

November News

Room 101- Sarah Mitchell



November is here! It's hard to believe that November is already here. October seems like a whirlwind but we sure had fun! I'm so impressed with the kids and the skills they have gained already in the past month and a half. The friendships that are developing are varied and delightful. Rather than seeing some kids pair up and play exclusively with one friend or another, I'm pleased to see them playing with different kids on different days and be excited to learn from and help each other. A couple of my favorites have been the help they give each other loading purple bags and zipping zippers- and these have been unprompted! So sweet! Many of them have also taken to following Maggie's lead and assembling our wooden puzzles outside the frames. This makes for an added challenge they are all proud to accomplish! We have also made some progress at the sign-in table. We initially started our sign-ins by tracing dotted letters. As the kids master that, we are moving on to writing their names independently paying closer attention to capitals, lower case, and grip. As we master this, we will move on to adding last names. This will likely come in the new year. You may have also heard about our music specialist who started in October. Ms. Sherry will be coming in once or twice a month to do focused multi-cultural music lessons with the class. We do these lessons with Mrs. Schubloom's class so the students have an opportunity to learn in a larger group setting. In addition to these music sessions, Mrs. Schubloom and I often allow the students to move freely between our two classrooms during free-choice time. As they explore between the rooms, they enjoy a different setting, additional opportunities and another group of students. It's been a positive experience for all!

November Learning Themes- Farms, Food, and Nutrition

This month we will focus our activities around farms- different types, what they provide us, who works on them, etc. This will be a good lead-in to talking about food and the food groups and how proper nutrition, exercise and sleep habits help our bodies. We will brainstorm November 1 to see what they already know and what interests they have in regards to these ideas. We will of course take a mid-month break to talk about Thanksgiving but since food is such a big part of this holiday, it should fit in well.

November Dates

Conferences

Monday-Wednesday November 13-15, after preschool

Charlie Brown Thanksgiving

November 16

No School- Thanksgiving Break

Monday, November 20- Thursday, November 23

Coming up in December... World Celebrations, Gingerbread Houses

More about this month...

Sharing- The kids have done a nice job selecting and talking about their sharing items. This month we will continue with the traditional "show and tell." The kids can bring in something to share (SMALL toy, book, picture, found object, etc) and tell the class about it. Please take a minute or two to talk about what your child will say. We end each sharing time with a chance for three comments or questions from the listening students. I encourage kids who don't get called on to ask or tell to talk to their friend about it later. It's a fun way for kids to start conversations. See schedule for sharing days.

Conferences- We will be having our first round of conferences mid-November. This is a chance for us to connect about how your student is adjusting to the new school year and how they are doing socially. I will be doing conferences after preschool on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 13, 14, 15. A pre-conference questionnaire will be coming home in your child's purple bag. Please let me know if you have specific questions or concerns we can address at our meeting. Watch for sign-up in the hall.

Charlie Brown Thanksgiving- On Thursday, November 16 we will have our annual Charlie Brown Thanksgiving. This is a fun school-wide event where we will watch A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving and enjoy a Charlie Brown-style feast together. We will need volunteers from each classroom to help with set-up, serving, and clean-up. Watch for a sign-up outside the classroom.

As always, please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, updates, etc. either in person, by phone or text (612-810-5906) or by email (smitchell@lakeharrietumpreschool.org).