

News from the Rockin' Red Class

October 2011

“God saw everything that he had made.

It was very good.”

Genesis 1:31

Important Dates

October 6 – Aldersgate Fall Festival 5-7pm

October 13 – Johnny Appleseed presentation during class time

October 14 – Aldersgate open; Olathe schools closed

October 18-21 – Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 31 – Aldersgate open; Olathe schools closed

November 1 – Walking field trip to Family Eye Care

November 10 – Red Class Parent Day

We're Off and Running!

Our red class boys and girls have settled beautifully into the routines of our classroom and seem to be enjoying getting to know one another! We hope your child has been coming home with new sign language that he or she is learning – if not, ask your child to show you the sign for zebra, tiger, elephant, giraffe, lion, and monkey. The children have been engaged in some pre-reading activities. The first book, Who Rode in Noah's Ark? allows children a sense of “ownership” and accomplishment through repetitive phrasing, picture clues, etc. Eventually your child will come to recognize some of the letters, if not already, and those letters will become words. We will continue to offer opportunities and experiences to investigate and manipulate the written word at your child's own developmental level. We have also been matching, sorting, and patterning with all kinds of animals.

Autumn Unit

We are beginning our autumn unit, which will last the next five weeks. We will make a scarecrow and study changes to nature in the fall. We will taste apples and graph our preferences, pattern, work on numeral identification, shape identification, positional words, and more. We will have a visit to our classroom by Johnny Appleseed via an employee of the Ernie Miller Nature Center. Reminders about fall conferences and information about our Parent Day in November will be coming home soon. Many of you have selected conference times for our conferences. If not, you may schedule a time with us or we will assign a time to you for your approval.

Shape Identification

We learn eight basic shapes in our classroom. These shapes are the circle, square, rectangle, triangle, heart, star, rhombus (diamond), and ellipse (oval). Some of these may be new terminology for you. The Olathe and Blue Valley public schools refer to the oval shape as an ellipse, and the diamond as the rhombus. To help make the transition smoother, we are introducing the kids to this terminology here as well.

Upper and Lower Case Letters

In preparation for kindergarten, we are encouraging the children to write their names by using upper case for the first letter and lower case for the rest of the letters. Your child signs in the classroom everyday on a dry erase board or chalk board in our room. We have cards written with names in this format, so your child can refer to it if help is needed. Please practice name writing in this format with your child at home!

Snack Volunteers

Thank you to all who have signed up to serve snack at preschool this year. Many of our fall/winter slots have been filled. Reminders will be sent home via e-mail or note near the date in which you have signed up. We also want to clarify that snack will be provided by the preschool and you are not responsible for providing snack for the day. You will serve our snack to the students, which frees up a teacher to work with the children. You might get in on some valuable information from watching the interactions between children! It's a fun way to find out what they are doing at school each day!

October Birthday Celebrations

Red AM

Baylie Stith (9/28) on Tuesday, September 27th
Cole Teager (9/29) on Thursday, September 29th
Sydney Luzader (9/30) on Thursday, September 29th
Berit Shores (10/9) on Thursday, October 6th
Maren Carter (10/14) on Thursday, October 13th
Kaden Schwendemann (10/18) on Monday, October 17th
Caden Huffman (10/18) on Monday, October 17th
Lily Wedman (10/20) on Monday, October 24th
Sophie Fitman (10/30) on Thursday, October 27th

Red PM

Haidyn McPike (10/11) on Tuesday, October 11th
Dane Bradley (10/12) on Wednesday, October 12th
Cole Witt (10/16) on Thursday, October 13th
Reid Stainbrook (10/31) on Wednesday, October 26th
Hunter Tolman (10/27) on Thursday, October 27th
Grant Burns (11/3) on Thursday, November 3rd
Tyler Burns (11/3) on Thursday, November 3rd