



The Giving Nest Preschool November Newsletter

We hope you enjoyed our Halloween Parades and Fashion Shows. We have a lot of fun things planned for November and the coming months. We will be talking about all the things we are thankful for: family, friends, food, etc. We will also learn about voting and each student will have the opportunity to vote in his/her classroom. We hope you have been keeping up with our Monthly Newsletters as well as the Class "Tweets" and Calendars.

Fall Student Updates:

In November we will be sending home a *Fall Student Update* for the Cardinals, Bluebirds, Ducklings and Chickadees. This update is to let you know how your child is adjusting to school. A more formal progress report will be sent home in January, and we will be sending sign-ups for individual conferences at that time. Any questions or concerns please email us at directorsnp@givingnestpreschools.com.

Election Day: Red, White & Blue Day



This year in honor of election day we invite our whole school to show their patriotic spirit by dressing up in Red, White, and Blue on Monday November 6th or Tuesday November 7th (check your child's class calendar). On Election Day we will have the children cast their votes. All classes will be able to vote in the Giving Nest voting booth in their classroom just as in previous years. In keeping with the voting spirit, each child will be invited to fill out his/her "Mail In Ballot" and drop his/her ballot in the ballot box in the voting booth. Once all votes are in, the teachers will count the votes and announce who the class has chosen! Each class votes for something different. The children may vote on their favorite candy or favorite mascot, maybe even their favorite pet. Stay tuned for the results and pictures of this patriotic event!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:



- November 7th and November 8th - Fall Student Updates go home in your child's folder.
- November 9th and November 10th - No School due to Teacher's Convention.
- November 9th - Kindergarten Conferences.
- November 22nd - Early Dismissal - Half Day, All Students, no aftercare.
- November 23rd and November 24th - No School - Happy Thanksgiving!

Bluebird, Cardinal and Kindergarten Friendsgiving Fun!

"We are thankful for our family, our friends at school and the food we eat." These are important thoughts as well as the words to one of our November songs. During November the children will spend time talking about the special things in their lives, which make them feel thankful.



The children in the Bluebird, Cardinal and Kindergarten classes are going to have a yummy Friendsgiving Feast with their friends in the large meeting room, check your child's class calendar for the date. In November, the children in these classes will be learning about the Fall Harvest and will come to the feast dressed as tiny turkeys, cute corn on the cobs and delicious pumpkin pie. To celebrate friendships at the feast, they will exchange friendship necklaces with each other and sing Giving Nest November songs.

To help make this meal more festive we will be sending out a sign up for parents to bring in a hearty November meal - Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Corn, Buttered Rolls, etc.... It would be wonderful if your children could help you prepare what you bring in to share with our friends. The teachers will supply the turkey!

Fall Fundraisers

The children have been hard at work in their classrooms creating one-of-a-kind masterpieces for our "Art to Remember" fundraiser. This company offers an array of keepsake items that can be ordered which will feature your child's original artwork. All fundraising monies raised will be going toward purchasing items for the classrooms.

We have sent you a link and a code to view your child's artwork and to place orders. If you place your order by November 13th, you will get free shipping if you select 'ship to school' at checkout.

Looking Ahead to December

Adopt-a-Family - Tis the Season of GIVING at the Giving Nest! Initiated by the HEARTS of WATCHUNG, the Adopt-a-Family is a wonderful program where we have the opportunity to help out a family in need during the holidays. The Hearts of Watchung, led by Cindy Homer, is a non-profit group and through their collaborative relationship with Family and Community Services of Somerset County (FCS) donates to families of need throughout the year. The Giving Nest has been adopting families for over a decade and it really makes a difference for a family experiencing hardships. We learned adopted families in years' past were overwhelmed by the generosity of our donations and called our gifts "a miracle" Hearts with our family's wish list items will be on display in the hallway. Each heart will list specifically who and what is wished for. Please consider taking a heart and fulfilling the family members wish. ALL GIFTS ARE DUE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH.

The "Giving Trees" - December at the Giving Nest marks the start of our "Giving Trees". More information on this program will be sent out the first week in December. The first week of December, you will find Trees hanging in the hallway waiting to be adorned by special handmade ornaments created by the children. We will learn about giving to others and together we will choose a program we can 'give' back to by earning a little chore money that we can donate. How fun to teach the children to think of others during these special holidays!

Holiday Kids Shoppe - The second week of December the large meeting room will be transformed into a gift boutique. This is a special shop; it is not gifts for the children but gifts the children can buy for mom, dad, siblings, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. , each item is only \$3.00. It is a magical time at the Giving Nest when the Holiday Shoppe opens its doors. The children become little adults shopping at specialty 'stores'; clutching the money in their hands as they examine the items. After much thought and deliberation each child excitedly chooses the perfect gift for a special loved one. The children count out two dollars for the shopkeeper. She takes the money and gift wraps the special surprise.

In mid-November you will receive a form asking for whom your child will be buying gifts (limit 5 per child). Please fill this out and return it to the Giving Nest with payment in singles. We will then ask our volunteers to shop the local dollar stores for gift items using the forms we received so that we know how many gifts and what gifts to buy. We will request all forms and payment by November 17TH. We will have parents in to volunteer and come in to help as set up, personal shoppers, and clean up. We will be sending the information and requirements for signing up to volunteer soon.



Flu Shots!

Reminder-Flu Shots are required by December 31st. Please send in your child's record to the office so we can update your child's immunization file.



Warm clothes for Playground Fun!

The cold weather will soon be upon us. The children will continue to visit the playground as long as the weather permits. Please dress your child in appropriate clothing for the weather including sturdy shoes, hats, scarves, and mittens.



The children love to play outdoors, and it is healthy for them to be out in the fresh air. Remember, the children go outside twice a day. We will keep the children in only if it is raining, snowing, sleeting or the temperature drops below 32° Fahrenheit.

Have a Healthy and
Happy Thanksgiving!