



# SWEET PCEL NEWS

Vol. 17, 2008

October/November, 2008

Newsletter of the PARENT COOPERATIVE FOR EARLY LEARNING

## Dear PCEL Families,

The year is going great. The children are enjoying all of the activities that the teachers are offering. We are so glad that you chose to be a part of the PCEL family. I hope that all your questions were answered in the room meetings. If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please call the office or ask a teacher.

Please remember that all medications must be kept in the office, and you must fill out a medication form, so we have your permission to give the medication to your child. If your child is missing forms from their file, you will receive a letter on October 27, 2008. All tuition must be current for your child to continue in the program by October 31, 2008.

Marsha is back with music and instruments for the children to enjoy. Ms. Lisa is doing a great job with the children in dance class. The children are enjoying the enrichment activities. Please remember to pay the music fee of \$80 as soon as possible. Please get the children to school by 9:00 am so they can participate in all the activities.

We welcome any parent who has special gifts that would enrich the children's lives. If you can play an instrument, like baking, are a great storyteller, or are creative in art, please see me. If you have any free time, please come and volunteer at the school. We need you! I would like to thank each one of you that volunteer your time, talent and treasures for the children here at PCEL. If you have questions, comments or concerns, please call me at 773-684-6363.

**Monica Foster**  
**Director**

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### October

10/24 – Candy Sale/Fundraising  
Money Due

10/25 – Annual Halloween Party

10/29 – Picture Day, 9:00 am

10/31 – Classroom parties

### November

TBA – Optional Parent Teacher  
Conference

11/8 – Open House, 10 am-1 pm

11/27-28 –Thanksgiving Holiday - NO  
SCHOOL

### December

12/5 – Family Potluck/General  
Meeting, 6:15 pm

12/18 – Board Meeting, 6:15 pm

12/24-31– Winter Vacation - NO  
SCHOOL

*Dates are subject to change*

**Happy Birthday  
to Ms. Angi, November 20!**

**Happy Anniversary  
to Charlotte Fleming,  
7 years of service,  
and Barbara Branson,  
18 years of Service!**

## Fundraiser in Progress

Order Forms for Candy are Due  
October 24, 2008.

## THE EXPLORERS ROOM

The Explorers had a great start to the school year. We spent September getting to know our new friends, teachers and classroom. Now that everyone is settled in, we are ready to dive into our "Land Before Time" theme. As you may have noticed, we have already begun to transform our room, so keep looking for more exciting changes to come. We still need some items to help transform our dramatic play area into a safari campsite, so if anyone has any old camping gear or book bags to lend or donate, we would greatly appreciate it.

We had a great trip to Johansen Farm. The highlights seemed to be holding baby chicks, walking through the corn maze, feeding goats, getting pumpkins, and of course riding on a real live school bus. A big thanks to all the parent volunteers. You all really helped make the trip enjoyable.

We would like to welcome four new families to the PCEL: Evari Snyder, Joshua Carter, Khalil Rashad, and Carly Crudup.

Everyone has been doing a great job washing their child's hands at drop off time. We want to do all we can to keep our group healthy, so keep up the good work! We are still looking for parents interested in donating 35 mm film, disposable cameras, and making photocopies for credits. Talk to one of your teachers for more details.

We intend the "Land Before Time" theme to be in depth and long term, so check the parent info board for updates on our weekly activities.

**Explorers Team**  
**Alix, Angi and Dot**

## IMAGINATION STATION

We had a great field trip to the Johansen's Pumpkin Patch. Everyone had a good time and they loved their pumpkins. We had pumpkin doughnuts and apple cider for snack that afternoon.

We look forward to the room Halloween party and the all school party. We will see some alum families, which is always nice. We are working on our tree project. We "adopted" a tree in Harold Washington park. We observed the color of the leaves (green); we took pictures of it and wrote about it. We also made a tree with green leaves for an art project.

We will do a nature walk each week and record through photos, art projects, and stories what we see.

We will begin our Alphabet Show and Tell the first week of November. Each child will bring something from home that begins with the letter of the week, and show and tell about it. We will also do projects around that letter. Look for our yummy recipes too!

We will vote in November between books we would like read to us, and finally we will do some Thanksgiving projects.

Have a Thankful and Happy Thanksgiving!

**Imagination Station Team  
Babs, Tracy and Stacey**

### Website News

Webmaster Jeannie Dilger-Hill is looking for photos of kids at PCEL (or on field trips) to post on the website. Send them to dilgerh@yahoo.com. And be sure to check out the website at [www.parentcoop.org](http://www.parentcoop.org) for the latest issue of Sweet PCEL, a new Google calendar, and more!

## 2008-2009 TUITION, FEES and OTHER REMINDERS

**Tuition** is due on the 1st of every month, with a grace period that ends on the 10th. A \$20 late fee is assessed if tuition is paid after the 10th day of the month.

The **annual Program Activity Fee** of \$250 is due on October 31st, 2008.

### Explorer & Imagination Station tuition:

Full-time - \$880  
Part-time - \$660  
Siblings - \$792  
Daily Rate - \$60 per day

### Discovery Room tuition:

Full-time - \$865  
Part-time - \$648.75  
Sibling - \$778.50  
Daily Rate - \$60 per day

### Attendance/Drop Off Policy

Children should be at school no later than 9:30 am unless you have informed the teacher of a doctor appointment or an emergency arises. Please call the school if your child will be absent or late for school. If your child is out of class because of sickness for more than 3 days, you must take your child to the doctor and bring a doctor's statement clearing the child's return to the school. If you are going on vacation, please let the school know in advance.

### Cubby Cleaning/Clothing

Please keep your child's cubby free of school letters, soiled or dirty clothing, food, or art work. (You can hang up those great works of art at home or work.) Every Friday the cubby should be cleaned out. Bi-weekly check to see if your child needs more clothing, tissue, wipes and other items that teachers have informed you to bring. Please label your child's clothing with his/her name - it reduces loss and confusion of ownership.

## Picture Day

Teddy Bear Portraits is coming to the PCEL on Wednesday, October 29th at 9:00 am to take pictures of your children. Please stop by the office to fill out your child's picture form.

## DISCOVERY ROOM

Can you believe it! It's October already. Time to say "Hi" to fall and "Good bye" to summer. Halloween is just around the corner and before you know it Thanksgiving will be here. You know what that means for the Discovery Room: Busy, busy, busy!

Our themes for the months of October and November are:

Sept 29 - Oct 3 – Fall  
Oct 6-10 – Colors  
13-17 – Shapes  
20-24 – Halloween  
27-31 – Halloween cont.  
Nov. 3-7 – Sense  
10-14 – Vegetable  
17-21 – Thanksgiving  
24-26 – more Thanksgiving

100 Days of School project has begun (Oct. 1st). We count each day until we get to 100. We will let you know each month where we are in our counting. Remember that on Wednesdays we have dance class at 9 am, and on Thursdays we have music with Marsha.

Please remember to check cubbies daily and see teachers for things you can do to earn your credits. Please make sure your child has a full set of clothes appropriate for fall/winter in his/her cubby because accidents do happen and we have no clothes in the Discovery Room. Be sure to check your folders and cubbies for items or papers to take home.

We would like to take the time out to introduce our room parents for this school year: Noah (Siah's Dad) and Emil (Jana's Dad). Happy Birthday to all our October and November Birthdays.

Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving!

**Discovery Room Team  
Charlotte and Jackie**

