



## Preschool Peek

### October 2022

Week of October 3

#### Fall is Fun

- Leaf Game (positional words)
- Bear Game (positional words)

#### Music:

- Oh, How I Love Jesus
- The More We Get Together
- 1 Little Leaf, 2 Little Leaves...
- This Is the Way We Rake the Leaves...
- Grey Squirrel, Swish Your Busy Tail
- Whole World in His Hands

#### Stories:

- Mouse's First Fall (our Repeated Read Aloud)
- I Love Fall
- Autumn Leaves Are Falling Down
- The Very Busy Squirrel
- I Can Share
- Bible Read Aloud: God Made the World

#### Special Projects:

- Colorful Leaf with markers/water
- Nature Tree with Fall colored beads
- Sponge Painted Grey Squirrel
- Fall tree with leaf cookie cutters

#### Alphabet Activities:

- Letter F: feathers & "F" sound
- Letter Review: H

#### Activities:

- visit to the Adoration Chapel (feast of St. Margaret Mary)
- sensory bin with animals (sea and land)
- play dough with shape cookie cutters/ various tools
- pastel "silly" bristle blocks and geo-shaped wooden blocks
- science table: nature items, magnifying glasses, books
- magnetic shapes with boards
- colored pom poms with tweezers
- classroom library books and big books (theme based)
- number concept: #1-10 magnets on cube
- dramatic play: Pet Shop
- maker table: dot paints and blank paper
- color folder games: matching colors and shapes
- zoo animals with foam blocks (feast of St. Francis)
- magnet animal puzzle book (God's creation of animals)
- light table: nature items in a see-through window
- Jesus table: place for a quiet prayer and more

Week of October 10, 17 & 24

#### God's Creation/God Made Everything

- Where is Worm? (positional words)

#### Music:

- He's Got the Whole World in His Hands
- Praise Him
- 1 Little Leaf, 2 Little Leaves ...
- God made the world
- Way Up High in an Apple Tree
- If I Were an Apple and Grew on a Tree

#### Stories:

- The Creation
- God Made
- Star in the Apple story/activity
- Circles
- God Made Shapes

#### Special Projects:

- World Creation (huge coffee filter)
- Apple Tasting (red/green/yellow apples)
- Apple Finger Painting
- Face Drawing
- Hallow-Fun Day crafts

#### Alphabet Activities:

- Letter C: soft cotton balls & "C" sound
- Letter E: decorated eggs & "E" sound

#### Activities:

- play dough with Fall shaped cookie cutters/rollers
- dramatic play: Pet Shop
- vehicles and little people
- science table: nature/magnifying glasses
- reflections with big mirror and toys
- Fall fishing on train table
- maker area: dot paint and apple tree
- wooden blocks and diversity people
- craft stick creations with Velcro
- matching colors with beads/jars
- class library with big books
- Jesus prayer table
- potato head and accessories
- light table: making a tree with craft sticks/pom poms
- sensory bin: fall exploration with leaves, pinecones, gourds, apples and pumpkins, toy squirrel and scarecrow

# Other News in Preschool

## Faith Focus

*God's Gifts to Us* is our faith focus for the month of October. We will become aware of all the wonderful things God gives us each day. The children will be learning chants with actions, listening to stories, exploring items from nature on our science table, taking a simple walk outside to observe the changes in the trees, collecting leaves, twigs, flowers and more. This is a beautiful time of the year to enjoy firsthand by touching, observing, and becoming more aware of the beauty God created in the world.

### Our Closing Prayer:

Thank you, Jesus

Thank you, Jesus

Thank you, Jesus

For a great day.

## Monthly Faith Focus Sharing Day (aka- Show-n-Tell):

Each month, as part of our Faith Focus theme, there will be a special day for your child to bring something from home to show-n-tell classmates a little bit about the item. Each child will be able to sit on my sharing stool when it is his/her turn to show what was brought to school.

Our first sharing day will be on **Tuesday, October 25**. The topic of conversation will be bring one item to preschool from nature. If possible, it would be nice to keep the nature items to add to our science table for exploration. Encourage your child to become aware of the beauty God has given us as the trees are changing colors, leaves and pinecones are falling to the ground and even look for bird nests as the tree becomes bare. Keep this in mind as you and your family go for walks on the beautiful days of Fall. \*\*A reminder note will go home in your child's orange folder regarding our first sharing day.

\*\* Note: I will have a crate near the classroom door for your child to place their sharing item inside when they enter the classroom. All Sharing items will be returned to your child's backpack at the end of the day, except for this month as we are collecting items from nature to add to our science table.

\*\*Please only send the nature items on our October Sharing Day.

\*\*Watch the monthly calendar for future Sharing Day themes and dates. Thank you, thank you.

## Early Childhood Screening

Early Childhood Screening is completed through the district you reside in and is currently mandatory for all children before entering Kindergarten. Be sure to make an appointment for the screening early rather than waiting until your child is closer to the kindergarten year. It is a very valuable tool for both St. Joseph's teachers and your family.

**The target age is 3.5 years**, but you can certainly have your child screened before this time frame. Feel free to ask if you have any questions. Hint: the screening dates are sometimes six weeks out—so call early to get your child's appointment.

## **Skill Practice**

Every time the children are involved in playing, exploring, and creating at Preschool, they are spending valuable time growing and developing at their own pace. Throughout the year, we will build on previous experiences of using crayons, scissors, pencils, paint brushes and other wonderful tools. Other skills might be listening to a story, acting out a poem, following a two-step direction, meeting a new friend, sharing a toy, or trying something for the first time. Whatever the outcome—the children feel so pleased when they have completed a given task. Enjoy the special projects that arrive home as each one was created with effort and enthusiasm. Wow! There are so many reasons to celebrate our little ones!

## **Projects**

Many days your child will create a project at school which will be send home, but it is often not the project of the day. Many times, the project remains at school until it is dry or proudly displayed on the classroom walls for a short time. Periodically, a project will be kept at school so a child's progress can be seen throughout the year.

## **Letter of the Week**

Our first few letters have gone very well. The children have met the zoo-phonics animal that corresponds with letter H and F so far. Each big letter page will have an image of the zoo-phonics animal in the corner of the page. The image is meant to help the children make a connection to the zoo animal, letter sound and letter.

In our Terrific Threes program, I am introducing the sound and then the letter to the children to begin the foundation of sound/letter awareness. The children are not expected to know the sound/letter names this year, but it surely is valuable to talk about it at home. The letter experiences made this year will be built upon during upcoming Preschool years. **Reminder:** Look at the monthly calendar for the letter each week.

Thank you for getting excited about your child's learning at Preschool. 😊

## **Snacks**

Thank you for your efforts to send a healthy and nutritional snack to Preschool. 2/4 food groups are necessary for snack and always appreciated. It is more economical to purchase snacks in bulk rather than individual packages.

Please look at the Terrific 3s calendar for the snacks that cannot be consumed with this age group. 😊

## **Donations to Preschool:**

Donations help us so much. Twice during the year, you will receive a Signup Genius wish list of items that are helpful to have in the classroom. This is completely optional for you to participate in and whatever you can help us with is appreciated so much. The donation requests include items such as cotton, q-tips, food coloring, salt, etc.

You should have received an email last Monday (10/3) inviting you to consider donating odds-n-ends to our Preschool. All the items listed on the donation list will be used with the children sometime during the school year.

Thank you ahead of time for your generous donations. They really do make a difference.

Thank you to our team of Home & School Preschool reps who helped create and send out the signups.

## Halloween Fun

The Terrific Threes will be enjoying a simple and fun celebration in the classroom on **Thursday, October 27**. The first part of the morning will consist of a costume fashion show, story, chant, and parade in the classroom. The second part of our class will be snack, crafts, games, and activities. It is going to be so much fun. We will be having a few parent volunteers helping maneuver a small group of children from station to station. All volunteers must have the Virtus training, and a background check completed prior to volunteering. If you have questions about your virtus status, please contact Lisa Wrobel in the main school office at 651-457-8550 or email [liwrobel@stjosephwsp.org](mailto:liwrobel@stjosephwsp.org).

## Halloween Fun Details

Please have your child wear a simple costume to Preschool on Thursday, October 27. The costume should allow your child to use the bathroom independently without too much trouble. In addition, please leave any accessories at home to avoid anything from getting broken or forgotten at school. This day is not meant to promote Halloween, but rather a day for little ones to use their imaginations and simply to have fun! There is no need to send treats to school. Thank you for your support. It is going to be a **BOO-TIFUL** day!

## Mark Your Calendars

- \*See the monthly calendar for the letter of the week, snack days, days off, color days, etc.
- \*Parent/Teacher conferences will be **on-site and in-person** this year. Signups will be sent out mid-October.
- \*As the weather changes, please be sure all your child's belongings are labeled to avoid clothing items placed in the wrong cubby or backpack.
- \*Please have your child dress for the weather each day. The early morning weather can be chilly when we are playing at the park. Wind is always a factor, too.
- \*Try to have your preschooler use the bathroom before leaving home each morning.
- \*Please have an extra bag (Ziploc works well) of clothes in your child's bag. \*\*Note: having the undergarment clothing in a bag helps prevent your child from accidentally taking out clothing and leaving it on the floor of the lobby.

**It is such a delight to have your child at St. Joseph's Preschool.  
It is a wonderful place to learn and grow!!**

With appreciation,  
Peg Dierberger  
[pedierberger@stjosephwsp.org](mailto:pedierberger@stjosephwsp.org)  
attendance line: 651-457-3031

