



The Giving Nest Preschool & Kindergarten October Newsletter

What's Happening in the Sing Room...

Sing is a special and fun time for the directors, teachers, and students at the Giving Nest. Each morning the classes meet in the large meeting room to sing the monthly songs and participate in fun and interactive lessons from the Directors.

During Sing in October, we will be focusing on Halloween and Fire Safety! The Directors will show the children, through lessons and stories, the steps to take if they smell smoke or see a fire. We have fun stories and skits we perform on fire safety, calling 911, and planning a meeting place.

We will continue to collect food and items for a local food bank. During Sing Time we explain how a food bank works. We suggest that once a month the Giving Nest students, when shopping with mom or dad, ask if they can pick out something to put in the food bank bin. Things in need are canned goods, such as sauces, vegetables and tuna. Peanut butter is in big demand as well as pasta products and dry cereal. There is also a need for deodorant, toothpaste, toilet paper, disposable razors, hand crème, and disposable diapers. However, anything your child wishes to donate will be appreciated. There is a bin we use for the donations. We will deliver the food we collect to a local food bank.

Each morning after we salute the flag we will ask if anyone has food for the food bank. Those children will be invited to come up in front, drop their donations in the donation bin and form a line. We will state that, "These children started their day in a special way, what did they do special?" All will respond, "They thought of others." Together we count the children on the stage and clap for them and all sing our "Donate Song".

In October we will begin inviting special guests to join us for Morning Sing Time. This year our school theme is "Community Helpers", and we will introduce the children to the many people they will meet that help our community each day. From Firefighters, Policeman, Dentists to Doctors, Nurses, Mail Carriers and Construction Workers, we invite our community helpers in to give a small presentation of what they do and how it helps us as a community. If you want to share your area of expertise with us, please call Mrs. Amy or Ms. Rhys in the office to schedule your visit.

Learning about Fire Safety



During morning Sing Time and Circle Time, we will talk about fire safety through lessons and stories. We will learn the steps to take if the children smell smoke or see a fire, calling 911, stop-drop-roll and cover your faces and planning a meeting place. We are looking forward to a visit from the North Plainfield fire Department on October 8th and 9th, the children in each class will each get a turn to walk outside and tour the fire truck and ask questions to the Firefighters. The firefighters will also describe the equipment a firefighter wears, explaining each piece of apparatus. How exciting it will be for the children to learn about these especially important lifesaving skills.



Back to School Night

On October 1st and 2nd, the Giving Nest Staff will be hosting Back to School Nights. The time is from 7:00-8:00pm. 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 check your child's October class calendar for your child's class date. We will also be sending an email reminder with the schedule for the evening.

We request that you do not use this evening to ask questions regarding your individual child with the teacher or assistant. Conferences are scheduled in January for this purpose. We do, however, send home "Fall Updates" in November with individualized information on how your child is doing. If you have any concerns that need to be addressed before, please write a note to the teacher and she will call you within the week. If you have any questions about Back to School Night, please call the office or stop by. Check your individual class calendars or our online calendar for the day of your back-to-school night.

Halloween Celebrations and Parades



Halloween is always a fun and festive time at the Giving Nest. As you check your child's class calendars this month you will notice that our Halloween Celebration are not on Thursday, October 31st, Halloween day. In the past our parents have experienced conflicts with attending our Halloween festivities and viewing events of siblings in the grammar schools. We've scheduled it this way for several years and it is very successful. Please pay close attention to your child's calendar for the dates. We will also send an email reminder with parade specifics, days and times, in the beginning of October.

Parents are invited to come to enjoy the children dressed in costumes. The Chickadees and Ducklings will have a parade outside, weather permitting or in the large meeting room if it is raining. The Kindergarteners, Cardinals and Bluebirds will have a fashion show and sing Halloween songs. Children should come to school dressed in costume on the day of the fashion show or parade. If the costume is uncomfortable, please have clothes underneath or send in a change of clothes he/she can change into.

The children will also have a small Halloween party in their classroom. If you would like to contribute to the festivities, we will be emailing sign-ups in October, using Sign-Up Genius, for Halloween goodies to share with the class. While the party is for children only, all are invited to the parades.

Reminder-In Service Day - No School

Please do not forget there is no school on Monday, October 14th. This day is reserved for an in-service training day for all of our staff.



Please get your Flu Shot

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

Cough and cold season are already upon us! Please re-read the Giving Nest Policy and Procedure Book regarding the policy for sick children as the policy can change 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 or email the school office if your child is sick or will be away and will be absent from school.

It is a State Mandate - Influenza Vaccine: Children 6 months through 59 months attending any childcare or preschool facility must annually receive at least one dose of the influenza vaccine between September 1 & December 31 each year. It is **very important** you comply with this state mandate. The state sends a nurse to the Giving Nest and all preschools to check each child's medical paperwork and make certain all shots have been administered. If immunizations are not up to date and/or documentation is not provided, the child may have to leave the school until all records are received and updated. The state nurse checks all immunizations. To make certain your child's immunizations are up to date please go to:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/imm_requirements/cc_preschool_requirements_parents.pdf.

If you have any questions, please call the school at 908-754-2060.



'Art To Remember' Fundraiser

The children are very busy working on special art projects. These projects will be sent to 'Art To Remember' to be scanned and used for our first fundraiser. You will have the opportunity to view your child's artwork placed on custom printed keepsakes with the option to purchase these special items. The keepsakes will be completed just in time for the holidays. If you are looking for a special gift, this is a wonderful option! More details will follow for viewing and ordering these items.

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 (908-754-2060) 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 7106, Green Brook, N.J. 08812. There is also a tuition box in the office.