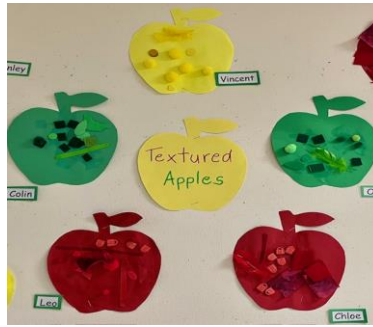


Westminster Family Connection



October 2024



Above is a picture of a few of the "textured apples" The 3's class made. All classes have been focusing on apples for Autumn. The end-of-the-week updates have kept you informed of all the apple experiments, investigations, graphing, books, and art projects we've managed to do!

Playground Update!

The Little Tikes Tot Tree is due to be installed TOMORROW Saturday 5th! We are so excited! Thank you for all your donations and offers of help to get this installed. Fortunately, I finally received the call scheduling it for tomorrow.

Halloween

Each year we ask that students do not wear costumes to school for Halloween. Experience has shown that costumes in our school can be difficult on the stairs and in the bathroom. However, *please* bring a picture of your child in costume. We will display these in the main hall for all to see (we tape them to a black bat). Students love seeing themselves and their friends in costumes, finding matching costumes, and talking about trick-or-treating

Picture Days - October 22nd and 23rd

Bill Marvin from Positive Image Photography in New Providence will be taking individual and class pictures of Mrs. Machin's class Tuesday 22nd. Mrs. Bocian's 3's and Mrs. Ripps's 4's classes will have their individual and class pictures taken Wednesday 23rd. Pictures are taken outside on our patio, weather permitting. Mr. Bill, as he is known to us, has a wonderful sense of play and captures smiles from the students resulting in priceless pictures year after year. He will send out a link after the pictures are taken so you can log on and view the pictures and order directly. You may also contact him for re-takes if you'd like, or additional pictures of your family. For those with siblings here this year, we will try to get sibling pictures.

Early Drop Off, Extended Day Availability

Early drop off, at 8:30am (or any time before 8:50), is available daily for \$7, which you may pay at the door, or pay when invoiced. There is no need to reserve a spot - just ring the doorbell! Lunch and Learn for the 3's (11:30-2:30) has openings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you'd like your child to join the group, just reserve the spot with me in advance. We have added a Teacher's Aide to our 4's Enrichment program (11:30 - 2:30) and now have availability Monday through Friday. The cost is \$40/day for the extended day programs which can be invoiced or paid at the time. If you would like to enroll your child for the year in an extended day program, there is a small savings.

Flu Vaccine

Doctors often recommend receiving the flu vaccination in October as flu activity in our area usually begins in October. The State of New Jersey *mandates* that all children 6-59 months receive a flu vaccine by December 31st. Please submit documentation of your child's vaccination; students without flu vaccine documentation are not allowed back after winter break until documentation is received.

Change of Clothes

Although we've been experiencing a return of warm temperatures, we know colder weather is on its way. The clothes you brought in September for your child to change into (if needed) may not be warm enough now! Please bring in pants and long-sleeved shirts to replace those t-shirts and shorts. We play outside as often as possible - we want your child to be comfortable!

Conferences

Our Parent/Teacher conferences are in January. We do this to give your child time to adjust to his/her new classroom and classmates, and to give our teachers more time to observe and get to know your child. If you have any questions or concerns about your child currently, please reach out to your child's teacher.

Westminster School Spirit!

Locally-owned Tee Bag in Berkeley Heights has provided us for years with distinctive blue Westminster-logo apparel and magnets. We're excited to offer you the opportunity to show your school spirit! The sweatshirts also make great Christmas gifts for Alumni and parents. My son, a Westminster graduate, added his to his Rutgers, Eagles sweatshirt rotation, now it's Rutgers, Eagles, Westminster! Keep your eye out for an email detailing how to order.

Looking Ahead

Monday October 14th - School Closed for Indigenous People's/Columbus Day

Tuesday October 22nd - School Photos, Mrs. Machin's

Wednesday October 23rd - School Photos, Mrs. Bocian's and Mrs. Ripps' classes

Tuesday November 5th - School closed for Election Day

Thursday November 7th - School Closed, Teacher Convention

Friday November 8th - School Closed, Teacher Convention

Wednesday November 27th - Thanksgiving Break

Thursday November 28th - Thanksgiving Break

Friday November 29th - Thanksgiving Break