMBLEBUS CLASSES

Dance classes are held on Mondays and Tuesdays 1:00-1:45 for the 2 1/2-5s children who are enrolled. We have a few more openings in these classes: Monday: 1 and Tuesday: 5.

The Playball class is held on Tuesdays 1:00-1:40 for the 3-5s children who are enrolled. Right now we only have a class on Tuesdays, but she will open a class on Monday if we have enough interest.

The Kindermusik class meets on Wednesday 1:00-1:45 and there are still openings.

The Tumblebus comes to the preschool on Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00-1:30 every week for the 3-5s children who are enrolled. The openings we have are: Wednesday: 4 and Thursday: 3.

If you have been thinking about enrolling your child for any of these classes, there is still time. Ask for an enrollment form and return it with a check in your child's tote bag. I try to keep the children from a preschool class together in a class, but if your child cannot go on the same day as his/her class, he/she can go the other day. The class limit is 12 children.



RECYCLING

Thank you to everyone who is supporting our recycling fund raiser! We appreciate all the “trash” that you send in to us. Also, a big thank you goes to Debbie Brown who collects all of our recycling, takes it home, sorts it, packs the boxes, and sends them to TerraCycle to be recycled. She does a great job! Here is the updated list of items that we can accept. Please post it at home so you’ll remember to save these items. Thank you!

*Capri Sun/Kool Aid Type Juice Pouches

(Now includes All Brands)—you do not need to rinse, just remove straws

*All chip/pretzel bags—any brands any sizes

*M & M Mars Products—Wrappers any sizes (Includes Skittles & Starburst wrappers)

*Nabisco Products—Outer Wrappers only

*Lunchables— Plastic Trays (May also include juice pouch and snack candy wrapper!)

*Kashi Snacks - Outer Packaging (Wrappers and Boxes)

*Huggies - Outer plastic packaging and wrapper

*Scott Paper Products - Outer plastic packaging and wrapper

*Elmer’s Glue - Empty glue bottles & tubes

* Tyson Frozen Chicken products - top of plastic bags and side panels of boxes
You can send any of these in to the preschool in your child’s bag in an envelope or plastic bag marked “Recycling”.

SPECIAL CLASSES

All of the 1’s through Y.5’s have attended the first of their special classes in September. Tumble Time is a monthly gymnastic class for the 1s, Y.2s, & O.2s. Spanish classes are held twice a month (most months) for the 3s—5s. Story Time is a monthly class for the Y. & O. 2s and four times a year for the 3s—5s. Music class is held monthly for the 1s—5s and Chapel for the 2-5s. The children really enjoy these classes while learning more about our monthly themes and Bible story.

MISSION PROJECT

Thanks to everyone who sent in Sunny D individual drinks. I’d like to extend our collection into October because our church is providing almost 100 lunches each week. Please send in as many packs of drinks as you’d like. We can take them through carline or when you walk your child to his/her class

FUND RAISERS

Thank you for your support of the SCRIP order in September. We had an order of over \$2000 and a profit for the school of \$85. We’ll email an order form to you at the beginning of each month and hope that you’ll be able to order some gift cards. Remember that they are not just for gifts! You can order from the stores, restaurants, and gas stations that you use and use the gift cards just like cash. You get the same amount in your card as you pay and the preschool gets money too! It’s great!

PARENT GROUPS

I’ve had a request to compile a flyer of various parent groups in the area that provide activities for free. An example is a running group in West Cobb. People join the facebook page and if anyone ever wants to go for a run, they go. If you are a part of a group that is similar to this, please email the information to Mrs. Coffeen and she’ll make a flyer to email out to everyone. The one stipulation is that it is not a group or company that sells something.



REQUESTS AND REMINDERS

1. Carline. Please drive slowly in the church parking lot! You never know when a child may come out between the parked cars. Our little green safety man is out there to remind you to go slowly. Also, please don’t try to cut in or let other cars get in front of you in the afternoon carline. If the assistant has already gotten the numbers, we will not have that child in line.
2. Please remember the shoe policy. All children should be wearing closed toe shoes (preferably tennis shoes) every day to school. Even on rainy days the children play in the large room downstairs so flip flops, sandals, and Crocs are not safe for them to wear on any day.

Requests and reminders, continued

3. Every child in every class should have a complete change of clothes in a Ziploc bag (pants, shirt, underwear, and socks) at the school.
4. Please check your child each morning to be sure he/she is well enough to come to school. When everyone keeps their sick children at home, we all stay healthier. Germs are spread very easily between children and even as much as we wash hands and clean, the best prevention is having healthy children in the class and sick children at home!
5. If you have a cell phone, please be sure that it is turned on when your child is at school. We need to be able to reach you in case your child becomes sick during school time.
6. We close the preschool any day that Cobb Co. schools are closed. The one exception is Good Friday. We do not follow their early release days. The only days that we release the children early are our full staff meeting days which are once a month in October, January and March.



NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS



Mrs. Harris' Baby Bees (Infants & Y.Ones): It's wonderful to get to know new friends. I am always excited about the first month of school when we all get to meet and discover so many things about each other. I think we are getting very comfortable, and Mrs. Price and I can't wait to see them grow, play, and learn a lot of new ways to communicate. As always, we are available for any questions or comments that you may have regarding your child's care. We love to talk about our sweet babies. Be sure to check your folders each day, you never know if there is something your child has created for you in there.

Mrs. Augur's Ladybugs (Ones):

The ladybugs are off to a great start. They are already signing "please, thank you and more". Tumble time and music are so much fun. The children are working really hard at sitting during snack and lunch time. On September 15th, we celebrated Daniel's 2nd birthday and Jake turned 2 on September 21st. Happy Birthday boys!! Bump, bump down the stairs is really coming along. Art is among their favorite activities. They have made handprints, ladybugs, and crosses. They have all come so far so quickly. Mrs. Novis and I are really enjoying the children. Thank you for entrusting us with them.

Mrs. Schaefer's Bears (Young Twos):

Well, the school year has gotten off with a bang! We have had fun in September getting to know one another. The kids are adjusting to our daily routine and are learning our inside and playground rules. We have also learned how to color on the paper and not on the table and to wait our turn for almost everything. We have been busy doing fun art work, and I have learned that they all love to paint. We attended our first music class, story time, chapel, and tumble time and the kids all did a great job and enjoyed participating. Our Bible thought for this month was "God Made Me", and we have learned that God made each one of us very special in our own little way.

Thank you to all the parents for your generous donations to the class. We are very appreciative! We would also like to thank you for the great job you are all doing for us by using the car pool line. Mrs. Ashford, Mrs. Kubek, Mrs. Novis, and I are looking forward to the rest of the year watching your children learn and have fun with their new friends and having new experiences with us.

Our new Fun Friday Class is off to a great start. The children are experiencing new things like show and tell and just using their imaginations. Thank you all for allowing us to share this time with all your children. God Bless.



Mrs. Ashford's T-Th Goldfish (Older Twos):

Welcome Older Twos! Together we have navigated the first five weeks of preschool. How do you feel? I hope there is a sense of familiarity, routine and fun. Remember that this is all new to your children even if they were here last year. Seeing a parent leave is hard – a pull between wishing to keep you close, yet wanting to stay, be independent and play. Always say goodbye, “I love you,” and remind your child that you will be back. Your child learns that you are truthful and that they can trust you. This sense of security makes it easier to venture out and spend some time at preschool all by themselves. They have all done so well with morning carline! They love walking in with the other children. In the room, they are responsible for getting out their lunch box and hanging up their school bag. While you are gone, we are busy exploring the room, learning to play with new friends and trying all sorts of new experiences. Taking turns has been rough on everyone, but you would be so proud that we can get into a line to go to the playground. Favorite preschool activities so far? Water day, the outdoor playground, Tumble Time and painting!!! There's so much to discover at school! We end the day with our Zip-a-de-do-dah song and we actually enjoy waiting in the long afternoon carline – we chat about our day and read books while the moms and dads are taking their turn to get us. Mrs. Rochler and I look forward to a fantastic year with all of you and your wonderful families. Happy Birthday to Julia who turned three on September 7th! Congratulations to Emma D. and her family on the birth of her baby sister – Emma's a big sister now!!!

Mrs. Deiter's Sea Turtles (3's T/Th):

We are off to the start of a great year in the Sea Turtle room! We have had so much fun getting to know each other. Mrs. Pass and I are really enjoying getting to know the personalities of our little ones! We started the month off with “Beach” day. The children “laid” out in the sun on their towel with their sunglasses and hats and imagined what the sand would feel like under their little toes.

Mrs. Deiters, continued

We played with the water table and counted and sorted all the ducks floating in the water. We made turtle puppets and painted ocean masterpieces! The children made “I am special” mirrors and learned about why each of us is special. We celebrated “Red” day. We started our Zoo-Phonics this month and began making our Zoo-Phonics alphabet cards. One of the highlights of the month was meeting “Mother Goose” at story time and enjoying a real puppet show where they learned about Traditional Values. They also began their Spanish class, music class, and had their first chapel with Mrs. Coffeen. Next month, we will start our “Creation” unit. The season will be changing to Fall, and we will celebrate with a special Fall snack. I am looking forward to all of these changes and delight in watching the children learn about the changes that God makes in our world! Happy Fall!

Mrs. Dreyer's Fish (3's M-W-F):

We have had a wonderful beginning of preschool! It has been a joy to get to know all of the children! Mrs. Pass and I are so happy to see how quickly the children have adjusted to our classroom routines and have made great friends! The children have enjoyed the classroom jobs and it is helping them learn to take turns. We have been cutting, pasting and gluing almost every class. They have taken great pride in their art projects! We learned about the seven days of God's amazing creations and completed our creation books. The class loved making clouds out of shaving cream, using flashlights in the dark and planting grass. We have also finished our introduction to Zoo-Phonics. The children were excited to meet the Zoo-Phonics animals and learn their sounds! Our first Spanish, music, story time and chapel were enjoyed by everyone. Mr. Johnson, the magician, and his animal puppets put on a great show for us and taught us a lot about values. Thank you, Mrs. Graham for making the red play dough for the class. The children made many different red creations together! Mrs. Pass and I appreciate all the supply donations, gift cards and support from all the parents. We are so blessed to have such great children and parents and are looking forward to a wonderful year! Next month, we are excited to share our day with the parents at Open House!

Mrs. Moskal's Turtles (3's M-W-F):

We are having a great time together! It has been fun getting to know each child and to see friendships develop.

We focused on rules, routines, classmate names, and just getting to know each other the two weeks in August. They enjoyed their turtle puppets and have loved all our classroom finger plays/puppets. We hope you enjoyed their "Children, Children Who do you See?" book. We had fun reading them in class. They have adjusted very quickly to morning, circle time, snack, lunchtime, playground and lining up routines.

The month of September was busy. We talked about God's creations and worked hard on their creation books. We hope all of you Mrs. Moskal, continued enjoyed reading them with your child. They were very excited about their work. Hopefully your child's grass is growing. They had fun planting their cups. They have really enjoyed our creation tree in circle time. It has been a great way to reinforce our Bible story. We spent time talking about how each one of us is special because God made us. Our word of the month is Love, and they each spent time sharing who they love and we shared about how they are loved by God.

We completed our introduction to all the Zoo-phonics animals and sounds. They love games and songs during afternoon circle time. We have played fun games relating to shapes, colors and numbers. Their favorite songs are Tooty Tot, Herman the Worm, and Going On a Bear Hunt. We have spent a lot of time painting, cutting and other activities to help build their fine motor skills. The one fun thing to do for those skills is play dough which they have enjoyed this month. Thank you Mrs. Dillard for making our red play dough.

The children loved the Traditional Values program filled with magic and puppets. They were rolling on the floor with laughter. During Story Time, Mrs. Jones' presented herself as Mother Goose and had each child help act out nursery rhymes. The children had a great time. Mrs. Partin, the music teacher, kept them moving with fun songs.

Mrs. Moskal, continued

They enjoyed working on their colors in Spanish during our Spanish Class. They were very attentive during chapel with Mrs. Coffeen.

Thank you for all the supply donations. They are greatly appreciated. Mrs. Rochler and I are enjoying your wonderful children and look forward to a fantastic year!

Mrs. Morrison's Caterpillars (3's M-Th):

We are off to a wonderful start this year. We have had a very busy first month of school. We have spent a lot of time getting to know each other and going over the school rules. We greatly enjoyed our visit to Tumblebus and Playball. We have had our first Spanish class, Chapel, Story Time and Music class. We had a wonderful time with the magician and his puppets. This month we have been talking about Creation, our five senses, and working on Zoo-phonics. We have spent a lot of time working on a book about Creation and on our cutting skills. Our playground time is spent with two other classes: Mrs. Ashford's Older 2's and Mrs. Dieter's 3's. We really enjoy playing outside, so please remember to dress your child in outdoor play clothes (no sandals please). When we have rainy days or days that it is too cold to go out, we can go to the Family Life Center to play or watch a video. So if your child has a special video that they would like to share with the class, they can bring it in on the days we cannot go outside. Thank you for all the school supplies, it has made the start of the year a lot easier. I look forward to seeing all of you at the open house in October. Happy Birthday to Evan, Ryland, Aaron and George!



Mrs. Davalos' Butterflies (4's M-Th):

September brought about the learning of rules, procedures, and each other. The children are really getting good at knowing what to do in the morning, getting ready for lunch, recess, and center time. We have also started learning lots of new things!

Apples and Bears were our themes. Bears came first. We read many books about bears. Some were nonfiction (or true as I explained to the children) and some are fiction (not true). One of their favorites was Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children acted out the story using simple props and loved it!

They then patterned bears and graphed their bears from home as little, medium, or large bears. Bringing their favorite bear from home was definitely a highlight! Pease Porridge Hot, our nursery rhyme, went perfectly with this theme as we tasted porridge just like the three bears. They also learned how to do the hand pat to this popular nursery rhyme. Apples started off with tasting, graphing, and lacing, and ended with a study of Johnny Appleseed. They loved spreading seeds just like he did.

Each week we have been learning a new prayer. We are working on a special book you will receive at open house so you can say the prayers together at home. We also have been learning about what some people pray about. Praying when you are happy, scared, sorry, or thankful have been discussed. The children each get a turn to pray for something important to them. (They are very sweet and loving. Parents, siblings, and pets are often what they pray about). We have also discussed that God hears you even when you pray in your head.

We enjoyed our first Spanish class, our first music class, story time, a traditional values magic show, and we tested out free Tumblebus and Playball classes. Needless to say, we have been busy.

In phonics, we have been working on learning vowels. The children might also call them the hard workers. We read about the letter, practice writing it, learn about and do a craft with the animal in zoo-phonics, and on Thursday we have Show and Tell.

Mrs. Davalos, continued

The children are doing a great job with letter show and tell. They kept their object hidden and gave some good clues to help us guess what they brought. Show and Tell is a highlight of the week! Another highlight is Mystery Reader. We do not tell the children who is coming, so it is a wonderful surprise when they see their parent, grandparent, sibling or special friend walk through the door!

October will be filled with pumpkins, spiders, and space! It's going to be a great month!

Mrs. Kehoe's Busy Bees (4's M-Th):

We have had a very fun filled and "buzzy" beginning of the school year! We began the first week of school with a lot of getting to know you activities, so that the children could become more familiar with their fellow classmates, as well as with Mrs. Kelley and myself. All of the children are doing a FANTASTIC job of following the school rules and making new friendships. Mrs. Kelley and I really enjoyed meeting all of our wonderful parents at Parent Orientation in August.

We want to say "Happy Birthday" again to Lexi Cass and Quinn Augur, who both turned 4 in August!!

Our first theme this school year was BEES, our class mascot. The children played several games, sang songs, listened to stories, and created art projects all about bees. The kids especially liked eating the Honey Bee Biscuits at the end of the unit! In August, we also learned more about the calendar, including singing the "Days of the Week" song and beginning to learn the months of the year with the Macarena Dance. Our class previewed all the Zoo-Phonics letters/sounds and met the accompanying Zoo-Phonics animals.

During the month of September, our themes have been BEARS and APPLES. We started the first two weeks learning more about the different kind of bears. The kids loved all of the cute projects they created and all the songs and poems that we recited about bears, especially Cool Bear Hunt. We celebrated the end of the bear unit with a Teddy Bear Picnic outside on the picnic tables and Mrs. Warren was so kind to make all of us Panda Bear cupcakes. The children loved bringing their bears or other favorite stuffed animals to school that special day.

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Mrs. Kehoe, continued

The last two weeks, our theme was apples. The children ate different kinds of apples and graphed their favorite, made many arts and crafts projects using apples, recited apple poems, and sang and enacted the motions to various apple songs. On September 26th, we celebrated Johnny Appleseed's birthday by wearing a homemade pot on our heads and spreading seeds all around the top field at the church. I got a lot of cute photos of this special day!

Our math skill in September is patterning. We have practiced many sequencing activities using the ABAB and AABB pattern. The kids are doing a GREAT job with this important skill.

Our nursery rhyme in August was "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and this month it is "Pease Porridge Hot". These poems help to strengthen the children's ability to recognize rhyming words and the sequence of a story. We have created adorable art projects with nursery rhymes, as well. The children have especially liked clapping out the rhyme "Pease Porridge Hot" with a classmate and some of them enjoyed eating the porridge, others not so much! Our Bible stories have been Creation and the First Family. Our character word that we learned about was LOVE.

All of the children have been working so hard on their Prayer Books. I am sure that all of the parents will love the books when you receive them at Open House in October. This month in phonics, we are concentrating on the hardest workers, the vowels. We have been learning the sound and symbol for each vowel, as well as practicing writing each vowel.

I am thrilled and amazed at how well the children are progressing with their fine motor skills. They are all doing a great job with their cutting, coloring, and tracing. These skills are so important and they will continue to practice these skills daily all school year. Thank you so much to all my parents for helping your child complete their Alphabet letters. They look FANTASTIC!

The children have loved all of our special events thus far, such as Our Traditional Values Program with Mr. Johnson, Story Time with

Mrs. Kehoe, continued

Mrs. Jones, Spanish class with our new Spanish teacher, Mrs. Nemeth, and the free Play Ball and Tumble Bus class. We had our First Mystery Reader on September 28th and the kids absolutely loved it! Mrs. Kelley and I loved to see each of the children giggle and smile during this time!

Mrs. Kelley and I look forward to a great "Buzzing School Year"!

Mrs. Micale's Monkeys (4's M-F):

We have had a wonderful start to our school year. The children are all awesome! August was spent getting to know each other and learning the classroom and school rules.

We also spent a week learning about monkeys and our friend "Curious George". Hopefully by now everyone has had the pleasure of George's company for an overnight visit. Your stories are wonderful and the children can't wait to hear about George's adventures at their classmate's homes.

September was a very busy month. We concentrated on two themes, Bears and Apples. Our Bear unit was a lot of fun. We learned about forest bears and polar bears. The children enjoyed exploring the habitats for these animals. We went on a "cool" bear hunt and played the hibernation game. We ended the unit by bringing our Teddy Bears to school for a honey hunt and picnic.

The last two weeks of the month were spent exploring apples. We learned how apples grow, what is inside an apple, and we graphed our favorite color of apples. We read the book "The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree" and spent time learning about the different seasons of the year. We completed several apple crafts and memorized apple finger-plays. We completed our study of apples with a celebration of Johnny Appleseed's birthday. The children painted pretend pots to wear as hats, and we walked around the Church grounds pretending to plant apple seeds.

In phonics this month, we learned all the animals in our Zoo-phonics curriculum, including the sounds and signals they make. We also started on our Letter of the Week program and worked on the letters Aa, Ee, Ii, and Oo. Thank you for your support of our weekly show-n-tell and Friday homework.

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Mrs. Micale, continued

Our nursery rhyme for September was Pease Porridge Hot. We have practiced reciting the rhyme and discussed the vocabulary. We even made porridge (oatmeal) for snack and kept a bowl for nine days to see what would happen. All the children agreed that they do NOT like it nine days old!

For our Bible Story this month, we focused on Creation and the First Family. We read the story in class and acted it out. In Chapel, Mrs. Coffeen retold the story and taught songs and finger-plays.

Our math lessons were focused on the calendar, months of the year, and days of the week. We also learned the AB pattern. We have practiced recognizing and writing the numerals 1 and 2.

September was a month of firsts as we enjoyed music, Spanish class, and Story Time. We also had a special program, a puppet show about Traditional Values.

Mrs. Alfonsin and I would like to say thanks so much to all our families for the tremendous support of our classroom activities. We are so appreciative of the many generous donations and parent volunteers.

We celebrated one birthday this month. Happy Birthday to Addie on September 24.

Mrs. Armentrout's Frogs (Young Fives):

Wow! One month over already! We are having such a great time with all of your children. Thank you again for sharing your children with us.

We started the school year off by getting our carpet squares done in one day! Your children love getting their toes and hands dirty!!

The last week of August, we learned about the Ocean and the letter "O". Your children (and you) did an excellent job on the "O's Around Us environmental wordbook. The children had fun reading them to their classmates. Thank you for all your help! In science, we learned how the oceans water helps us float by making an egg float in salt water.

Mrs. Armentrout, continued

We have also been learning a lot about our Country's flag. It always amazes me how fast the children learn and remember things. We cannot wait for them to teach you a few of these facts at our Open House in October.

The first week of September, we learned about each other and ourselves. We also started our Creation necklaces, which the kids will be taking home at Open House. We enjoyed our first Story Time and Spanish class.

The second week we learned about each other's families. We have posted our "Family Photos" in the classroom, so stop by and take a peek next time you are in the school. We had a great performance called "Traditional Values". The kids really enjoyed the magician's magic tricks. We had fun with "Ghost Crystals" in science.

The third week, we talked about Friends and being a good friend. For science, we made friendship bracelets with "Energy Beads". The kids loved this! We made pizzas one day, and they were yummy!

We ended the month with a week on Apples. We had fun making applesauce and learning about Johnny Appleseed. We had a special visit (thanks to Ms. Kimmie Tinney) from him! We learned the seasons of the year. We had fun in Music and learned a lot in Chapel with Mrs. Coffeen.

Our science project of the week has been a BIG hit. Be sure to ask your children what they did for science on Wednesdays (and sometimes Thursdays!)

We celebrated three birthdays this month: Seth on the 4th, Paige's unibirthday on the 9th, Payton's on the 16th, Matthew's on the 22nd, and Maddie's unibirthday on the 30th. Ask about the surprise at the end of the birthday book.

We would like to thank you for all the donations you all have made to the class and for all of you donating your time to fill our classroom helper slots. The "Mystery Reader" has been a big hit with the kids, and we cannot wait to have you visit if you haven't yet!

The Shutterfly website is so fun to have. We love having you as a part of our class through pictures. I am sure the kids love seeing themselves on the computer and are giving you a lot more information about their day.