



OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

The Giving Nest Preschool in Pluckemin

Director: Barbara Maxwell

October Events at the Giving Nest...

Many wonderful things happen in October. Beginning with a little chill in the air, October starts its magic – the leaves begin to change colors and the children start planning their Halloween costumes. This is a wonderful month for the children and the teachers make a special effort to keep the excitement alive with their innovative lessons and creative art projects.



Drop off & Pick-Up During Inclement Weather

Drop Off & Pick-Up Times have been running so smoothly and we thank you for following all the procedures! Your children are doing fabulously. We are so proud of them! We have been blessed with lovely weather, but the day will come soon when it will be cold, windy, and rainy. Please dress your children accordingly. We will go to the playground unless it is raining or below 30 degrees.

What's Up in the Sing Room...

Our school theme this year is “The Magic of Literature”. In the beginning of October, Mrs. Max will bring her backpack to Sing Time. We will open the backpack and inside will be wonderful story books, story book characters, puppets, and fun props. We will learn about authors and illustrators and will learn through our songs and books. On our web site you will find the songs the children will be learning this month. We will also learn about fire prevention, Halloween, and Fall. We will talk about staying away from hot things, using smoke detectors, and practicing fire drills.



Smile! Picture Day is this Month!

If you have been a member of our Giving Nest Family and have had your child's picture taken by Bill from Positive Image in New Providence, you know what a beautiful job he does. Somehow, each year, we have 100% of our faces smiling. Bill will be here on October 10th and 11th for individual and class pictures. Be on the look-out for the email with the link, so you can order the picture package of your choice.

Back to School Nights

On October 2nd & 3rd, The Giving Nest Staff will be hosting Back to School Nights. The time is from 6:00-7:00. We love our children, but **this is for Parents Only!** The program will be split into 2 sessions. A time to meet the teachers and experience the classroom and a time to meet the office staff for an overview, questions and answers and a video presentation. We will try to capture the special moments in your child's day so you can see them on a typical day at the Nest. Please see your child's class date on the schedule below.

A blue rectangular graphic with rounded corners. At the top, the text "Welcome Back to School!" is written in a white, sans-serif font. Below the text, there are four cartoon children of diverse backgrounds standing together. The child on the far right is waving.

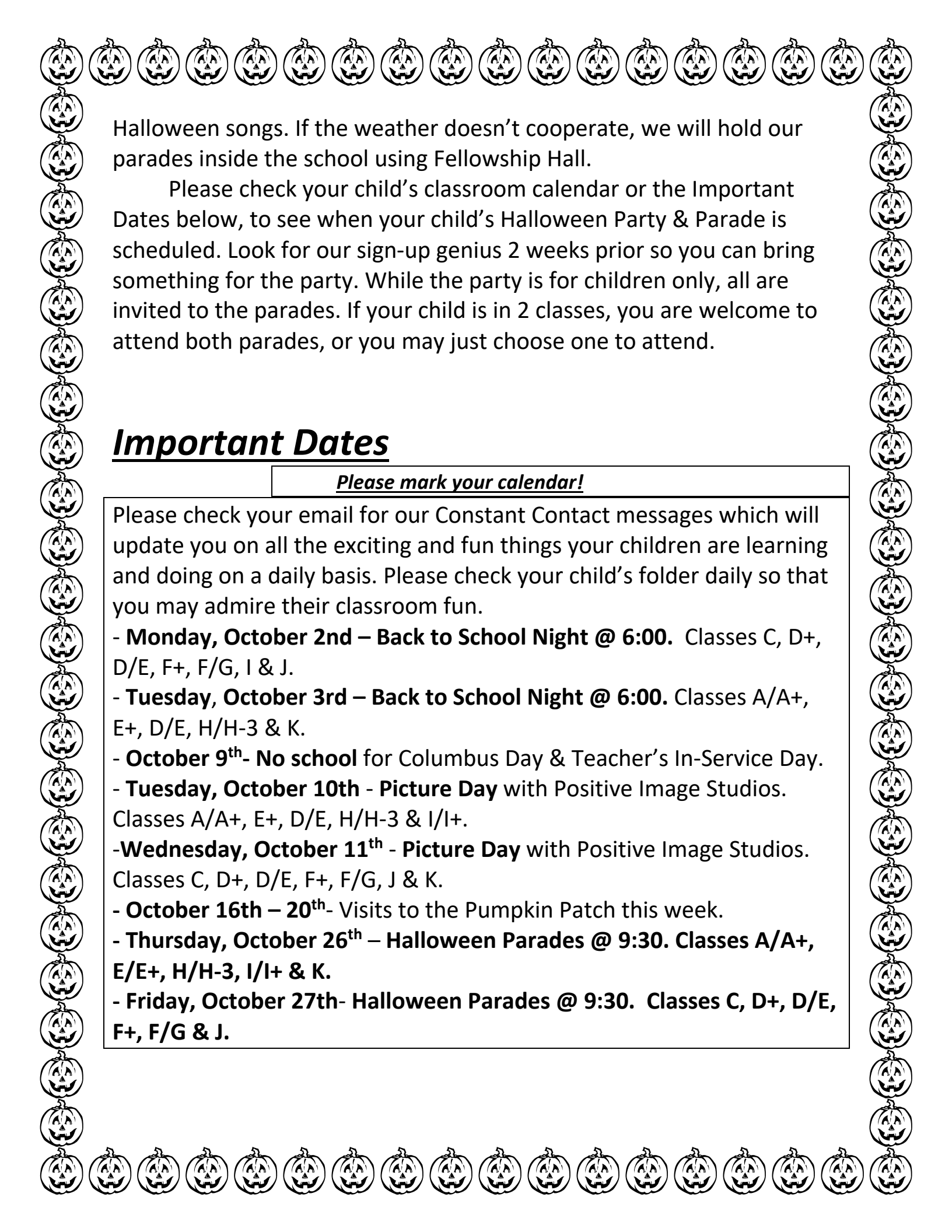
Welcome Back
to School!

Halloween Parades & Parties ...



Halloween is such an exciting and fun time at the Giving Nest! On the day of your child's parade & party, please bring your children in their costumes and drop them off at their appropriate entrance as usual.

Our parades will start promptly at 9:30am. We will parade the children outside the front door and towards the parking lot. They will follow the cones and will walk along our coned path several times. The children will then entertain you with some of their



Halloween songs. If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will hold our parades inside the school using Fellowship Hall.

Please check your child's classroom calendar or the Important Dates below, to see when your child's Halloween Party & Parade is scheduled. Look for our sign-up genius 2 weeks prior so you can bring something for the party. While the party is for children only, all are invited to the parades. If your child is in 2 classes, you are welcome to attend both parades, or you may just choose one to attend.

Important Dates

Please mark your calendar!

Please check your email for our Constant Contact messages which will update you on all the exciting and fun things your children are learning and doing on a daily basis. Please check your child's folder daily so that you may admire their classroom fun.

- **Monday, October 2nd – Back to School Night @ 6:00.** Classes C, D+, D/E, F+, F/G, I & J.
- **Tuesday, October 3rd – Back to School Night @ 6:00.** Classes A/A+, E+, D/E, H/H-3 & K.
- **October 9th- No school** for Columbus Day & Teacher's In-Service Day.
- **Tuesday, October 10th - Picture Day** with Positive Image Studios. Classes A/A+, E+, D/E, H/H-3 & I/I+.
- **Wednesday, October 11th - Picture Day** with Positive Image Studios. Classes C, D+, D/E, F+, F/G, J & K.
- **October 16th – 20th-** Visits to the Pumpkin Patch this week.
- **Thursday, October 26th – Halloween Parades @ 9:30.** Classes A/A+, E/E+, H/H-3, I/I+ & K.
- **Friday, October 27th- Halloween Parades @ 9:30.** Classes C, D+, D/E, F+, F/G & J.



Tuition Envelopes...

At the end of each month, you will receive a tuition payment envelope with your child's name, class letter and the tuition amount due on the front. Tuition is due the 1st of each month (any payment received after the 15th will be charged a \$10 late fee). Please check the information very carefully and contact the office (908-658-9665) if any of the information is incorrect. Please place your payment envelope in your child's folder or mail your payment to: The Giving Nest Preschool, PO Box 94, Pluckemin, N.J. 07978. There is also a tuition box in our main hallway.



Attention: All Parents - Coughs, Sniffles & Runny Noses...

Cough and cold season are already upon us! Please re-read our Policy & Procedure Book, Policies # 6 & # 7 regarding the policies for sick children as the policy has changed from past years. A doctor's note is now necessary, in some circumstances and for some illnesses, for your child to be readmitted to school following an illness. Please call the school office if your child is sick or will be away and will be absent from school.

Remember, Flu shots are required by **December 31st**! Please provide a receipt to the office. We will continue to send you updated CDC and state mandates as we receive them. Thank you.



The Giving Nest Garden is full of surprises...

As many of you know or remember we have a beautiful garden in our Giving Nest playground thanks to Emma Menz and her girl scout friends and family. The children will be planting tulip bulbs. The children will help dig and water them. In the Spring we will watch the magic happen as our bulbs and then tulips come to life!



***Parents- Please take note of this toy safety information...
The State of New Jersey Department of Children and Families has a website with a list of unsafe children's toys and products. This list is available on***

www.state.nj.us/lps/ca/recall/recalls.htm



“It’s Time to Clean Up!!”

Playing is so much fun but the words “Clean Up” are not always met with cooperation. Try some of these ideas that we use in the classroom...

1. Always give a “5” minutes warning when it is time to clean up.
2. “Can You Beat the Clock or Song”: Set a timer or play a favorite song and ask your child “Can you beat the clock/song and clean up before the bell rings or the song is over?”
3. “Grocery Bag Clean Up” Give your child grocery bags from the store and tell him/her they are going shopping just like a big person. Tell your child to put all the items on the floor in their bags and once everything has been cleaned up, they have to put their “Groceries” away.
4. Label-Label-Label: This is great for reading readiness, sorting, and organizing. Put toys in specific bins (For instance: Put blocks in one bin, put Lego’s in another bin, etc.). Label each bin with a photo or hand drawn picture of the toy and write the name of the toy on a white index card. Adhere both the photo and the word on the outside of the bin. When it is time to clean up your child will know which toys go into which bin.
5. Hula-Hoops: If your child has a difficult time cleaning up take small steps. Put a hula-hoop over a group of toys and tell your child this is what they need to clean up. When they can do that with success, put more and more toys in the hoop until you can finally stop using the hoop.

