

November Newsletter

What Did We Learn in October?

Along with all the fun of the Fall and the festivities that it brings we also learned about Community Helpers. The Toddler and Preschool classrooms had a wonderful visit from our local Fire Department. The children learned all about Fire Safety and even got to see the truck in action as they sped off for an emergency call.



We had so much fun with all our Halloween Festivities. The parade and classroom parties were a ton of fun and the costumes were amazing. Check out our Facebook page for pictures! It was so nice to have meet and greets with all of the families in each classroom. Thank you all for such an amazing turnout!

Social Emotional Development and Friendships

As we have gotten settled in our new school year we spent a lot of time talking about who we are. This also leads into who are our friends and what makes them our friends?

Infants and Toddlers

During the Infant-Toddler years teachers are focusing on helping children develop a trusting relationship with their caregivers so that children feel comfortable.





Birth to 7 Months: Infants will begin to engage in reciprocal interactions with caregivers. You will see this in smiling, cooing back and laughing or giggling from simple games. Not only does this support infants' social awareness but it also supports positive responses from caregivers.

Once infants understand that they can elicit a reaction from those around them they will gradually increase their attempts to engage caregivers in interactions.

7-18 Months

Trust and attachment are key concepts in building relationships during the Infant and Toddler stages. During this time, children will use their caregivers as a secure basis from which to discover the world. You will often see Infants and Toddlers venture out from their caregivers but look to or return to them from time to time for comfort or support.

This new found sense of autonomy and desire to be independent is the first stage in developing their sense of self. They are beginning to understand that they have likes and dislikes and that these factors make up who they are as people.



Preschoolers

Friendship is a very new concept during this stage. Children are continually changing their idea of who is their friend and why. This is usually based on what similar interest children share. Children are learning categorizing and will start to put friends into groups by what they like to play, their likes, and dislikes.

Peers help children understand the idea of reciprocity, cooperation, and fairness. They are experimenting and learning about how their actions affect others. In the classroom we are constantly working with children to encourage them to use their words, understand others' feelings, and work together. We give children the freedom to work together and share, or, to work on their own independently. Children are encouraged to ask to join an activity and to let others know when they are still using materials.

One of the main areas of development that help support this is Language Development. Having the ability to communicate your feelings and needs to others allows children to make a connection and identify with others. Teachers will start by giving children words to use when working with others with the goal to be for children to initiate these interactions and responses on their own.

Problem Solving: We use a 3 step process to support children in problem solving.

1. What happened?
2. How did it make you feel?
3. What solution can we all agree on?





November Events

Tuesday & Wednesday, November 14th & 15th

Picture Day with Lifetouch

Remember to drop off your Picture Day preference forms at the Front Desk! Lifetouch will attempt to photograph each student and classroom. They will distribute proofs afterwards along with order forms with information about purchasing photo packages online or through the school. The photos usually take a few weeks to arrive.

Now through Friday, November 17th

Canned Food Drive

Please bring in nonperishable items to be donated to The Greater Chicago Food Depository before Thanksgiving.

Wednesday, November 22nd

Thanksgiving Lunch in the Toddler, Twos, Threes, and Pre-K Classrooms

Please join us in the classrooms for a Thanksgiving Lunch. For Infants over 12 months please feel free to join the Toddler Classrooms

- Toddlers 11:30-12:15
- Twos 11:45-12:30
- Threes 12:00-12:45
- Fours 12:00-12:45

Thursday, November 23rd

Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday