



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

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Dear Families,

1. **Today's Thanksgiving Feast:** It was a great day at school today with 10 adults coming in to help with all the set up and clean up. We all sat down together and enjoyed the "Stone Soup" that the children had made, plus the extra treats that the families sent in. Thanks to all that made today a huge success.
2. **Special requests:** 2. Big boxes, and you can bring them to school. Just pile them outside by the strollers. We will use them in January. 3. Sun Butter for our snacks. This can be found at Trader Joe's.
3. Remember to shop with **smile.amazon.com** and select Mount Hermon Association when you shop on Amazon. Thanks so much!!! Thanks to Tanya for discovering this.

**Week NINE Themes:** November 16 - 20, 2015 Plus Monday, November 23.

- COLOR: PURPLE - please have your child wear as much as possible.
- LETTER: "C", as in cat, color, cow, car.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Thanksgiving, turkeys, Stone Soup
- Miss Filey will be doing Handwriting Without Tears and Mat Man with both classes on Monday and Tuesday.
- Mrs. Zweers will be making "Stone Soup" with both classes on Thursday and Friday. There will be a class sign-up if you are interested in sending special snacks in for our BIG FEASTS. This is the place where we need volunteers to help with all kinds of things. It is fun when we all, volunteers, children and teachers, all sit down at a long table and eat together. All volunteers must have all the paper work finished in order to participate. You can ask if you paper work is finished, but please do not ask if you can come if it is not finished. Thanks

- **Vacation: Tuesday - Friday, November 24 - 27, 2015, Happy Thanksgiving**

**Week TEN Themes:** November 30 - December 4, 2015

- COLOR: RED & GREEN - please have your child wear as much as possible.
- LETTER: "O", as in otter, octopus, off, oxygen. This is for Pre-K.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Leaves, Christmas, Jesus is born
- Miss Filey will be lacing Christmas stockings with the MWF class. She will introduce St. Nicolas to both classes. She will be working with the MWF class on drawings for the Christmas book. She will be asking the TTh class what they want for Christmas.
- On Wednesday, Mrs. Zweers will be letting the children roll out cookie dough and making Christmas tree cookies. On Monday and Friday she will have the children hammer a nativity scene. On Tuesday and Thursday she will be offering an ornament craft and making a page in the Christmas book with the children.

**Week ELEVEN Themes:** December 7 - 11, 2015

- LETTER: "Q", as in quilt, quail, queen, quiet, quarters.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Christmas and dressing up in costumes to tell the story of the birth of Jesus.
- Mrs. Zweers will be in charge of the gingerbread house decorating on Wednesday and Thursday.
- In the art area we will have spin art going, using both water colors and tempera with droppers.
- Singing songs with Mrs. Edeal to get ready for the programs!!!!

**Monday, November 23**, is the only day of school on the Thanksgiving week. It will be a day to talk about what the children are expecting with Thanksgiving and their families. We may take a walk and collect leaves.

**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.

**Nicene, Dec 1: 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

Christmas Vacation is December 21 – January 3. Then we have Monday, January 18 off.

**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:** Christmas is coming and Mrs. Zweers would love to do some hammering projects with both classes, but we need boards. 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. If you are interested, you can just get the boards, cut them and bring them to us. 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