

Due West UMC Preschool

NEWSCETTER



NOVEMBER 2009 CALENDAR

- 1 Tuition & Lunch Bunch fees due
- 2 Field Trip to Publix—Mrs. Armentrout
- 3 No School
- 4 Field Trip to Publix—Mrs. Micale
- 4 & 5 Story Time—2-5s
- 5 Field Trip to Publix—Mrs. Davalos
- 6 Field Trip to Publix—Mrs. Armentrout
- 7 **Holiday Market** in the Family Life Center 9:00-2:00
- 9 Love & Logic parenting movie
- 9 & 10 Tumble Time 1 & 2s
- 10&13 Spanish classes—3-5s
- 10 Early Release (12:00) for staff meeting
- 11&12 Chapel—2-5s
- 11&12 Laminating Days
- 16&17 Music Classes—2's-Y. 5's
- 18&19 Thanksgiving Feast—1-5's
- 23-27 No School--Happy Thanksgiving!
- 30 Preschool Board meeting



HOLIDAY MARKET

Please plan to join us on Saturday, Nov. 7th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM for our seventh annual Holiday Market. There will be shopping--over

40 tables of vendors with lots of great merchandise and hand made items for you, your family, and/or Christmas presents. There will be a silent auction with many awesome items to bid on, a bake sale, and live entertainment. It's going to be a fun day! Tell your friends and neighbors to join us! Thanks to the Holiday Market Committee for organizing this event and all the time and effort they are putting into it! This is our big fund raising event for the year and all of the proceeds from this event will be used to buy items for your children to use in the classrooms.

THANKSGIVING FEASTS

One of our biggest events of the year is the Thanksgiving Feast. We will do a program at 11:00 in the sanctuary and then move to the Family Life Center for our feast. I suggest that you arrive a little early so that you won't miss your child's part in the program.



Wednesday, Nov. 18th is for Mrs. Schaefer, Mrs. Moskal, Mrs. Deiters, Mrs. Kelley, and Mrs. Micale's classes. Thursday, Nov. 19th is for Mrs. Schaefer, Mrs. Burns, Mrs. Crane, Mrs. Morrison, Mrs. Davalos and Mrs. Armentrout's classes.

Please help us to help the needy by bringing one or more canned food items for our donation to MUST. We are asking each family to contribute \$2 per preschool child and \$3 per adult towards the food for our feast and would welcome any other monetary donations. We also need help each morning preparing the food. There will be a nursery available for siblings during food preparation as well as the program and feast. A note will be sent home Nov. 4th & 5th. Please return it as soon as possible to let us know how many people will be attending (limit of 2 adults per child for the feast), how many siblings will need nursery care, if you can help with food preparations, and if you can donate something extra towards the feast. There is no limit to the number of people who can watch the program, only coming to the feast. We hope that everyone can come!

We will also be making a DVD of the programs and some highlights in the Family Life Center. They will be on sale for \$5 each. You'll be receiving an order form soon. Hopefully this will help you enjoy the program rather than concentrating on filming it.



Love & Logic Parenting Movie

We will be hosting a showing of the Love & Logic parenting movie on Monday, Nov. 9th at 9:30am in the cinema downstairs. The cost is \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Caroline Schaefer, a trained Love & Logic presenter will be here to introduce the movie and answer any questions you may have afterwards. We are offering child care for children who do not attend preschool that day. You have already received a flyer about it. Please let us know if you are coming and the name and age of any children who will be in the nursery.

PRESCHOOL OFFICE TELEPHONE

Sometimes when you call the preschool office (770-590-0982) you get the recording for the church rather than just the preschool. If you will dial "**242**" any time during that recording your call will come right to the preschool office. That will save you some time since you won't have to wait to listen to the whole message

PUBLIX FIELD TRIP

Each four-year-old and the fives class is taking a field trip to Publix at Brookstone in November. They will get a "behind the scenes" tour of the store and learn new things about food and nutrition. Please remember that we must have a signed permission slip and a car/booster seat for every child. When you shop in that store please thank them for this free tour!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you for your support of our book fair. Our total was over \$900 and we were able to get cash to buy something for the school that was not in the budget. We really appreciate all the parents who bought books for the teachers as well as for yourselves. Please let me know if you have any comments on the books and book fair.



RAINY DAY CAR LINE

As you've noticed, on rainy days we unload and load one car at a time so that the children and staff do not get wet. It would help us if you would put your car line number in the passenger door window in the afternoon. It's very difficult to see through the windshields to see your number when it is raining hard. Thank you!

REQUESTS AND REMINDERS

1. Please drive slowly when you are in the church parking lot, especially when you are coming around the back of the building to get into car line. Several cars have been seen driving pretty fast, which is a hazard for anyone around the church.
2. Please check your child's folder every day, and read the information that's there! We put all of our notes and communication for you inside the folder, so it's important to check it to see what you need to know. Also, please remove the notes from the folder so you'll know what is new. Also, check your emails because we often send them out to get information out quickly and to save paper!
3. Every child in every class should have a complete change of clothes in a Ziploc bag at the preschool (pants, shirt, underwear, and socks). Please be sure to change them to cold weather clothes now.
4. Please be sure that your cell phone is turned on when your child is at school. We need to be able to reach you in case your child is sick
7. Please send a coat with your child every cool day and be sure that his/her name is in it. The children will go out to play unless the weather is extremely cold or rainy.



PARENTS CORNER

“What Remains”

By Joanne Heim

If I spend my days building skyscrapers with LEGOs and creating relationships with other moms at Starbucks, but have not love, I am only the siren of the kids’ ride-on fire truck.

If I have the gift of knowing which child attempted to flush the Hot Wheels down the toilet and which one pushed her sister, and if I have faith that somehow we’ll survive life’s emergencies, but have not love, I am nothing.

If I save all my box tops for school and give outgrown clothing to the local shelter, and if I surrender my body to stretch marks and under-eye circles, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient when someone isn’t ready to use the big-girl potty. It is kind when my husband has a hard day. It doesn’t envy my neighbor who drives the new sport-utility vehicle I can’t afford.

It is not rude, snapping at my spouse or children when things don’t go my way. It is not easily angered at perceived or real injustices.

It always protects the smallest, sweetest family confidences; always trusts God to provide for my children’s needs; always hopes in the freshness of tomorrow and the bright future of family; always perseveres amid hardship and doubt.

Where there are sleepless nights, they shall end. Where there are diapers, Little League, and dioramas built from shoe boxes, they will cease. Where there is knowledge of baby-care trends, discipline strategies, and boy-girl problems, it will pass away.

Now these three remain: faith, lived out in my daily circumstances and instilled in my children; hope, of one day rejoicing with my family in heaven; and love, which covers over a multitude of less-than-perfect moments.

But the greatest of these is love. It is what remains . . . long after I am gone.

NEWS FROM THE TEACHERS

Mrs. Harris’ Baby Bees (Infants):

We had a fun time this month. In between all of the rain we were able to go to the Pumpkin Patch and we were amazed at how many pumpkins there were. We touched, sat and took our picture with them.

We also used our hands to paint our pumpkin and apple pictures. Some of us like the feel of the paint and some of us wanted to taste it, but we all had fun.

We are being very consistent on our sign language. Our sign of the month is "eat" and we will continue to practice next month.

Thank you to the parents for bringing in our wipes and tissues. Those are things we use a lot of on a daily basis.

Mrs. Morrison’s Ladybugs (Ones M/W):

October has gone by so quickly. We have been busy painting with fall colors and singing songs. The children love to sing songs with hand motions. We sing “The Wheels on the Bus” and “The Itsy Bitsy Spider” often. We love going to music class as well as Tumble time. It is starting to get cold outside so please dress your child appropriately for outside playtime. Please make sure you change out their extra clothing in the classroom and have names on their jackets. Thank you for all of your support this year. Happy Birthday, Lauren.



Mrs. Ashford's Ladybugs (Ones T/Th):

October has been filled with exploring all the amazing things God made. Our Bible verse from Ecclesiastes reminds us that everything God makes is beautiful. This includes bugs and strange animals. We have been sharing a book with hairy spiders, prickly porcupines and tooth-filled sharks. Yes, they are beautiful too. On apple day your wonderful ones crunched yummy apples, sang apple songs and made some beautiful apple prints. How confusing it was to put paint on an apple and not be able to eat it!!! We round out our month with leaves and pumpkins to celebrate the beauty of God's autumn. We are thankful for crisp days to play outside where we throw and catch balls, navigate the slide, and wave to the UPS guy. I am so pleased that all are trying to learn to follow directions, sit nicely at snack and sing our songs. Enormous thanks go to Nicole Gray and Kari Swingley for coordinating our incredible Holiday Market "basket"! Thank you to Caroline and family for our Fall Harvest Special Snacks. Our room is full of wonderful ones from wonderful families.

Mrs. Schaefer's Bears (Young Twos):

October just seemed to fly by! We had fun learning the color orange and painting with cornmeal and Jell-O. This helped us with understanding different textures and smells. Our Bible story was "Ruth finds food for her family" so we talked about where we get our food and snacks for our families. We have also been working very hard on "Please and Thank You". Please remember to practice this at home with your child. I would like to ask all my parents to take a few minutes each day when your child comes home to clean out their folder. Also, please remember that lunch bunch carpool line starts at one o'clock and two's have a tough time waiting. So please try to arrive before one o'clock to get in line. We would also like to give a big Thank You to our moms for our special fall snacks. They were great! Thanks for all your help and support, we really appreciate it. God Bless.

Mrs. Burns' Fish (Older Twos):

October was a month to remember. We started the month off free painting with the fall colors yellow, orange, and red. Then we used the same colors to make leaves. After that we went pumpkin crazy. We painted pumpkins, colored pumpkins, made pumpkin faces, and paper bag pumpkins.

The class learned the color of the month, which of course was orange. It was easily learned with all the pumpkin making this month.

In the middle of the month the class traveled to the pumpkin patch. We enjoyed running around and touching all the different kinds of pumpkins. The Fall Party was a winner. Thanks for the special snacks and crafts from our parents.

Ms. Crane's Puppies (3's T/Th):

We have had such beautiful weather this month. The children have enjoyed the leaves starting to change by collecting leaves most days when we are outside. Our class had a blast going to the Due West Pumpkin Patch. We learned all about pumpkin pie and how to roast yummy seeds. Please make sure you ask your child about what they are learning at school. We have had Spanish, Chapel, Music and Story time this month and these children show so much enthusiasm! They love to sing and dance, and count to ten in Spanish. Mr. Bumble (our class Bee) has been making the rounds and everyone enjoys seeing what he's up to when he goes on a new adventure! Thank you for helping make this such a neat experience for your child. Our special fall snack was a success, and fun was had by all. Thank you to all of the parents who have sent in treasure box goodies, Mrs. Alexander and I couldn't be more proud of our class this year. What a wonderful group of children! Thank you for sharing them with us.



Mrs. Morrison's Turtles (3's T/Th):

October is already over. We have had yet another wonderful month. We have spent a lot of time singing and talking about fall colors and how Everything God made is Beautiful. We also walked over to the pumpkin patch to talk about the different sizes, shapes, and colors of pumpkins and gourds. We took some pictures in front of the scarecrow. We made bread in class to go along with our Bible story about Ruth and how she fed her family with wheat. During Chapel, Mrs. Coffeen taught us a wonderful song about Ruth turning wheat into bread. We have also been talking about feelings and emotions. I want to thank all the parents who came in for our Open House. I really enjoyed having you all in our classroom. If anyone would like to come in and read or help with craft time, please call me. I would love to have you.

It is starting to get cold outside so please dress your child appropriately for outside playtime. Please make sure you change out their extra clothing in the classroom and have names on their jackets.

Mrs. Dreyer's Fish (3's M-W-F):

We had another fantastic month in the Fish Bowl! It has been exciting to see the children really enjoying each other. We only had one birthday this month ~ Happy Birthday to Sarah! We have completed a, b, c, and d in our Zoo-phonics letters. The children have loved making the animals for each letter to put in their alphabet book! Following the alphabet theme, we have soared into space as astronauts, shared a day with our teddy bears, ate marshmallows and sang songs at our camp out and opened a donut shop! What would October be without pumpkins? The kids enjoyed the "long" hike to the pumpkin patch and explored the inside of a pumpkin. Their expressions when they touched the pumpkin's "gooey" insides were priceless. We made bread as we talked about Ruth and Naomi and the children learned how important it is to help others! The children loved sharing their day with the parents at Open House! We appreciate all the parents who came to enjoy that

Mrs. Dreyer, continued

time with us. We had three special readers this month Mrs. Musheno, Mrs. Oliver and Hannah Oliver. Thank you Hannah for playing Ants in the Pants with us too! Thank you so much Mrs. Finn and Mrs. Young for planning our fall special snack. The kids had a great time! We really appreciate Mrs. Beatty working on the chest for the Holiday Market and thanks to all the parents for the donations! We are looking forward to the Holidays which are just around the corner and are especially exciting at preschool!

Mrs. Moskal's Turtles (3's M-W-F):

Another great month has passed! This is my favorite time of year and sharing God's beautiful surroundings with your children has been fun. They were busy this month cutting, painting, etc. in preparation for our open house. They were so excited to have you in their classroom. Thank you for coming to share the evening with your child, and we hope you enjoyed our short version of their day.

We really focused on our Bible story about Ruth this month. They enjoyed feeling the grain, wheat, flour and then eating bread during our story time about Ruth. They had fun painting our cut out bread with wheat and discussing how God provided food for Ruth and her family. We loved singing "Joy Down In My Heart" and talking about how God puts that joy in our hearts. We also read the story The Little Red Hen and we talked about how we are to help one another.

We cut open our pumpkin and it was fun watching the children's expressions as they put their hands inside. They had fun going to the pumpkin patch and picking out a pumpkin. We worked on our letters, talked about our feelings and emotions, and played a lot of games during circle time to reinforce numbers, colors, shapes and letters.

We had a great time at our fall special snack! Thank you to Mrs. Conboy, Mrs. Harmon and Mrs. King for planning the party. We celebrated Connor's birthday on 10/6.

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Mrs. Moskal, continued

Your children have grown so much just in the past two months. It is a joy to be a part of their lives and to share their love for life. We hope you all have a wonderful and safe Halloween!

Mrs. Kelley's Busy Bees (4's M-W-F):

Busy! Busy! Busy! There is just no other way to describe this fun filled month! Whew! The children have been such a joy; it has been a GREAT month and here are just a few of the highlights:

Our theme for the month was space and I think the children truly enjoyed this unit. We even had a special fall program by Pat Leonard that was awesome. All the children got to pretend to be falling leaves. They even got to chase me!! That was so much fun. A lot of craft activities took place in preparation for Open House. A big thank you goes out to all the parents and children that attended Open House. We so enjoy sharing our day with you. I hope you all loved the prayer book. I cannot tell you how hard the children worked on these and they were so patient with it too! The result was truly a reflection of their little personalities. We are also very proud of the children and the super job they did decorating our bulletin board. As always, Spanish, Music and Chapel were part of our October schedule. The children amaze me with how well they pay attention and participate in specials. We ended the month in a big way with our Fall Special Snack. A huge thank you to the parents that volunteered to help us drive to the fire station and organize our fall snack; we appreciate you and all you do!

I continue to be proud at how quickly the class has learned their letters and Zoo-phonics. Ask them about the vowels and to sing the song to you. I think you will be amazed. The class also does a super job at patterning during circle time. I even try to trick them each week by changing up the patterns but they always catch me in the act. ☺ The children are awesome in every way and I adore each and every one of them. Thank you for sharing your little miracles with us.

Mrs. Micale's Monkeys (4's M-Th):

October was a busy month for our class. Our theme for the month was "Space." The children had lots of fun learning about the Solar System and making pictures of each planet. We also learned about astronauts and rockets. We pretended to be astronauts and enjoyed a special snack of yummy "space food." Our nursery rhyme for the month was Little Miss Muffett. We recited the rhyme, made a craft and acted it out. Each child had a turn to be to Miss Muffett or the spider.

We learned two Bible stories this month, the story of Ruth and Joseph and the Many Colored Coat. In Phonics we worked on the letters Uu, Tt and Ff. We have practiced identifying and writing the letters as well as learning the sound they make. The children really enjoy our Letter of the Week Show & Tell. Thank you to the parents for all your help with this. For our math lessons this month we worked on identifying shapes and the numbers 6 and 7. We have enjoyed many special activities this month. We began the month with our first field trip. We visited the Marietta Fire Department where we received a very informative tour and lesson on fire safety. Mrs. Pat Leonard visited in mid-October for a special program about fall. The children had lots of fun pretending to be scarecrows and learning new autumn songs. We also had Spanish and Music classes and Chapel with Mrs. Coffeen. Open House was a huge success.

Mrs. Alfonsin and I appreciate everyone who took time out of their busy schedule to spend the evening with us. The children worked so hard preparing for the evening and were very excited to bring their parents to school at night. Thanks also for your support of the Scholastic Book Fair. We received five new books for our classroom.

Special Thanks to all our October Helpers, Field Trip Drivers: Mrs. Kirkman, Mrs. Barrier, Mrs. Merchant and Mrs. Wailes. Copy and Laminating moms: Mrs. Mendoza, Mrs. Merchant and Mrs. Himes. Holiday Market: Mrs. Roberts.



Mrs. Davalos' Butterflies (4's M-Th):

Fall is finally here and we have been able to really enjoy the outdoors.

We have been learning about Space this month. We learned about rockets, stars, and planets. One of their favorite books was Poor Pluto. This story explains, by third graders, why Pluto is no longer considered a planet. The children also enjoyed making rockets and counting backwards as they blasted off!!

The children continue to learn different ways to pattern. This month it was pumpkin, pumpkin, candy corn, candy corn. We even got to make the pattern with real candy. We also continue to count every day, and we practice reading numbers and showing the correct amount of an object. Counting is tricky stuff when you are 4, they tend to want to count objects twice.

This month our bible lesson has been about Ruth, who helped her family by gathering leftover wheat from the fields when they did not have enough money to buy food. We also learned about Joseph and his Amazing Coat. The children were amazed that Joseph forgave his brothers even when they sold him and put him in jail. One child after the lesson was even so touched that she went over to another child and said, "I forgive you!" for something he had accidentally done earlier that day. This is why I teach!

In phonics we are moving right along. These children love letters. They listen, repeat, and learn so quickly. Thanks for working with them at home. Recognizing letters and their sounds is a great pre-reading skill.

We had a great time at the firehouse at the end of last month. Thank you to all of the moms that drove. The children were well behaved and loved that field trip. Our next field trip will be to Publix on November 5.

We had a super program on autumn with Pat Leonard. She had them dancing and singing about leaves, pumpkins, and scarecrows. We also visited the Pumpkin Patch and have been doing some fun activities about fall.

The children truly love the Mystery Readers on Thursday. Thank you to Mrs. Scott

Mrs. Davalos, continued

for planning all of this. They talk about who it might be all through lunch and then each week a new face "lights up" as they see their parent or relative at school to read to them.

We have heard wonderful stories from Mrs. Scott, Mrs. McBride, Mrs. Merchant, Mrs. Leonard, Mrs. Campisi, and Mrs. Harvey. Thank you! Don't forget we love dads, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles etc. too.

Thank you for all of the wipe donations also. We are doing our best to keep these nasty viruses out of our classroom!

We enjoyed seeing many of you at open house and hope you enjoyed getting a little view of how your child spends each day.

Mrs. Armentrout's Frogs (Young Fives):

October was a very busy month for us. We enjoyed our first field trips to the fire station and to A La Carte. Thank you to all the parents for making the commute so easy on us!!

Our second program of the year was a fall theme by Pat Leonard. The kids really enjoyed this. They sang songs about leaves, scarecrows, pumpkins and all got to participate and have fun.

We are always excited to have our guest readers come in to read to us once a week. The kids love having their parent come to visit. We all enjoy hearing the kid's favorite books.

Our Open House was a HUGE success! Everyone was thrilled to have the parents come to be part of our day. The kids did a wonderful job showing what they do to keep busy and how much fun they have learning at school. We hope all the parents enjoyed seeing a small sample of how our day flows.

We have done some fantastic fall artwork (most of it is decorating our room). We have learned a lot about pumpkins, leaves, and scarecrows. The "Environmental" letters of the week books are fantastic! Everyone enjoys sharing their books and is proud to be able to read their books! We are looking forward to all the fun we are going to have getting ready for Thanksgiving and the holidays.

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Science is a favorite day for everyone. First we learned how plants drink by putting celery in blue water. The kids really have loved watching the celery leaves turn blue. We enjoyed guesstimating the circumference of our pumpkin, tasted pumpkin seeds and guessed if a pumpkin would sink or float. We also discovered that a flame would not burn without oxygen by covering a candle with a glass and finally popped Indian corn in the microwave (do try this at home, it's really cool).

We enjoyed having our Stone soup. It was delicious! We had fun talking about nutrition, what is good to eat and what is not. We finished 3 more class books on the subject so keep a look out for those!

Thanks to our Fall Special Snack moms for making our party so much fun. What an exciting day!

We have been writing our numbers on our wipe off boards. We also have been learning about fractions. Whole, half, quarter, a fourth, and three quarters and how sometimes our food can be used in fractions. Reinforce this at home when the opportunity arises. The leveled readers have been going great. Keep up the good work at home reading with your children!

We celebrated four birthdays this month. Anna Kate on the 2nd, Haley on the 8th, Trevor on the 24th and Ryan on the 30th! Can you say sugar high? ☺

Just a reminder, as the weather gets cooler, please dress your child appropriately.

