



Trinity News

Trinity Preschool of Berwyn
NAEYC Accredited 2006~2011

October 2009

Dear Parents,

As we enter our second month of preschool, I like to reflect on how all of the children have adjusted to their new classes.

Child development theory focuses heavily on infants' and young children's attachment to their parents or significant caregivers. We know that our youngest ones are still working their way through learning that their caregiver will come back. Sometimes it takes days, weeks, or even months for two-year-olds to figure that out. While it can be heart-wrenching, we know that it's perfectly normal, and even a positive sign of a strong attachment.

As children move into the three-year-old stage, they are often better able to understand and find comfort in the routines and rituals in preschool. They learn that after a certain activity (the goodbye song, for example), they will see their parent. For some 3s and even 4s, this takes a while, as the transition into a different classroom or a different teacher can create some regression until they become comfortable in the new situation.

A wonderful example of this was seen in one of our 4s classes this year. A little boy was upset for the first couple of mornings of school. Then one day he told his mother, "I'm not going to cry today", and he didn't. When he was ready, he was ready. He hasn't cried since that day.

There is one theory proposed by some developmental specialists called "recapitulation of the separation/individuation process in four-year-old children". In a nutshell, this means that even children who have gone through the initial typical two-year-old separation issues successfully can start the whole process again when they're four. This can be even more stressful for parents who think their children have "outgrown" separation issues, but it's usually short-lived, as the children are cognitively more able to understand the process and routines of school.

Most of the children are happily settling in. Some of our two-year-olds are still working on it. One little boy still needs a caregiver to stay in the hall so he can "check in" with her as he needs to. Another needs to go home a little earlier than the others. That's all fine. We are committed to meeting children where they are developmentally. As a school, we are not concerned with, "Is the child ready for school?", but more with, "Is our school ready for the child?"

As the year progresses, we might see some changes in our children's responses, and we will be ready. Thank you for your support of your little ones as they grow.

Suzi Alrutz, Director, Trinity Preschool of Berwyn

Important Dates In October

October 1st ~ 31st
Thur., October 1st
Fri., October 2nd
October 12th ~ 13th
Fri., October 16th
Mon., October 19th
October 19th ~ 20th
Thur., October 22nd
Sat., October 24th
October 27th ~ 28th
October 29th ~ 30th

Caring Cupboard Collections
2s Classes Start 11:45 AM Dismissal
Sally Foster Orders Due
Musician/Storyteller, Clem Bowen, Visits
Teacher In-Service Day, No School
Last Day To Purchase Discounted *Oktoberfest* Tkts.
Berwyn Fire Company Visits
Pre-K Helps With *Caring Cupboard* Distribution
15th Annual *Oktoberfest* Silent Auction, 6:30 PM
Class Trips, Milky Way Farm
Halloween Parades

Caring Cupboard

During the months of October and March, Trinity Preschool partners with Trinity Presbyterian Church to support the *Caring Cupboard* food bank. *Caring Cupboard* provides emergency food to local families and individuals in need. All student classes will be asked to donate various food and household items for those less fortunate in our community. The Pre-K students will help sort the donations for distribution. Teachers will provide a list of items requested for donation by their class.

Thank you in advance for making this October's *Caring Cupboard* collection a success and for making a difference in our community.

Oktoberfest 2009

Have you RSVP'd for the Oktoberfest event?

Discounted tickets (\$30/person) can be purchased in the Trinity Preschool Office by October 19th!

Come join the Trinity Preschool family of Teachers, Administrators, Parents & Friends for a:

- ~ Silent & Live Auction (think sports tickets, trips, gift certificates & so much more)
- ~ 50/50 Drawing
- ~ Buffet Dinner & Desserts
- ~ Beef & Beer
- ~ Wine & The Teachers' Specialty Drink
- ~ Non-Alcoholic Beverages
- ~ Music & Dancing

When: Saturday, October 24, 2009 | 6:30 ~ 11:00 PM

Where: St. Isaac Jogues Parish Social Hall, Chesterbrook, PA



Thank you to our parents who have been so vigilant about keeping their children home when they are sick. We all appreciate it! Also, thank you for handwashing before entering classrooms ~ just those few extra moments of care can make a big difference!



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Halloween at Trinity

It will be an exciting, fun Halloween at Trinity Preschool! Parents will be invited to watch our little "Trick-or-Treaters" parade in Fellowship Hall on Thursday, October 29th or Friday, October 30th. The 3s/4s and Pre-K classes will parade at 9:15 AM. The 2s will have their own parade starting at 11:15 AM. Teachers will be sharing more details as the big day approaches!

Cameras welcomed!



Special Thanks To...

- ~ The Maher family for the donation of an easel.
- ~ Jill Clement for her continuing help with the library project.
- ~ The Thibault family for the donation of puzzles.

Field Trips

October is the first field trip of the year for many of our classes. Field trips are a great way to expand on what the children are talking and learning about in school. Over the past year, Trinity has adopted a new procedure for field trips. The new procedure is designed to reduce the liability of the school. *Here's how it works:*

- 1) Parents are responsible for arranging a ride for their child to the field trip venue. For classes who are attending the same venue on the same day, rides can be arranged with children in other classes too. Homeroom parents may help to coordinate rides.
- 2) Each class will have a designated number of parent chaperones that will attend the field trip with the children. The school will pay entrance fees for assigned chaperones. So that chaperones can focus on the children in the class, siblings may not come along on field trips.
- 3) Drivers who are not assigned chaperones can do other things while they're waiting for the children to be done with the field trip...meet at a nearby coffee shop, run some quick errands, or just relax until the children are done.
- 4) In order to make the field trip more comfortable and enjoyable for everyone, we need to limit the number of parents who actually attend the field trip to just the assigned chaperones.

We appreciate your support, and we look forward to some great trips with your little ones! Families from our 3s, 4s, and Pre-K classes will be receiving Milky Way Farm trip info soon...

www.milkywayfarm.com

NAEYC Notes

The National Association for the Education of Young Children is the largest early childhood professional organization in the world. NAEYC accreditation is a voluntary, rigorous system that has been called "the gold standard" in measuring quality in early childhood programs. Trinity Preschool is accredited through 2011, when we will be seeking reaccreditation.

All sorts of learning...that's what developmentally-appropriate practice is all about. As part of our efforts to provide the best experience for your children, teachers plan a wide variety of play and learning experiences. Walk down the hall one day...you will witness children painting with apples, searching for magnetic materials with giant magnets in a bin full of materials, painting on aluminum foil, and using an apple peeler in the process of making homemade applesauce.

The NAEYC Program Standards related to Curriculum and Teaching includes criteria stating that "materials and equipment... encourage exploration, experimentation, and discovery," and "teachers promote children's engagement and learning by... responding to their need for and interest in practicing emerging skills...". The kinds of activities happening at Trinity every day address these criteria, and provide learning experiences in ways that address all types of learning styles.

