



Trinity News

Trinity Preschool of Berwyn
NAEYC Accredited 2006~2011

November 2009

Dear Parents,

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite times of year to share with children ~ my own, as well, as the children at school. The sugary excitement of Halloween is over, we are beginning to "nest" into our cozy homes, and the focus turns to sharing a meal with family and friends before the frantic rush of the winter holidays begins.

We all start to think about gratitude, and about how to help our children appreciate the many wonderful experiences and opportunities they have. Of course preschoolers don't have the cognitive ability or the life experience to comprehend our good fortune, but as parents and teachers, we can begin to lay the groundwork for social-emotional learning.

One of the life skills we begin to teach in preschool is using manners, and learning to respect the feelings of others. Saying "please", "thank you", and "I'm sorry" is often meaningless to young children, yet the emotion modeled by adults when teaching children to use manners can impart meaning and begin to teach children that their responses to others are important. The National Scientific Council on the Developing Child (2007) found that "emotional well-being and social competence provide a strong foundation for brain development and emerging cognitive abilities." Circle time, snack time, clean up time ~ all parts of our preschool day ~ are great opportunities for children to build appropriate social skills that affect later cognitive development, plus help them to be socially competent.

As you gather for your Thanksgiving dinner this year, please take the time to express your gratitude and appreciation to those around you. You will be teaching, even your youngest children, social skills that will last a lifetime.

Have a wonderful November,

*Suzi Alrutz
Director, Trinity Preschool of Berwyn*

Important Dates In November

Tues., November 3
Wed., November 4

Wed.-Thurs., November 11~12
Fri., November 13

Mon.-Wed., November 16~18
Thur.-Fri., November 19~20
Week of November 23~27

Election Day, 2s Early Pickup
In-House Registration Open
2010~2011 School Year
Donuts for Dads
9:15 a.m. Registration Open House
New Families for 2010~2011 School Year
Parent/Teacher Conferences, School in Session
Thanksgiving Feasts
No School, Happy Thanksgiving!

Registration for 2010~2011 School Year

It's time to register for the 2010~2011 school year! Registration opens on Wednesday, November 4th for currently enrolled families.

There will be a spot for every child currently enrolled at Trinity Preschool, either in a morning or afternoon class. If you are satisfied with any of the classes in your child's age group, there is no need to wait in line to register. You can simply mark your preferences on the registration form and send the form and registration fee in their bookbags on Wednesday.

Registration forms and fees will be taken beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the downstairs hallway on November 4. Registration will be open to the public beginning Friday, November 13th at the Registration Open House. If you have any questions regarding the appropriate placement for your child for next year, please feel free to leave a message for your child's current teacher in the Trinity office.

Fall 2009 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Fall Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on November 16~18th. Regular school will still be in session.

You will receive a conference request form in your child's bookbag during the first week of November. Conferences are a good time to share your child's perceptions of school and your goals for the remainder of the year. If you request a conference, your child's teacher will get back to you with an appointment time. If your teacher recommends a conference, she will be in touch with you.

NEW 2s Guidelines, Effective 2010~2011 School Year

To better serve our families and youngest children, Trinity Prechool is happy to announce two significant changes to our 2s programs for the 2010~2011 school year:

- (1) The birth date cutoff for admission to the 2s classes will now be September 1st.
- (2) **The 2s classes will be dismissed at 11:00 for the month of September, and 11:30 a.m. for the remainder of the school year.** This earlier dismissal time will be better suited to our 2-year-olds' developmental needs, and allow families with older siblings to pick up their 2-year-old, then get in car line to pick up the older children.



Special Thanks To...

- ~ Alison Walton & Sharon Hardy for their help with the office computer.
- ~ The Brockman family for their donation of toys.
- ~ Kate Reilly, a parent in our 2-day 2s class, for giving the *Trinity News* a new, professional look. Kate has generously offered her time and talent to produce our newsletter each month, as well as designing and developing other preschool marketing and informational materials. Kate is a marketing consultant with over 14 years of creative marketing experience, with expertise in developing and implementing creative marketing strategies.

Oktoberfest & Silent Auction, Post~Event Wrap Up

What a wonderful evening! Over 130 parents and friends of Trinity Preschool attended the Oktoberfest celebration. The silent and live auction items were amazing...there was quite a bidding competition for several of them!

So many thanks to our dedicated volunteers for all of their hard work. The children will reap the benefits with new and updated equipment and programs. Special thanks to Amanda Ivory and Rosemary Weidman for their extra efforts, and to the "Chairperson Extraordinaire", Brooke Keith, who has co-chaired or chaired the Trinity Auction for 5 years. Proceeds from the Oktoberfest event will be used to purchase new riding toys and equipment for the indoor playground, to update and upgrade classroom equipment, and to help with the *Families Helping Families* program which benefits families in the preschool community.



NAEYC Notes

Along the lines of social and emotional development that are so important to us during the holiday season, some of the NAEYC Accreditation Criteria for the program standard relating to curriculum focuses on social-emotional development. They include:

- ~ Children have varied opportunities to recognize and name their own and others' feelings.
- ~ Children have varied opportunities to learn the skills needed to regulate their emotions, behavior, and attention.
- ~ Children have varied opportunities to interact positively, respectfully, and cooperatively with others.

The Trinity Preschool staff provides these opportunities through helping children to use words to identify their feelings and those of others, read and discuss stories about feelings, and use play and artistic representation to express feelings.

Pictured: Miss Cammy's class explores the inside of a pumpkin. The children loved musician/storyteller, Clem Bowen.

