



Website: <http://mounthermon.org/playschool>

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Dear Families,

This is a bit different from the newsletter I just sent out yesterday. We realized we did not have enough time to do ORANGE, so we are switching things up a bit. Thanks

Welcome to Idra's new baby sister. Always soooo special.

Special requests, only if you want: Small key chains to attach to some extra keys for pretend; Big boxes, and you can bring them to school. Just pile them outside by the strollers. We will use them in January; Sun Butter for our snacks. This can be found at Trader Joe's.

Volunteers: You need to bring proof on TB test and fill in 3 forms for me. Write me a note if you want to do this and I will put together the forms for you to take home.

Week FIVE Themes: October 19-23, 2015

- COLOR: ORANGE - please have your child wear as much as possible.
- LETTER: "H", as in hand, house, heart.
 - We use only the capital letters at Play School as a part of the Handwriting without tears program.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Ocean, fish, tide pools.....
- On Wednesday, Mrs. Zweers will be making pumpkin muffins with the class using the book *Pumpkin Moonshine*.
- It is time to **start sending in pumpkins** if you want to, so Miss Filey will be ready to carve pumpkins with each class this week.
- Opps, it was disappointing, but the Fire Fighters could not come today. The Felton Fire Department will be bringing a fire truck and fire fighters to school on Friday, October 23. Along with getting to squirt the hose, all the children get to try on the pants and coats. Lots of fun!!!

Week SIX Themes: October 26-30, 2015 Vacation Days are Thursday & Friday, Oct. 29 & 30.

- COLOR: ORANGE - please have your child wear as much as possible.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Pumpkins & Ocean, fish, tide pools..... some sea stars are orange.
- Miss Filey will be carving pumpkins with both classes on Monday and Tuesday.
- **REMEMBER, NO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY this week.**

Week SEVEN Themes: November 2-6, 2015

- COLOR: GREEN - please have your child wear as much as possible.
- LETTER: "T", as in turtle, tape, toes, tissue. This is for Pre-K.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Leaves, Thanksgiving
- Miss Filey will be letting the children play with "Green Goo", whatever that is?
- On Wednesday, Mrs. Zweers will be making "Green Eggs and Ham" with the children. Always a fun experience.

Birthdays: Here is the list dates of the birthdays that I plan to give each child a crown, so that only one child (if possible) can be the birthday person each day.

Jake, Oct. 22: Hannah, Oct. 27: Cash, Nov.12: Nicene, Nov. 19: Gwyn, Dec. 3: Jack, Dec. 7: Ema, Dec. 8: Carson, Dec. 9: Leanna, Dec.11: Jamison, Dec. 14.

I have posted these dates on the big calendar on the website (<http://mounthermon.org/playschool#calendar>). If the day that I picked is not good for you, please let me know and we can work out something else with a day that will work better for you. You may bring a treat to celebrate the birthday crown day. We suggest small, non gooey treats are great. Jello jigglers, pop corn, small cookies and cupcakes, small pieces of fruit, rice crispy treats are great!!! These are just some ideas. Remember that we are peanut free (really the only seed/nut we have at school this year is sunflower). **On MWF If you want Eliana** to eat what you bring, call her MOM, Janelle at 408.710.1290

Health Tips:

I have a policy in the Parent Handbook on page 11, that you can find online at:
<http://www.mounthermon.org/playschool#parent-information>

Also, I found an article that I love about the importance of exposing children to germs and embracing about 7 colds a year to help build their immune systems. Responsible parenting is for the long haul. It is a crazy concept to "not be a good or perfect" parent if that means that you are stressed about every detail of children being children. Check this out: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/ben-greenfield/germs-kids_b_4951388.html

About FOOD ALLERGYIES: No food can come to school with peanuts. If your child has a food allergy, please see Kahleen this week, so we can be sure our lists are up-to-date. Please provide a birthday treat for your child to be kept at school for any celebrations.

Helpful tips for success at school:

1. **BATHROOM:** The children are trying to go to the bathroom on their own, but when there are snaps and zippers, or even really tight fitting elastic in the waste of the pants, it is impossible for them to complete this task alone.
2. **SHOES:** Open shoes allow the sand to get in too easily, and there was some frustration today when the sand just would not stay out. If you have shoes that the child can take off and put on by themselves that is the best for school. Yes, I know, some of those come with all the holes for the sand to get in. Oh well, just think about it. Long shoe laces can get caught in the wheels of the trikes. Velcro and elastic can usually work, but we will help them when needed.

Mrs. Zweers wood projects: (The boards have been promised, but we still need more) One very special craft and learning activity that we do at school is hammering with real nails and hammers. In order to do this, we need LOTS of 6 inch pine shelving cut in 8inch sections, with the edges sanded so the children don't get splinters. We then need some of them painted and we have the paint. We use these boards with both classes so we figure that we need about 200, 8" x 6" boards. If you are interested, you can just get the boards, cut them and bring them to us. If you want to help with the painting, we buy the water base, glossy, out door paint, in the primary colors from the hardware store. If you are able to do the work, but do not have money for the materials, let me (Kahleen) know. Thanks for any help.

Leaves: As we slide into the Fall, keep an eye out for leaves that are falling off trees in big piles. We love to have big piles of leaves for the children to play in, so we are asking that you bag leaves and bring them to school. Since they will be rolling in the leaves, please do NOT include oak leaves or any other that have sharp pokies on them. Thanks so much!!!

Blessings to all,

Kahleen Edeal, Monica Zweers, Brigette Ross, Kate Wadhams and Faith Filey