

# Preschool Newsletter

Preschool Webpage

October 12, 2006



## Important Dates

October 14  
Saturday  
Footsteps for Friends

October 18  
Wednesday  
PICTURE DAY  
Bring your smile!

October 27  
Friday  
Parent/Teacher Conferences  
PUPIL HOLIDAY

October 31  
Tuesday  
Halloween Parade  
8:30am

November 22  
Wednesday  
Grandfriends Day  
Thanksgiving Holiday Begins

November 27  
Monday  
School Resumes

December 5 & 6  
Tues. & Wed.  
Holiday Gift Sale (PTO)

December 17  
Friday  
All-School Coffee  
10:00am  
Holiday Meeting for Worship  
11:00am

Winter Holiday Begins  
11:45am Preschool

January 2  
Tuesday  
School Resumes

**Congratulations to Cole, parents, Lin and Ty, and sister, Ella, on the birth of baby brother, Jack, born October 4!**

We look forward to getting to know Jack during the next months and years.

The children had many questions for Cole about the baby:

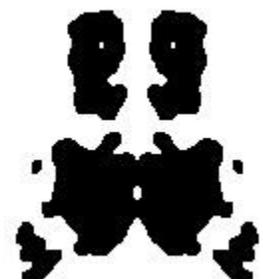
"Where will he sleep?",  
"Where is he now?",  
"Will he ruin your paints?",  
"Where is his bedroom?"

When the children were asked for their ideas about what a new baby would need, their responses included a crib, a binkie, a baa baa, a rattle, a nipple, mommy milk, a house, and vitamins.



Rorschach has nothing on us. The preschoolers used the folding technique to create colorful "ink blots". The children were tickled to see the symmetrical results. Many thought the images looked like butterflies.

"You may wait by the turtle. You may wait by the racoon." are directions that one often hears in preschool. To the left is a picture of the mural on the bathroom wall. The two friendly creatures are perfect places to wait for your turn. The bathroom murals were done by John Panichello, a preschool parent, in 1996. Little did John know how many years of enjoyment his whimsical art would endure and how many children would wait by the turtle and racoon.



sweet gum ball



**Gems of nature:**

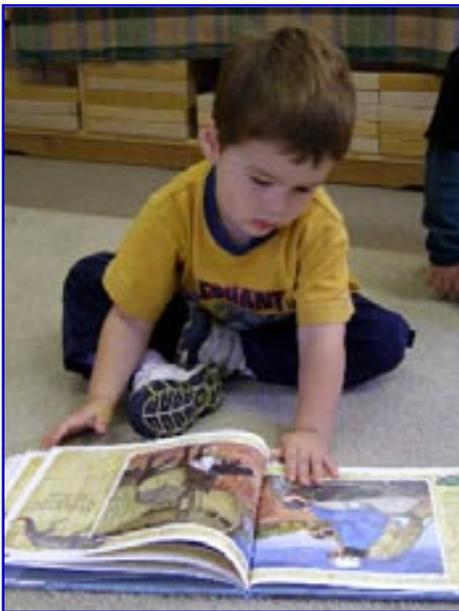
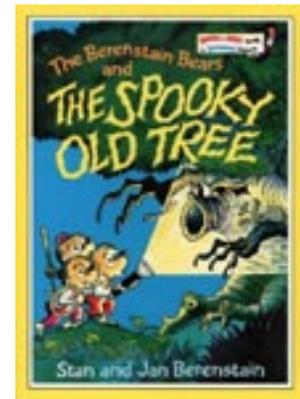
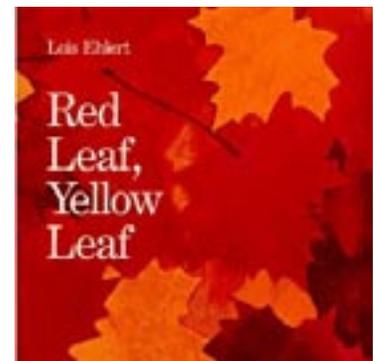
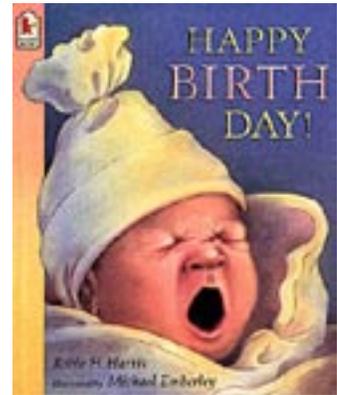
A seed and a leaf from a sweet gum tree. We discovered that one seed pod can contain up to 50 seeds and that as the "gum ball" dries it releases vast amounts of tiny particles. Bring one into your house and be amazed by the drying process!

In Spanish class Profesora read *La Tortuga Azul* (The Blue Turtle) and *El Rinceronte Rojo* (The Red Rhinoceros). New vocabulary includes rojo (red) and azul (blue).



Books we have read recently include:

*Happy Birth Day*, Robie Harris  
*Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf*, Lois Ehlert  
*The Spooky Old Tree*, Stan and Jan Berenstain



Everyday at school, the children have access to books from the preschool shelves. These are books that have been read by a teacher at story time. During free play and "quiet book time", children can be seen looking at books on their own and in small groups. At story time, children raise their hands in excitement to announce that they have that book at their house. Other children raise their hands to say that they would like to get the book from the library. Several children have talked about their library cards and their trips to the library.



Happy birthday to Sofia who turned four years old October 7.

Parent/Teacher Conferences begin on October 27. The schedule is posted. We ask each set of parents to bring to the conference answers to the two questions that they received via Child Mail (October 5) and that are posted on the webpage. The teachers are looking forward to a mutual sharing of insights about each child from the perspectives of home and school.



Preschool Integrated Curriculum:

Visual discrimination visual arts, botany, language arts and (receptive and expressive), small motor

Children made the visual distinction between sugar maple and white oak leaves.

The children felt for the veined side of the oak leaf and dabbed the bumpy side with autumn colors - red, yellow, and orange.

When the leaf was lifted it created a silhouette; when the painted side was placed on a new surface, it created an image of itself, veins and all.



**The air is filled with songs of the season.  
Hear what we have been up to!**



You can see by the faces of the children that this was our “first date”. Nervous smiles and worried looks were seen on both the younger and older partners as they began their new relationships. We will look back in June and wonder why we were so timid all those many months ago. Partner names are listed on the webpage.

Below: Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Scattergood, Teacher Jennifer, Teacher Melissa



## HALLOWEEN REMINDERS FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS

If your child wishes to wear a costume in the School Halloween Parade (Tuesday, October 31) we ask that you be guided by the following:

- Between 8:00am and 8:15am all children come to the classroom with a safety as usual. Parents may park and begin to gather for the parade
- Children will arrive dressed for the parade if participating.
- 8:30am parents will assemble in the driveway or the gym, depending on weather.
- Teachers will take plenty of pictures during the morning. **We ask family members not to drop into the classroom either before or after the parade.** These drop-ins can be upsetting to the children whose parents have remained upstairs. Mrs. Doyle and Cy will join Tina and Jen in the classroom to help prepare the children for the parade and to help with the transition to a normal day at the parade's conclusion.
- **Keep it simple.** At the last moment your child may choose not to wear a costume or participate in the parade; will respect the child's wishes.
- **Masks are not safe for young children and will not be worn at the parade.** Negotiating stairs and sitting for long periods are not compatible with wearing a mask. Consider face painting as a safe and comfortable alternative.
- **Dangerous weapons or props may not come to school.**
- Preschool will sit together as a class. Parents and family members will stand in assigned areas along the driveway. If it is wet, we will sit as a class in the gym and parents are asked to stay on the perimeter of the room.
- **Younger siblings stay with parents.** Please do not send younger siblings to sit with the class. The preschool teachers will have their hands full already!
- **Parents will leave directly from the parade.** Children will return to classrooms to resume a normal school day. Teachers will pack costumes in the children's backpacks. Make sure that all parts of the costume are clearly labeled with the child's name.
- **DO send warm play clothes and jacket for your child to change into.**

Thank you for keeping it simple, safe, and as stress-free as possible.  
Do speak with the teacher if you have questions.

