

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2020

TRI-TOWN PRESCHOOL NEWSLETTER



GREETINGS!

This year we welcomed eight new students including: Juliet, Beckham, Teddy, Quinn, Cora, Maeve, Mariella, and Elizabeth. We also welcomed back eight returning students including: Mary, Molly, Addison, Isabelle, Sam, Colin, Emmet, and Benjamin. Mrs. Gauvin and Mrs. Higgins are thrilled to be back together again to teach in-person. Despite the increase in health & safety protocols, we have managed to set up the classroom and provide the same level of quality programming as in the past. We are so impressed with how well the children have adjusted, and how quickly they have learned the routine. These first six weeks have really set the tone for the entire school year. We are all committed to following these three classroom rules: Be Kind, Be Safe, and Be Helpful.

October is Fire Safety Month

Fire safety is a very important topic to teach your children. It's important for children to know the answers to questions such as....

- What do you do if you see fire or smoke?
- What do you do if your clothes catch on fire?
- What is an emergency?
- Who do call if there is an emergency?
- How and when do you dial 911?
- Where do you go once outside?

To help answer these questions we read stories, watched videos, looked at posters, acted out scenarios, played dress-up, and also participated in a fire drill. The children learned and practiced how to "Stop, drop, and roll" and how to crawl under smoke.



Check out these Fire Safety videos.

Top 5 Fire Safety Tips

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CzvlArUrRw>

Stop, Drop and Roll | Fire Safety with Roy
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-Lbruo0M5Y>

NEWS &

ANNOUNCEMENTS Free Breakfast and Lunch

EXCITING NEWS!

ALL SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE TO EVERY STUDENT FOR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL YEAR!

This includes breakfast and lunch for the children enrolled in the Tri-Town Preschool Program.

Click on the link below for more info.

<http://orrschoolmeals.com/>

DATES TO REMEMBER

Professional Development Day
No School for Students - **Tuesday, Nov. 3rd**

Veterans Day
No School - **Wednesday, Nov. 11th**

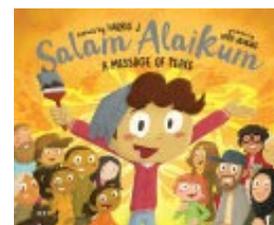
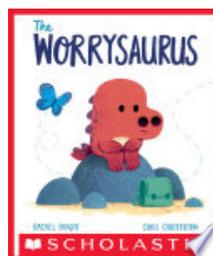


School Photo retake
Thursday, Nov. 19th & Friday, Nov. 20th

Thanksgiving Break
No School - **Wednesday, Nov. 25th, Thursday, Nov. 26th & Friday, Nov. 27th**

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

It was exciting to see how many families ordered books last month. Thank you! With the bonus points earned, we were able to purchase two really lovely books for the classroom (the first, how to recognize and manage worrisome feelings; the second, how to spread peace among others). We were also able to order 20 copies of Little Acorn (a sweet story about the life cycle of a tree) at a discounted price to give each child a copy.



Curriculum



We began the school year talking about our hopes and dreams. Many of the children said they hope to learn to write their names, to learn to read, to play on the playground, and to make lots of new friends. During morning meeting each day for the past six weeks we have asked the children the same question, "How are you feeling today?" One by one they talked about their feelings. Their responses often included: happy, sad, hungry, tired, or excited. Together we provided comfort and support to one another (miss mom or day, loss of pet), as well as joy in each other's excitement. We also spent time each morning encouraging the children to share something about him or her self (i.e. favorite color, favorite food or animal). The children often love to talk about their families (i.e. favorite activities, number of siblings, pets, etc.). Family is so important to children. We asked the children what types of activities they enjoy doing with their families and what they learn from their families. Some of their responses included, "Mom and Dad play with me." "Family takes good care." "Brush my hair beautiful." "Lots of love." "Help each other." "Special treats." "Play puzzles and games." "Teach us." Some of the children's fondest memories included, "Playing basketball with mom." "Playing with daddy in the pool." "When my dada plays with me." "When we help each other." "Momma goes with me to my cousin's house." "Mommy picks me up." "Mommy snuggles with me." "Aunt Sarah's birthday party."

Sharing these experiences have not only helped us get to know one another, they have also provided opportunities for the children to develop and practice skills in speaking and listening. For example, the children learned the importance of *Whole Body Listening*, which involves having "eyes & ears on the speaker, quiet hands & feet, brain thinking about what is being said, and heart open for caring." We spent time talking about friendship and the important role friends play in a happy and healthy life. The children learned that building friendships takes time and effort. We will continue to talk about the qualities that make a good friend throughout the coming weeks and months. In science, the preschoolers learned how animals and humans have five senses that help them learn about their environment and the world. They participated in activities in which they were asked to use and identify the various senses and body parts. They also learned that all living and nonliving things are composed of matter having characteristic properties that distinguish one substance from another. They used words such as smooth, rough, hard, soft, etc. to describe various items including plastic, wood, metal, etc. As we transitioned from summer to fall, the children were asked to notice and describe the seasonal changes taking place around them. We also focused on basic shapes, numbers 1-10 and the colors red and orange. Reciting the nursery rhyme each day provided many opportunities to learn about rhyming words.

Monthly Themes



September & October

All About Me
Five Senses
School Rules & Routines
Autumn / Apples
Community Helpers
Fire Safety
Trees / Leaves
Forest Animals / Habitats
Pumpkins (Life Cycle)
Colors: **Red / Orange**
Nursery Rhymes: "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and "The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe"
Dramatic Play:
Nursery Center
and Fire Station

November

Food Groups
Nutrition
My Growing Body
Feeling Thankful
Life on a Farm
Nursery Rhyme: "Little Bo Peep" & "Little Boy Blue"
Color: **Brown**
Dramatic Play: Grocery Store

December

Transportation
Balance & Motion
Simple Machines
Magnets
Exploring Sound
Holiday Traditions
Nursery Rhyme: "Little Jack Horner"
Colors: **Silver & Gold**
Dramatic Play: Repair Shop