## Happy October Preschool Families! Thank you for sharing your special children with us! Thank you for all of the donations of tissues, cleaning wipes, paper towels, and Playdoh!



## September Recap:

The children have been busy this **September!** For some, this was their first month of school ever; and for others, they have returned, and gracefully stepped up into leadership roles in the classroom. We are very impressed by all of our preschoolers' efforts!

This past month we began to introduce our classroom both indoors and outside. We learned about the various sections of the room. Our carpet, where we hold **Morning Meeting** as well as **Circle Time** and our "**Chill Zone**" a comfy spot to relax on a bean bag chair and possibly cuddle with "Chester" a raccoon from <u>The Kissing Hand</u> by Audrey Penn or "Brown Bear" a bear from <u>Brown Bear</u>, <u>Brown Bear What Do You See?</u> by Eric Carle. Children were encouraged to select to take a break or unwind in the "Chill Zone" at any part of our day. Outside, we explored "**The Climber**" and learned about safety, healthy exercise, and parts of our body that help us to balance.

Additionally, some of our classroom centers were introduced. We encouraged our preschoolers to explore the **Math Center**, **Writing Center**, **Library** (which doubles as the "Chill Zone"), **Block Center**, and **Puzzle Center**. We will continue to open more centers through October. The children are encouraged daily to select centers to work in during **Planning Time**, and then they are encouraged to "**Review**" their work in each center as we build language in a whole group setting.

Not only were the preschoolers introduced to the classroom in **September**, but they were also introduced to one another, to their teachers, and to our High School Student Teachers. We worked together to formulate our own **classroom rules**, including **safety in the classroom** as well as **kindness in the classroom**. We created a friendship garland and brainstormed ideas about "filling our friends hearts". Preschoolers illustrated their "**Hopes and Dreams**" for the school year and created a colorful collage of themselves in which we joined together adding "sparkly hands" in order to connect our hands together; which symbolized our new and very **special classroom community**.



## **Coming Up in October:**

We are very excited to introduce **Helper of the Day in October.** Each child will be selected to be the "**Helper of the Day**" one day every month. For the month of **October**, in order to model

for our new preschoolers, children who attended preschool last school year will begin, and new students will be added on towards the end of the month of **October**.



## Helper of the Day:

"What I hear, I forget. What I see, I remember. What I do, I understand." Confucius

The selected preschooler will lead (with teacher support)

- the class line
- the Morning Meeting
- Sharing an item from home (For October: orange/fall items encouraged, not required)
- Movement and Singing/Counting songs
- Planning Time Selections
- Circle Time

You will receive an email notifying you when it is your child's turn to be the **Helper of the Day**. Additionally, the class will receive a calendar each month with the **Helper of the Day** noted per day. The main goal of **Helper of the Day** is to provide each preschooler with an individual opportunity to actively engage with peers, teachers and classroom materials.

Active engagement is a primary goal in our preschool classroom, all preschoolers will continue to actively engage each day regardless of the **Helper of the Day**, therefore if your child should be absent on their preselected day, or forget to bring an item from home to share; we can easily adapt. We will reschedule your child's day if needed, additionally we can provide your child with a choice of items from the classroom to share.

Throughout the month of **October** we will continue to learn about our **families** and our **community**. Preschoolers will expound upon their **five senses** using apples and pumpkins for exploration and discovery. We are excited to begin to welcome the changes of the **fall** season! The children will be looking for signs of fall....so **YES fall leaves** are absolutely **encouraged for children to bring into the classroom!** Additionally we are excited to learn about and discover forest animals and their habitats in **October**. "Go **orange**", as we learn all about the color **orange in October!** 



Best Wishes for a Great October,
Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Trombly