



BCP News & Notes

Autumn 2025 | Volume 19, 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's already October. Cooler weather and beautiful autumn colors will be arriving any day.

The 3s class is off to a wonderful start. Your children are a joy to work with. They have all adjusted well to the school routine. I am happy to see them sharing, using good manners, following directions and taking turns. They especially enjoy playing games during Circle Time. We enjoy spending time outside on the playground and have discovered caterpillars, locust shells and two frogs.

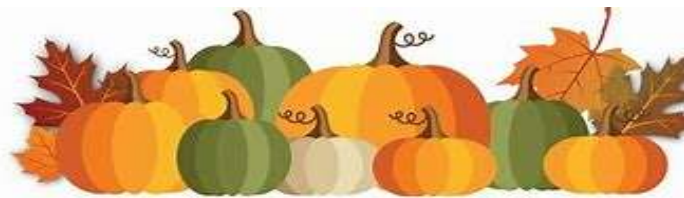
During the month of September we talked about transportation, fall, sunflowers, apples and read books by Donald Crews. We also enjoyed some time in the preschool garden harvesting potatoes and carrots. What fun! Thanks to Cami's mom for helping us in the garden.

In mid-September we began the Color of the Week. We will make a puppet and learn a poem for 12 different colors. Thank you for helping your child dress in the color of the week each Tuesday.

October began with a cooking activity; making our own delicious applesauce for snack. It is also fire safety month, so firefighters from the Eastern Berks Fire Company will visit with their truck and teach us about fire safety. Todd Parr is the author of the month.

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

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



DATES TO REMEMBER

- ~Saturday, October 11 - Bally Trunk or Treat
6:00 - 7:30 PM Bally Community Park, Stop by to see the preschool's bat-themed trunk.
- ~Monday, October 13 – Preschool Closed
- ~Saturday, October 18 - Pancake Breakfast to benefit BCP, 7:00 - 10:00 AM
- ~October 23 & 24 - Eastern Berks Fire Company Visits
- ~Saturday, October 25 - Fall Frolic, 1:00 - 3:00
- ~Week of November 3 - Fall Conferences
- ~November 13 & 14 - Fall Play & Learn Classes End
- ~November 18 & 19 - Vision/Hearing Screenings
- ~November 26 - December 1 - Thanksgiving Vacation
- ~Sunday, December 7 - Christmas Program, 6:30 PM
- ~December 24 - January 2, Christmas Vacation
- ~January 8 & 9 - Winter Play & Learn Classes Begin **Registrations are now being accepted for these classes. Applications are available online or contact the preschool office.**
- ~Monday, January 19 - Preschool Closed
- ~Wednesday, January 28 - Preschool Open House, 9:00 - 11:30 AM
- ~January 29 & 30 - Winter Animal Program with Kevin Crilley

LUNCH BUNCH DATES

October 15, 22 & 29
November 5, 12 & 19
December 3, 10 & 17



FOUR-YEAR-OLD CLASS – Mrs. Gehman

It has been a good start to the new school year. The four-year-old classes have learned the classroom routine and are enjoying the many activities available in the classroom. The first week of school, we read *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr., identified colors, made a project and played some games related to that book. Next, we learned about our emotions and how to keep them small instead of allowing them to get too big. We made emotion puppets and learned poems to help us calm down. We harvested potatoes and saw carrots growing in the preschool garden.

The following week we began Letter of the Week with letter A. We made apple pudding and taste-tested red, yellow and green apples. We saw the shape apple seeds make when an apple is cut in half (ask your student what it is) and we made aliens and acorns. It was fun to begin having Show and Tell.

For letter F week, we talked about fall, made a fall tree project and sang fall songs. We shared a family photo for Show and Tell and wore flannel on Friday. We also enjoyed a field trip to Bauman's Family

Apple Butter Factory. Thank you to the Bauman family for the snack of apple butter and apple cider.

October began with Letter O and making owls. We wore caps to school and made colorful corn for letter C. During the rest of this month, we will fingerpaint pumpkins, taste pumpkin seeds and carve a pumpkin for letter P. For letter S we will have Silly Sock Day, make a life-sized scarecrow and sunflowers. Eastern Berks Fire Company will visit and we will end the month by making hot air balloons and talking about homes for letter H.

In November we will talk about M, N and T. We will make corn muffins, noodle necklaces, Thanksgiving placemats and turkey headbands. It will be fun to prepare for Friendsgiving Day as we learn about the first Thanksgiving and how to work together.

We are grateful for the good weather so we can enjoy our playground and the new mulch. Thank you to Bally Mennonite Church for replacing the mulch! Mrs. LaSalle and I are enjoying spending time with your children and look forward to seeing how much each child will grow this year.

SPANISH CLASS - Mrs. Gehman

Are your children speaking Spanish at home? We have learned so many words already!

Each week we practice saying hello "hola", go over the calendar, season and sing songs to go with them. We end our time together with the goodbye song and saying "adios".

We started the year with "palabras de maneras", manners and expressions words. They really enjoyed the games we played to reinforce these words. Our second theme of the year is learning "colores", colors. The three-year-old class will learn six color words and the four-year-old class will learn 11 words. We will make color books which will be a great way to keep practicing at home. After that we will learn "formas", shapes. What a privilege to teach Spanish to your children!



MUSIC CLASS – Mrs. Roma

Greetings from the Music Room! In Music class we have been listening to music featuring different instruments and singing seasonal songs with different fun 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 learning the words to the songs and there is so much enthusiasm as we clap, snap, jump, tiptoe, shake and dance to the songs we are learning.

Musical opposites are our current focus: Fast/slow (our favorite), loud/soft and high/low. In November we will begin preparing for the Christmas Program. We look forward to sharing some of our favorite songs with you in early December.

PLAY & LEARN CLASSES – Mrs. Hendricks

Happy Fall to our Play and Learn friends and their families! Our class has been bustling with curious children eager to play, learn, explore and grow. Although we've had a few tears in the beginning, I'm happy to report with each passing class they are short lived.

Fall is such a fun and wonderful time to learn and explore the beautiful world God has created for us. From leaves, pumpkins, apples and scampering squirrels there is always a new song to learn, story to share or fun craft to create with Miss Audrey.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. It is our hope that we are laying a solid foundation for a lifelong love of learning and that the children gain confidence as they adjust to the new classroom setting.

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.



NEW PLAYGROUND MULCH

A huge thank you to everyone involved from Bally Mennonite Church who assisted with replacing the mulch on the preschool playground. Not only does it look beautiful, it is safe, clean and will last many years. The staff and students appreciate this upgrade!

FOOD PANTRY

The Bally Mennonite Church food pantry is open to preschool families. The pantry is open on Sundays from 9:00 – 10:15 AM or make an appointment with the church secretary by calling (610) 845-7780.

LET'S FIND OUT

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

THANK YOU

Thank you to our outgoing preschool treasurer Connie Jones. Connie has volunteered in this role for nearly 20 years. We are grateful to Dave Hopkins for volunteering to be our new treasurer.

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.

VISION/HEARING SCREENINGS

The Lions Club will be doing free pass/fail vision and hearing screenings on November 18 & 19. Additional information and permission slips will be sent home with the three and four-year-old classes at the beginning of November.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

You are invited to join us on Saturday, October 18 from 7:00 – 10:00 for a delicious breakfast. The menu includes pancakes, French toast, scrapple, sausage, eggs, breakfast cakes, juices, coffee and tea. Thank you to those who have volunteered for this event and offered to provide baked goods. The cost is a donation and all proceeds benefit the preschool. Spread the word.



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