

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Mrs. G and Mrs. Tracey Tuesday/Thursday Class

October was a very busy month! We all enjoyed exploring The Nature Center, bringing dads to pumpkin carving nights and celebrating Halloween.

We introduced using scissors. We will continue to work on our cutting skills in November. If you don't have child sized scissors at home, we encourage you to get a pair for your child. You can designate a cutting spot and just provide a variety of paper for them to cut however they wish. Cutting skills develop the muscles in their hands. Another way to develop fine motor skills are playing with play dough and clay. All these things help with their writing skills. The children are getting comfortable in the classroom with their teachers and their classmates. Developing socially in the classroom is a huge part of preschool. The children are learning to work together as a group as well as gaining confidence and independence. We encourage the children to play together, share their toys and be aware of their neighbors. We want the children to make their own choices and ask for help when they need it. Each child is working toward independence, and we continue to work on these skills throughout the school year.

In November, we will begin picking our weather helpers for the day. This is decided on picking a child's name out of our helper box. The children anxiously await their name being called. Some other jobs the children have are line leader, caboose and bell ringer. These jobs change weekly, and everyone will have a chance to experience each of these tasks.

As the weather may start to cool off, please remember hats and gloves, and make sure your child's name is on each of their belongings.

News from Director: Donna MacCrindle

October was a busy month. We had our 4 year olds' field trip to Stade's Farm and Market and Dad's Night for Pumpkin Carving where many creative Jack-O-Lanterns were created. We also enjoyed our Halloween celebrations and seeing all the children in their costumes.

The McHenry County College students were in the building observing the classrooms for their Early Childhood Education Program. We allowed the students to observe the classroom and see how a preschool class functions. These observations are only an hour long, and the students are very happy we allow them to visit.

Just a reminder about lightning, if lightning occurs around drop off or pick up, a sign will be outside indicating that lightening has occurred. You will need to escort your child in or out of Barlina House. A thirty minute indoor safety period is required. Thank you for your understanding.

We will continue to have outdoor play time, (weather permitting) so please be sure to send your child with the proper outer wear, hats and gloves. Outdoor play is purposefully included in our day to help develop motor skills, cooperation, socialization and fresh air. With the challenges of dressing for our climate during the winter months, self-help skills are also learned. Exploring the outdoor environment also encourages curiosity about the world around us.

