

# Beacon Learning Academy

919-463-0406

November 2018

*Over the past month the children had the opportunity to learn about life on the farm, experience fun at the fair, and they learned about harvest and the fall season. Of course, everyone was excited to celebrate Halloween with fun art and costume dress-up activities.*

*Our October community outreach project was **Socks for Sharing** and we collected new socks of all sizes in our lobby. All donations will be taken to "A Note in My Pocket" an organization that provides clothing for school-aged children who receive a special note in the pocket of their donated clothes;) Socks are greatly needed and often over-looked, they greatly appreciate all donations.*

*We welcome any donations of costumes that your child has used and may no longer fit into for future Halloweens. The children love using costumes, hats, and such during dramatic play. The only types of costumes we can't utilize would be scary types or ones with weapons. We can always use donations of old (cleaned) adult shoes, purses, and ties/ hats and such as well!*

*Please let us know if you are interested in having your child (2+) try the parent-elective program, Kidokinetics, offered on Wednesdays from 12:30-1:15. The program offers a variety of sports and activities for \$38/ month. Permission and registration forms are available at the front desk.*

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### Scholastic Bookclub Program:

We thank every family who has ordered books through our scholastic book program over the past few months. We have received over 20 new books and several new educational toys and the children are loving the new learning materials we have earned. Your support is trully appreciated!



### Thanksgiving Football/ Pie Party:

On Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> our students will enjoy a special "football" themed day. This is our version of a thanksgiving pre-game show;) Please plan to dress in your favorite football team's colors, a jersey, or as a cheerleader for your team. We will play some football games, create/ lace footballs for art, and enjoy pizza pie and flavored pies. We are asking that each child bring in \$3.00 to participate in our pie lunch (instead of bringing in a lunch). You can leave the money at the front desk. This will cover the cost of pizza, pies, and drinks. Parents are welcome to come in and enjoy pie with us. We plan to eat at 11:30. A parent sign-up sheet is available at the front desk, so we can make sure we plan enough supplies☺

**Library: If you have borrowed books from our school library, please return them so they can be shared, thank you☺**

## **Farmyard Friends (1/2s):**

We had a fantastic and busy month in October. Our friends enjoyed painting, dancing, climbing, and so much more. We have been taking trips to the back classroom to work on our large motor skills by climbing up the slide's steps and sliding down on our bottoms, we throw and catch the balls, and practice our balance with activities. In class, we continue to enjoy reading books and talking about the pictures, we listen to music from Mickey songs to Raffi, build with blocks and work on puzzles.

Our plans for November include fun with turkeys, pie and football! Mrs. Crystal

## **Pond Pals (2/3s):**

October brought so many exciting days! We had so much fun welcoming all the fun fall activities! The children loved learning about things we do on a farm and they loved painting with farm animals. Our week of harvest brought a lot of hands-on learning. We explored outdoors and all of the changes happening in nature such as changing leaves and acorns. Everyone loved talking about and decorating pumpkins as we learned about Halloween.

November will continue to bring us more fun as we learn about our world, pilgrims, Native Americans, Thanksgiving, and cartoons/gameshows week. We will welcome a new friend, Rio, to our class! Mrs. Marianne

## **Ocean Explorers (3/4):**

Wow! October has been an active and exciting month for our explorers. We have enjoyed activities to teach us about harvest, the fair, fall, farms, and forest animals such as fox, bears, and even turtles. We enjoyed a visit from real turtles 😊 Of course, one of our favorite times of year is Halloween! From pumpkins to costumes- it was so much fun! We counted spiders, did a costume fashion show, and enjoyed festive activities such as a bean-bag toss, pumpkin matching game, and yummy treats. As we look forward to November, we are excited to move on to our Thanksgiving theme learning about turkeys, pilgrims, Native Americans, pie, and

football! We'll continue working on fine motor with playdough, writing, cutting and letter recognition activities. We are also working on sharing, taking turns, and working in small groups as we play. Mrs. Priya

## **Rainforest Rangers (4/5):**

October was an amazing month in the Rainforest Ranger classroom! We have been working on letter and number recognition, writing our names and letters, fine motor skills and sorting! One important skill we are currently working to master is zipping. Many of our friends have zippers on their jackets and back-packs. We use encouragement and positive guidance to teach them to zip. Please allow for time in your day to practice this at home, to further promote this skill. We appreciate it! We learned all about the farm and even made our own farm! We learned about apples and autumn, the fair, forest animals and celebrated Halloween with an awesome party! November is going to be filled with Thanksgiving, learning about our world, Pilgrims/Native Americans and game shows & cartoons! It should be a fun month!

Mrs. Debbie

## **Forest Friends (4/5s):**

What a fun month October was for the Forest Friends. We started the month off learning about the farm. The children enjoyed making homemade butter, studying the life cycle of a chicken, and "milking" a cow.

The following weeks we discussed Autumn and the County Fair. We talked about the seasons, weather, and why leaves change color. The class enjoyed labeling the parts of an apple and making applesauce. Then it was off to the fair. We talked about all the yummy foods, and rides at the fair. The class loved our pig races, then placed blue ribbons in correct numerical order.

The class had a blast during the Halloween week. We discussed the life cycle of a pumpkin, painted our pumpkins, investigated our class pumpkin, then turned it into a pumpkin-cano.

Thank you for all of the donated items for the Halloween party. What fun! We were all excited to have Celine join our class this month, its been great having her back 😊

Please take a moment to check out our class wish list posted outside the classroom. There are several opportunities to help out. ~Mrs. Kristi

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>:** DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME- CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS BACKWARDS ONE HOUR.

**NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>:** ELECTION DAY: BEACON WILL OPERATE ON A 2-HOUR DELAY IN CONJUNCTION WITH WCPSS.

**NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>:** BEACON CLOSED FOR VETERAN'S DAY.

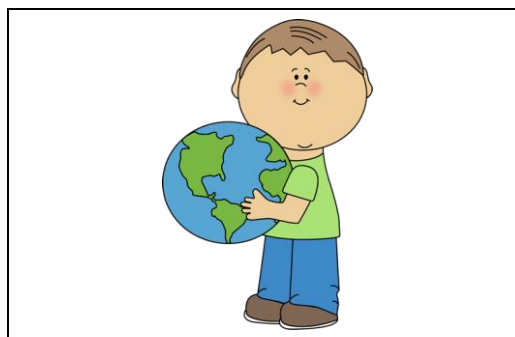
**NOVEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>:** PLEASE WEAR PURPLE TODAY!

**NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>:** SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS DUE! THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THIS PROGRAM AT BEACON!

**NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>:** FOOTBALL/\_PIE DAY: INSTEAD OF PACKING A LUNCH, PLEASE BRING \$3 TO COVER THE COST OF A PIZZA AND PIE FOR LUNCH. (YOU CAN CHOOSE TO PACK A LUNCH IF YOU PREFER YOUR CHILD NOT PARTICIPATE) OUR PIE PARTY WILL BE FROM 12-1. PLEASE DRESS IN YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALL TEAM'S GEAR OR COLORS OR AS A CHEERLEADER!

**NOVEMBER 21-23<sup>RD</sup>:** BEACON LEARNING ACADEMY IS CLOSED TO HONOR THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. WE HOPE EVERYONE ENJOYS THIS SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR WITH THEIR FAMILIES. IF YOU ARE TRAVELING, WE WISH YOU SAFE AND HAPPY TRIPS!

**NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>:** WEAR YOUR FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER ON YOUR SHIRT OR DRESS UP AS YOUR FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER. YOU MAY ALSO BRING IN A PICTURE OF YOUR FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTER IF YOU DO NOT HAVE CLOTHING TO REFLECT WHO THEY ARE 😊



### Themes:

**November 5-9th:** Grab your suitcase and plane tickets- we are headed to wonderful places as we explore our theme of **It's a Small World!** Which of the seven continents will we visit in our imaginations? Our letter of the week is Ww for world and our number is 10. Our shape is the pyramid which allows us the opportunity to visit the Egyptian pyramids and learn about their shape and history.

**November 12-16th:** As we near Thanksgiving, we will first learn about the **Pilgrims and Native Americans**. We'll learn what life was like for these two groups of pioneers. The children will learn about the Mayflower boat, what maize is, and what pilgrim homes and clothing looked like. Our letter Pp allows us to explore pilgrims and pies, our shape is the oval, and our number this week will be 11.

**November 19-23rd:** This short week will focus on the upcoming **Thanksgiving** holiday. Our little turkeys will enjoy learning about the traditions, foods, and fun of Thanksgiving. Most importantly, we'll discuss what we are thankful for! Our letter is Tt for turkey, our shape is the heart, and our number will be 12. We hope you all get to enjoy family time together and find many things to be thankful for!

**November 26-30th:** This week is full of fun and games as we explore Cartoons and Gameshows. We'll focus on the children's favorites such as Paw Patrol, PJ Masks, Clifford the Big Red Dog, and even Pacman 😊 We will review our colors, shapes, and numbers this week.



## Teaching Thankfulness

### The Preschool Years

When kids are young, they're still working on the concept of giving thanks — whether a verbal thank-you or a hand-drawn picture for a grandparent who read *Goodnight Moon* 100 times in a row. Practicing good manners in instances when a “thank you” is appropriate will nurture a child’s budding sense of gratitude. While saying “thank you” may be an automatic response at a young age, as they get older they’ll begin to attach true meaning to the words.

Ideas to explore:

- 1. Create a thank-you.** When your young kids receive gifts, they should be expected to create and send a thank-you picture or short note within one day (or at the rate of one or two thank-you’s per day).
- 2. Be polite to Mr. Bear.** Role-play using good manners and saying “thank you” using stuffed animals and action figures.
- 3. Pick your top 3.** At dinner or bedtime, take turns sharing the three best things about your day.
- 4. Commit it to memory.** Find and memorize thank you songs or poems. Ex: “If You’re Thankful and You Know It” (to the tune of “If You’re Happy and You Know it”)
- 5. Make a different kind of gift list.** Write down the things (preferably handmade) your preschoolers would like to give friends and family as holiday gifts.
- 6. Discuss the experiences you are thankful for.** Have your child draw a picture of something they have enjoyed doing or being involved in and post it where you can see and discuss how grateful you are they were able to do that activity.



### **Thanksgiving Table Runner!**

***Buy a plain-colored table runner and have your child/ren place a painted hand-print on the runner. Use permanent markers to draw in legs, eyes, and a wattle. Add a new hand-print each year and watch them grow! Make sure to mark the year. What a cute keepsake of childhood Thanksgiving memories!***



Noah- Nov. 2nd

Carter- Nov. 8th

