



# BCP News & Notes

Autumn 2024 | Volume 18, Issue 1

*“A quality Christian preschool education for the Bally Community and beyond.”*

## A NOTE FROM MRS. ROMA

Welcome to another school year. It's hard to believe it is already October and the cooler weather and beautiful autumn colors are on display.

The 3s class is off to a wonderful start. Your children are adjusting to the school routine, learning to share and use good manners and making new friends. They especially enjoy the different snacks brought in by the helper of the day and spending time outside on the playground.

During the month of September we talked about owls, fall, apples and read books by Suse McDonald. We also enjoyed harvesting potatoes from the preschool garden and searching for caterpillars eating carrot greens. Check out the facebook pictures to see how well the caterpillars hide.

In mid-September we began the Color of the Week. We will make a puppet and learn a poem for each color. Thank you for helping your child dress in the color of the week each Tuesday.

October is fire safety month. Eastern Berks Fire Company will bring a fire truck to preschool and teach us about fire safety. We will enjoy some homemade applesauce and read books written by Todd Parr.

Autumn is a busy time at preschool. We are learning about fall and doing activities related to sunflowers, spiders, bats and pumpkins. In November we will talk about squirrels, nuts and Thanksgiving.

Mrs. LaSalle, Mrs. Jones and I really enjoy working with your children. Their bright smiles and enthusiasm for learning make coming to work so much fun.



## AUTUMN WEATHER

Everyone looks forward to our outside play time. Our playground can be a little cool in the morning. You may want to begin sending in hats and gloves. Also please check your child's backpack to see that their change of clothing is weather appropriate.



Like us on Facebook!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- ~Saturday, October 19 - Fall Frolic, 1:00-3:00
- ~Speech Bus - October 21 & 22
- ~Eastern Berks Fire Company - October 24 & 25
- ~Week of November 4 - Fall Conferences
- ~Lions Club Vision/Hearing Screenings  
November 12 & 13
- ~November 14 & 15 - Fall Play & Learn Classes  
End
- ~Monday, November 25 - 4s Thanksgiving Feast  
**\*\*Extended Morning 9:00-12:00\*\***
- ~November 27 - December 2 - Thanksgiving  
Vacation
- ~Sunday, December 8 - Christmas Program,  
6:30 PM
- ~December 23 – January 1 – Christmas Vacation
- ~January 9 & 10 - Winter Play & Learn Classes  
Begin
- ~Monday, January 16 - Preschool Closed
- ~Wednesday, January 22 - Preschool Open House  
9:00-11:30 AM



## LET'S FIND OUT

Free additional activities and games that go along with the Weekly Readers can be found at [letsfindout.scholastic.com](https://letsfindout.scholastic.com). Click on "sign in" then "student". Our classroom password is BCP2020.

## LUNCH BUNCH DATES

- October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30
- November 6, 13 & 20
- December 4, 11 & 18



## FOUR-YEAR-OLD CLASS – Mrs. Gehman

The four-year-old class has had a great start to the school year! They have learned the classroom routine and are getting to know their classmates better. The first week of school we read *The Kissing Hand* to remind us how much we are loved. We talked about stars and made a star picture.

Next, we learned about our emotions and how to keep some of our emotions small instead of allowing them to get too big. We made puppets for each emotion and learned poems to help us calm down. We harvested potatoes and saw carrots growing in the preschool garden as well.

The following week we learned that God made each one of us special. It was fun to be able to talk about our families during Show and Tell. We began the letter of the week starting with Letter A in mid-September. We made apple pudding and taste-tested red, yellow and green apples. Everyone liked the red apples the best. We saw the shape apple seeds make when an apple is cut in half (ask your student what it is) and we made an apple basket project. With the start of autumn we sang songs, read books and talked about the seasons.

The month of October began with letter O and making octopi. We enjoyed a field trip to Bauman's Family Apple Butter Factory. Thank you, Bauman's, for making our trip special by giving us a snack of apple butter and apple cider. We'll have fun making four frogs on a log and wearing flannel/fleece on Friday for letter F. We'll wear caps to school and make a cat for Letter C.

During the rest of the month, we will learn the letter P, finger paint pumpkins, taste test pumpkin seeds and help to carve a pumpkin. For letter S we will have Silly Sock Day, make a life-sized scarecrow and water color a scarecrow. We will also have a visit from Eastern Berks Fire Company.

In November we will talk about letters M, N and T. We will make corn muffins, noodle necklaces, Native American headbands, Thanksgiving placemats and turkey headbands. It will be fun to prepare and participate in our Friendship Feast as we learn about the first Thanksgiving. Mrs. La Salle and I are enjoying spending time with your children and look forward to seeing each one continue to grow.



## SPANISH CLASS - Mrs. Gehman

"Hola" (oh-la) Hello. That is the first Spanish word your child learned in Spanish class this year. The second word was "Adiós" (ah-dee-ohs) goodbye. Each class period we practice saying "hola", go over the calendar as well as the season and sing songs to go with them. We end our time together with the goodbye song and say "Adiós".

We began the year learning "palabras de maneras" (pah-lah-brahs day mah-nair-ahs), manners words. We played a few games to practice these words. Perhaps your student will say please and thank you in Spanish at home.

Our second theme of the year is "colores" (coh-lor-ace), colors. The three-year-old class will learn six words and the four-year-old class will learn 11 words. We will make color books to take home which will be a great way to keep practicing. What a privilege to teach Spanish to your children!

## PLAY & LEARN CLASSES

### Mrs. Roma & Mrs. Hendricks

The Play & Learn classes are having fun exploring the toys and learning the routine of the morning. During the first class the children made picture placemats which are now a huge hit at snack time.

Each week we will make a fall art project, listen to stories, sing songs and play outside on the playground, weather permitting. During the month of October we will learn about apples, fall, fire trucks and pumpkins.

November's themes will be squirrels, owls and Thanksgiving. Thank you for sharing your curious two-year-olds with us. The teachers, along with our assistant, Miss Longacre, are enjoying getting to know them.

Registrations are now being accepted for the Winter Play & Learn classes. Applications are available online or contact the preschool office.



## Fall Frolic

Join us for a fun afternoon on Saturday, October 19 from 1:00 - 3:00. There will be games, crafts, hayrides, face painting, a hay maze and food. Event held rain or shine in the church parking lot and fellowship hall.

### MUSIC CLASS –Mrs. Roma

Greetings from the Music room! Each music class begins with listening to music featuring different instruments and composers. We have been singing get to know you songs and learning fun seasonal songs with different motions.

There are so many songs about apples, falling leaves, squirrels, spiders and pumpkins to learn and sing together. Your children are doing a wonderful job remembering the words to the songs and there is lots of enthusiasm and laughter as we clap, snap, jump, stomp and dance to the songs we are learning.

Musical opposites are our current focus: Fast/slow, loud/soft and high/low. We will be sharing some of our favorite songs with you at our Christmas Program in December. Family, friends and neighbors are invited with a fellowship time to follow!

## Welcome

Welcome to our classroom volunteer Mrs. Connie Jones. Mrs. Jones is helping in the 3s class for an hour each morning.

## Prayer requests

If you ever have any prayer requests or concerns, Bally Mennonite Church would be happy to pray for your family. Email requests to [ballyprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:ballyprayerchain@gmail.com).



## Hearing/Vision Screenings

The Lions Club will be doing free pass/fail vision and hearing screenings on November 12 & 13. Additional information and permission slips will be sent home at the beginning of November.

## Speech Bus

Speech Therapist, Kristen Park will be conducting mini speech evaluations on October 21 & 22. The cost is \$15. Register online.

## Fundraising Updates

Thank you to everyone that helped out at the Pancake Breakfast. We appreciate all the volunteers, bakers and visitors who attended this event. We raised \$2,300 for the preschool.

Staples recycles so much more than ink cartridges. We can now recycle calculators, flash drives, tablets, iPads, eReaders, single use batteries, crayons, colored pencils, pens, markers, highlighters, phones, iPhone cases and earbuds. Items may be sent to preschool any time.

Wawa Shorti Hoagie coupons are available any time for \$6 each. Ask your child's teacher for ordering information. Makes a great gift!

Redner's - Use your rewards card when shopping and turn in your receipts any time. BCP received 1% of the total.

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