



GIVING NEST NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2023

The GIVING NEST IN PLUCKEMIN

Barbara Maxwell-Director

November Happenings at the Giving Nest...

Thanksgiving...

Halloween is soon to be over, and Thanksgiving is just around the corner. Holidays are very important to young children. At the Giving Nest, we celebrate all the holidays and try to make each one special and exciting. This month the children will be busy talking about the Mayflower, Pilgrims, Native Americans and remembering all the things for which they are thankful. The children will read a Native American Indian story that uses Indian symbols to tell the story. They will also talk about the special things in our lives that make us feel thankful and how we can share our special talents and our time by helping others.



GIVING DAY! The local Food Bank is requesting Thanksgiving food: Canned cranberries, Stove Top Stuffing Mix, Canned corn or potatoes, Corn Bread Mixes, Canned Gravy or Apple juice among other dried or canned foods. We will host a food drive on November 13th & 14th. Please send the non-perishable food items in a bag with your child and they will present them at Sing Time. The food will be delivered to the Raritan Food Pantry on Thompson St.

THANKSGIVING FEAST



The children in the Cardinal and Kindergarten classes are going to have a Yummy Feast with their friends within the Fellowship Hall. The school will cook the turkeys and we will ask our parents to supply paper dinner ware and many different Thanksgiving side dishes and desserts so the children can enjoy a “family style” Thanksgiving Dinner together. The Fellowship Hall will be set up with tables, chairs, and Thanksgiving decorations! The children will come to the feast to celebrate friendship, families, and all they are grateful for. If your child has dietary restrictions, you may want to provide a plate of food that you know your child can eat. Look for our Sign-Up Genius in early November.



CELEBRATING CORN IN THE BLUEBIRD CLASS

The children in the Bluebird classes will learn about the Pilgrims arriving in America on the Mayflower. The Native Americans taught the Pilgrims many different skills to survive in their new land including how to plant corn. The children will have fun exploring corn, doing crafts with corn kernels, learning why popcorn pops, learning what popular foods contain corn and much more!

Box Tops...



Hooray to all our families who are scanning for Box Tops. This is such a simple way to help the school raise some extra money. Use the new Box Tops app to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. This app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online. No clipping required.

KID'S HOLIDAY SHOPPE



The Kids Holiday Shoppe is quickly approaching, this year's event will be held during the week of December 11th. Each child's class will have their own special time to shop at our Holiday Boutique. The Fellowship Hall will be festively set up as the "shopping boutique" and our shopper has begun shopping for gift items. Each child participating in the Kid's Holiday Shoppe will have the opportunity to browse each area and personally hand pick a special holiday gift to purchase for the family and friends designated on the returned green forms received back at school. Each gift will then be wrapped in a gift bag with the gift tag securely placed on each gift for secure keeping. All gifts purchased will be sent home the day of shopping. Remember each gift is no more than \$3.00. The children will be learning fun skills while they shop and then surprise their families with their carefully chosen gifts.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR – IMPORTANT DATES...

- **November 1st & 2nd: Holiday Shop orders go home.**
- **November 6th & 7th: RED, WHITE & BLUE DAY! Wear red, white & blue to celebrate Voting day in school.**
- **November 7th & 8th: Holiday Shop orders are due.**
- **November 9th & 10th: There is No School due to Teacher's Convention.**
- **November 13th & 14th: Giving Day! Collecting non-perishable food items for the Somerset Cty. Food Bank.**
- **November 13th & 14th: Your child's Fall Updates go home.**
- **November 16th: Thanksgiving Feast for the Cardinal & Kindergarten Classes!**
- **November 17th: Bluebird Cornbread Day.**
- **November 21st: Chore envelopes go home.**
- **November 22nd: Early Dismissal for ALL CLASSES AT EITHER 12:15 OR 12:30 p.m. – there will be Early Care BUT NO AFTER CARE**
- **November 23rd and November 24th: No School – HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
- **November 30 & December 1: Chore money due.**

Teachers are always learning...



The Giving Nest staff participated in a variety of workshops on Monday, October 9th. Our very own, Brittany Peterson, (Arthur Tamac's Mom) who is a registered dietician presented us with a workshop. She explained why picky eating is normal for preschoolers and how to respond to it, how to develop a positive relationship with food and so many other informative facts regarding the creation of positive mealtime experiences.

Jill Leitstein from Uncommon Thread who is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst spoke to us about ABA (applied behavior analysis). What is it and what principles of ABA can we use in our classroom with any group of children.

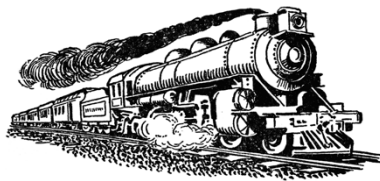
Our co-founder and Watchung director introduced our staff to "Foundations." This "letter sounds" and "writing" program is being introduced to some local schools in the area.

Warm Clothes for Playground Fun...



The children will continue to visit the playground as long, as the weather permits it. Please dress your children in appropriate clothing for the colder weather, including sturdy shoes, hats, and mittens. The children love to play outdoors, and it is healthy for them to be out in the fresh air. We will keep the children in only if it is raining, snowing, sleet or the temperature drops below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Please help us out and label all coats, hats, mittens, etc. with your child's name.

Full STEAM Ahead



What STEAM Activities Will Be Happening in November?

STEAM Challenges:

All Classes:

1. Can you build a Turkey using cardboard tubes, construction paper, glue, scissors, tape, feathers and wiggle eyes?
2. Can you build the tallest tower that can hold your turkey?

Duckling, Bluebird, Cardinals:

1. Can you build a hideout for your turkey using blocks, paper and cardboard.

Bluebirds, Cardinals:

1. Can you create your own turkey automobile and see how far you can make your turkey travel using matchbox cars and tape?

Cardinals:

1. Can you build a parachute for your turkey to see how slow he can fall using a coffee filter, string, tape and a hole punch.

Have a warm and safe November and a Happy Thanksgiving!

