



# SWEET PCEL NEWS

Newsletter of the Parent Co-op for Early Learning

Vol. 29, 2010

September/October 2010



## We need you!

The PCEL Board needs you!

All parents are eligible to run for the board and are welcome to do so. The only qualification is a desire to help run the school decisions. Among the board's many duties are supporting the director and staff in running the school, making policy decisions, organizing various committees and devising yearly budgets.

See Monica for additional details. Serving on the Board and or/Committee is a fun way to earn credits and to get to know other PCEL families.

## Save the Date!

### Johansen Farm Field Trip Tuesday, October 12

Join us for an exciting day at the Pumpkin patch.

The bus leaves the school at 9:15 a.m.

### Halloween Party Saturday, October 30

The PCEL Annual Halloween party will be held on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> with lots of treats and fun Halloween decoration throughout the school.

## Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for choosing the Parent Cooperative for Early Learning, Inc. to educate your child. After four weeks into school, most of the children have settled into their routine and feel comfortable with the staff. We had a great general membership meeting and shared a lot of great information. If you did not attend the meeting, please come by the office to pick up a parent handbook, bylaws and calendar for the school year.

Our school nurse came by on September 24<sup>th</sup> to observe the children and to check on medical forms. On October 12<sup>th</sup> you will receive a compliance form if your child medical records or personal folder are not up-to-date. The school nurse will visit PCEL twice a year- in the fall and spring. She will also provide training for staff. Parents, if you still have any paperwork please bring it into the office.

Happy Fall!

**Monica Foster**

**Director**

## Important Reminders

### Breakfast Snacks

Parent Co-op provides an adequate snack for your child at 9:20 each morning; but if you drop your child early and want her/him to have a snack make sure it is nutritious. Refrain from sending potato chips, soda pop, gum and candy.

### Field Trips

It is always wonderful to have parents join us on field trips. The added adult supervision helps staff tremendously. Safety of course is our main priority. Simple rules for parents are:

- Stay with your child's classroom so staff can keep count of children in their group.
- Do not purchase any food or souvenirs during the field trip; other children can become quite upset when they don't receive the same.

### Cubbie Cleaning/Clothing

Please keep your child's cubbies free of school letters, soiled or dirty clothing, food or art work. The cubbies should be cleaned out every Friday. Check if your child needs more clothing, tissue, wipes and other items bi-weekly.

### Late Pick Up

It is important to remember that the staff work day ends at 6:00 p.m. and although we love our children dearly, staff must be ready to go home at 6:00. A late fee of \$1.00 per minute is charged to parents. That fee goes directly to the staff member and should be paid the same day or the next day at the latest.

## Imagination Station

We have started the school year with a class at full capacity. We have five new children: Kevin, Mikaila, Bailey, Xavier and Wesley. Welcome to everyone!

We are happy that the weather is still nice enough to play outside. Let's hope that it holds a little longer.

Stacey and I have our hands full; Tracy moved to the Discovery Room so we are looking for a third teacher to replace her.

At the beginning of the school year we spent time on self-portraits and "Tell me a story" activities.

We are now enjoying our second month of school. We had a wonderful turnout for both the general membership meeting and the room meeting. Thanks for the great attendance.

We have started Spanish - our emphasis right now is on numbers and later on colors.

"Music Together" also began this month. Our group is really enjoying singing along with Miss Irene.

To all parents, please bring the 2-inch binders and dividers that we asked for. We need them for the children portfolios.

We are looking forward to the trip to Johansen Farm. Of course we hope to have a really great weather. The bus will leave at 9:15 a.m.

Have a great Columbus Day Holiday!

**The Imagination Station Team**

**Babs and Stacey**

## The Explorers Room

Welcome new Explorer families and welcome back to those of you who joined us this summer! The school year is off to a great start. We've had a lot of fun getting to know each other. As to be expected, there were a few tears, but all in all, everyone is settling in nicely and quickly showing that they feel right at home. We spent the first few weeks learning to follow our daily routines and how to play in each area of the classroom. Our curriculum topics for the month of September were "All About me", "All About my Family" and "All about Friends."

Fall is in the air and we look forward to all that we will learn in the months to come. We will spend October talking about transportation theme, which we will break into sub categories including land, air and water. Please let the teachers know if you have knowledge on those topics, we would love your participation!

We are looking forward to our first field trip to the Johansen Farm pumpkin patch. A big thank you in advance to everyone who is joining us. Your help and support are always appreciated. Please join us in welcoming Torrey and his family who will be joining us this month.

On a different note, as cold and flu season is upon us, we look to you to help us keep your little one's healthy. Please continue to make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for outdoor play as well as Kleenex and wipes. When you are washing toys that are sent home please soak them in a solution of 1 tablespoon of bleach per 1 quart of water. If you would like to earn credits helping to sanitize our classroom,

## Events Calendar

### October 7, 2010

Cookie Dough Fundraiser begins

### October 11

Columbus Day Holiday - No school

### October 12

Johansen Farm Field trip

### October 16

Parents Night out event (Fundraiser)

### October 25

PCEL Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser forms are due!

### October 29

Halloween classroom parties (see classroom October calendar)

### October 30

PCEL Annual Halloween Party

please talk to one of us. We are happy to have extra sets of helping hands.

Finally, we can already see that we have a group of creative thinkers and problem solvers and we can't wait to see where their minds take us over the course of the year. If you have questions about anything, please do not hesitate to ask!

**The Explorers Room Team**

**Alix, Angi, Dot**

## Discovery Room

Welcome everyone!

We are off to a great start!

We would like to welcome our new friends - Jacob Hayes, Max Bartalis, Jacob Roberts and Miles McNair - and their families to the school and to the Discovery Room. We would also like to welcome our new friends that have moved over from the Imagination Station.

In September we focused on the following topics:

Sept 6 -10: All about Me

Sept 13 – 17: All about Me continued

Sept 20 – 24: Emotions and Feelings

Sept 27 – Oct 1: Autumn

We started to learn how to write letters of the alphabet. We began with uppercase and lowercase letter “A, a”; we will learn to write a new letter every week.

Your suggestions and comments are welcome to improve the Newsletter - whether it is a story you would like to share, advice, children activities outside of school, funny photos, etc. You may send them to Aminata at [apsene@yahoo.com](mailto:apsene@yahoo.com) by October 29<sup>th</sup> for the November/December issue.

Thank you!

We are getting ready for our first field trip of the school year to the Pumpkin patch on October 12<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to this trip every year!

Our topics for the month of October are:

Oct 4-8: Colors

Oct 11-15: Shapes

Oct 18-22: Patterns

Oct 25-29: Halloween

The letters we will be focusing on this month are C, T, S and H. The numbers are 1,2,3 and 4.

Our class Halloween party will be on Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

As always please make sure your child has a full set of clothes: shirts, pants, socks and underwear. Also, check your child folder daily for important information about the classroom. Thanks to everyone who came to the Room meeting and let's have a great school year.

Happy Birthday to all our October birthdays!

Happy Anniversary to Tracy and Charlotte; they both celebrated 9 years at PCEL last month.

Welcome Tracy Harris to the Discovery Room.

**The Discovery Room Team**

**Charlotte, Jackie and Tracy**