

THE MIGHTY OAK NEWSLETTER

October/November 2009



"Mighty Oaks from Little Acorns grow"

LITTLE ACORNS'S ACTIVITIES

Did you know Little Acorn's offers extracurricular activities your child may attend. We have Spanish Classes, ABC Jamboree and Jump Bunch. Spanish classes are a 9-week session, ABC and Jump Bunch are ongoing and you pay monthly. We had 2 additional companies contact us about soccer and yoga classes. I would like your feedback on what type of classes you are interested in seeing at Little Acorns. Do you like what we have? Should we change what we have and add something else? Your opinion and feedback is extremely important to Little Acorns. Feel free to email me or call me with your feedback. And remember, these classes are optional. Thanks!

SWINE FLU UPDATE

Little Acorns is being proactive and trying to keep everyone healthy. We are washing our hands and the children's hands through out the day. We are coughing and sneezing in the crest of our elbows. And we are diligently cleaning on a daily basis. We would like to thank you for washing your hands and your children's hands upon entering the classrooms. And thank you for keeping your sick children home.

LITTLE ACORNS FOOD DRIVE

Please help us in teaching your children the benefits of helping others. We will be having a food drive for the next couple of weeks. The food should be non-perishables. We will be taking these items to Stepping Stones Shelter, a shelter for women and children. Last year it was a great success. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

The cold is quickly approaching and we will continue to go outside. As you know we do not get sick from the cold we get sick from germs. We do not go outside if the temperature, adjusted for wind chill, is below 30 degrees. So please, dress your children appropriately for outdoor play, coats, hats, mittens and gloves. And please label everything with their names on them. Thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 2nd MCPS CLOSED
- Nov. 11th - 12th MCPS Half-Day
- Nov 25th MCPS Half-Day
- Nov. 26th CENTER CLOSED
- Nov. 27th CENTER CLOSED
- Dec. 16th Festival of Lights (Winter Celebrations)
- Dec. 25th CENTER CLOSED
- Dec. 24-Jan.1 MCPS Winter Break

the older children playing on the playground. Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing for the changing weather. We love to go outside whenever possible! The infants have been busy doing lots of



Sami and Alexander enjoying the outdoors!

different activities. We continue to work on our seven week plans that are geared toward each child's developmental needs. Sam amazes us everyday with his physical capabilities. He is now pulling himself up and crawling all over the room. Zac is always smiling and loves to read books and play "This Little Piggy." Lauren loves it when we sing to her and is working hard on tummy time. Logan has mastered rolling over and loves to play Peek-a-boo. Emma is standing and crawling now and likes to find little places to hide. Jack is the big boy of the group. He is running, climbing, and sliding all day! We are singing and reading books everyday in the infant class and having lots of fun!

--Stephanie, Mrs. Rahman & Courtney



SPROUTS GROUP NEWS

With fall here the sprouts have been really busy! Farm theme has been a big hit for our little ones. They enjoy singing Old MacDonald had a Farm, The Itsy Bitsy Spider, and of course Five Little Monkeys. If you would like the words to any of our songs please let me know. We have been concentrating on the colors red and orange and the toddlers enjoy exploring the classroom for these colors. Over the past few weeks we have been singing about the colors in English and Spanish. This is the first song the children enjoy singing for circle time everyday. Some are beginning to grasp the colors in Spanish. The sprouts are having a wonderful experience exploring their surroundings as we play outside. As they hear different sounds we helped them by identifying with pictures and



LITTLEST ACORNS NEWS

The babies have spent a lot of time going outside to observe the beautiful colors and changes that Fall brings. They love to go for a stroller ride and watch

sounding out the words. We also like to explore bugs such as stink bugs, daddy long legs, and worms. Just as a reminder please check your charts and wash your hands upon arrival.

--Debie, Norma, & Jannelle



SEEDLINGS GROUP NEWS

It's fall, the weather is changing, and now is a great opportunity to explore outside. During our fall theme, we have explored the outdoors by going on a nature walk. We have seen different types of bugs. We also made nice leaf collages. For the month of October we have learned about farm animals, letters D, E, F, numbers 3, 4, 5, the square, and the color orange. For the month of November we will continue working on our alphabet letters G, H, I, and numbers 6, 7, 8. Also we will introduce the triangle shape and the color Brown. Our two main themes for November will be five senses and yummy, yummy in my tummy. We always encourage you to support your child in the learning experiences that we are participating in school. Please take a moment to read our weekly lesson plans and reinforce these activities at home with your child. You both will be amazed at what you can learn from each other! Thank you to all the parents who joined us at the pumpkin patch. Just a reminder, please write or initial your child's name on everything. We have twelve boys this year and it is nearly impossible to remember whose items belong to whom without labels.

--Ericka, Haoua & Tamisha



SAPLING GROUP NEWS

Fall is here and the Saplings have already begun to enjoy the beautiful fall weather. Saplings love talking about seasons, weather, and how the leaves are changing colors all around us. During our fall theme, we have explored the outdoors by going on a nature walk. We have enjoyed the different colors of fall leaves and picking up different sized acorns. The Saplings are continuing to learn the alphabet. They are learning to recognize, trace, and write letters. Numbers are being reinforced on a daily basis as well as within themes. We will be learning about different animals in the month of November, while still focusing on our writing and counting skills. We encourage you to practice writing the alphabet and have your child practice writing their name at home. We are counting from 1-10. This is such an easy thing to do at home, at the store, while walking steps, putting items into the shopping cart. Counting is all around us. Reinforcing writing the alphabet and numbers at home is a great way for success. We would like to remind all parents and children about the need for frequent washing of hands, especially during the cold and flu season. Be sure to dress your children to play outdoors in the cold. Thanks to all of those that joined us on the field trip to the pumpkin patch. The children love to be accompanied by a family member. It always makes the trip so much fun for them.

-- Arifa, Michelle & Marie-Therese



OAK TREE GROUP NEWS

The Garden Club has been a huge success in the Oak Tree class! All of the kids really enjoyed picking, smelling, and tasting the tomatoes, carrots, pumpkins, parsley, and rosemary. We will meet one more time in November before the ground gets cold. So far the weather this fall has been wonderful! The

children are having a blast spending a ton of time outside and going on nature walks. The weather will be getting colder so please send a jacket with your child and be sure your child has updated winter clothes to change into in case of spills or accidents. We want to thank all of our parent volunteers for joining us on our field trip to Homestead Farm. It is a great trip that the kids always look forward to! In the upcoming months we will be working on writing skills. We have already started with Aa, Bb, and we will continue through the rest of the alphabet. You will notice practice papers going home for the letter of the week to reinforce both upper and lower case letters. We will also practice writing our first and last names with the first letters being uppercase and the remaining letters lowercase.

Practicing the correct way will help your child become a better writer. We will soon begin work on recognizing and spelling sight words. Some of our children are already working on their sight words. We have a list of the words in our classroom and would be happy to share them with you for extra practice at home. In preparation for kindergarten we will focus on many areas this year. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or need some ideas please let us know! Your children will grow considerably if we are all on the same page!

--Nicole & Sujata



MIGHTY OAKS GROUP NEWS

The Mighty Oaks have had a great start. We have been doing cooking projects, art projects, many different outside activities and not to mention the field trips for all those Montgomery County School closings. But not to worry, the homework is getting done. Parents, we are having a Halloween Party on Friday, October 30th. The sign up is posted in the classroom. Please sign up to bring something yummy. Please remember, we are always here if you need us to work on anything with your child. For example, if your child needs a little more time with their homework, you do not want homework done at Little Acorns, or you want us to start doing it here. Please communicate with us if there is any way we can help. Thanks!

--Arlene



**Ellis is very proud of his writing skills and so
is Little Acorns**

