



## 😊 Small Talk 😊

### The Monthly Newsletter of Bethlehem Preschool October 2018

Bethlehem Preschool, Inc.  
397 Rt. 9W, PO Box 4, Glenmont, NY 12077  
(518) 463-8091 www.bethlehempreschool.com

---

Welcome to October!!

---

#### School Calendar for October / November

Please note that Preschool will be **closed** on **Monday, October 8** for Columbus Day. We hope you enjoy the weekend!

#### School Photos – October 23 & 24

We **close at 1PM** on Monday, **November 12** for staff training.

We will be **CLOSED** on **Thursday, November 22 AND Friday, Nov 23** in observance of **Thanksgiving**.

---

#### Halloween and Other Celebrations

With Halloween around the corner, we would like to take the opportunity to share our philosophy on celebrating holidays.

Holidays and festivals are celebrated in conjunction with broader themes such as fall harvest or pumpkins. Classroom teachers plan activities which allow the children to become familiar with the holiday and to discuss and experience the similarities and differences of other cultural celebrations.

Our philosophy of learning emphasizes the importance of a child-centered classroom; therefore, all food, cards, masks, and costumes are made in school rather than brought from home. **Please do not send in Halloween candy, masks and costumes.** If you are interested in sharing your family or cultural traditions, this is the perfect

opportunity. Please feel free to speak to your child's teacher. For further information, please check your parent handbook or speak to a director. Thank you for your cooperation.

If you are having a birthday party for your child at home, we have lists of home addresses for each class. **We ask that you mail or email the invitations – Please do not place them in the children's Preschool mailboxes.**

---

#### Seasonal Clothing

Please check your child's extra clothing box to be sure there is clothing that is appropriate for the cooler weather and is also the correct size.

---

#### No Home Toys

We are asking you to please leave your child's "home toys" at home. We already have a great selection of toys in the classrooms and we have noticed that home toys can cause some unnecessary problems between children. The only acceptable toy from home is **one stuffed animal for rest time.** The stuffed animal must be small enough to fit into your child's blanket cubby along with the blanket and will only be taken out at rest time. Thank you for your cooperation.

---

#### Fund Raisers

**Photos:** Our annual fall photography days are

**Tuesday, October 23 and Wednesday, October 24.** BPS makes a portion of each package sold. Please mark your calendars.

**Recycling with Fund Factory:** For the past few years, we have participated in a program to recycle used inkjet cartridges and laser cartridges. Please save these items from your home and office. We can earn \$1 for basic inkjet cartridges.

**Tools for Schools:** Bethlehem Preschool is once again participating in Price Chopper's "Tools for Schools," a program in which Preschool earns bonus points based on purchases at any Price Chopper. Program points are earned on your Price Chopper **AdvantEdge card**.

**A big thank you to the families who added their AdvantEdge card to our account. We now have 97 AdvantEdge cards enrolled for Bethlehem Preschool!** If you have not yet enrolled, Preschool can enroll for you (leave your 10 digit AdvantEdge card number and your name on a note at the front desk,) or you can enroll on line at [www.pricechopper.com](http://www.pricechopper.com). Our school code is **18650**.

**Discount Books:** This year we are selling the discount book "**SaveAround**" The book sells for \$25. Each family received one "**SaveAround**" book to purchase and an order form to sell the book to family, friends and co-workers. If you sell 5 books, you get 1 free! **If you do not want to purchase the book, please return it to the front desk immediately.** If you are selling books at your work or to family members, please wrap up your sales and turn in your orders by **October 12**. Thank you in advance for your help with this fund raiser.

---

### Book Orders

Thank you to those families who ordered Scholastic books in September. Please let us know if there were any issues with the order.

Consider placing your book order on-

line. Create a username and password at [www.scholastic.com/bookclubs](http://www.scholastic.com/bookclubs). On the parent page, click the "**Don't have a user name and password?**" link, and register for your own username and password. When prompted, enter the one-time **Class Activation Code** for Bethlehem Preschool, **GTCDJ**. Follow the instructions for ordering the books. The books will be delivered to Bethlehem Preschool along with the "paper order."

This month's orders are due **Wednesday, October 16**. Make checks payable to **Scholastic Reading Club**.

---

### Classroom Notes

**Infants:** The start of the new school year has been wonderful! We love meeting new friends and welcoming new families. And speaking of families, we would like to have more family photos to hang in the classroom. The children love to look at them throughout the day. We also take a lot of photos throughout the year to watch all our babies grow.

We love to go outside every day, so please dress your child appropriately for the weather. Check your child's box to make sure they have extra clothes and other supplies.

Exploring with new toys and sensory bins is a great way for the children to grow and learn in so many ways.

Please remember to wash your child's hands each morning when you arrive. It is a great way to start each day, especially with the cold weather and runny noses headed our way.

Please feel free to speak to us with questions and concerns at any time. No question is too big or too small!

~ **Michele and Brianna**

**Toddlers:** Happy October! The children are settling in nicely and are having a lot of fun.

We enjoy the outdoors, but the weather is changing so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. Mornings are quite cool, so bring in jackets.

We will continue doing simple projects with apples and pumpkins. We can't wait to

carve a pumpkin and get our hands and fingers nice and gooey! Our friends really enjoy art and have fun playing and learning in the classroom.

We love visitors! If you are interested in coming in to read or participate in a simple project, please let us know. Also, if you have not yet brought in a family photograph, please do so; the children love to look at the photos during the day.

Please check your child's extra clothing box for warmer fall clothes.

Happy birthday to **C** and **A**.

~ **Alicia, Tara & Jenny**

**Twos Room:** We made it to October! What a great September we had in the 2s room. We are all settling in nicely, learning the classroom routines, and enjoying art and, especially, outdoor play time.

Our friends are so excited about the new fish in our room. We have named them Chocolate, Orange and Sunset.

In October, we will enjoy "**Apple Fun.**"

Our art projects and cooking projects will be filled with apples! Also, we will be sending home a "**Family Fun Bag.**" Enjoy the project in the bag, and then please send it back to school for the next family.

With cooler weather approaching, please make sure your child has a coat and appropriate extra clothing.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak to one of us.

~ **Kristen, Tera & Cassidy**

**Threes Room:** Happy Autumn to you! The Three year olds are excited and ready for fall fun. We enjoyed getting to know our new friends this past month and learning about each other. During our study "**Beginning the School Year,**" the children learned ways to stay safe, be respectful, and work together in our classroom. Our "**Apples**" study was especially fun....and delicious! We explored the parts of the fruit, painted with apples, sang songs and much more. We hope you enjoy the recipe for the applesauce bread we baked. The children ate every crumb!

It is exciting to see our beautiful art work displayed in the classroom. The Threes enjoy creating and working with arts and crafts materials to express themselves. October will find us painting at the easel, designing stained glass leaves, decorating scarecrows and participating in other fall projects such as pumpkin carving, reading books about the season, and taking nature walks. The studies of the month are "**Scarecrows and Corn,**" and "**Leaves and Pumpkins.**"

We are very aware and curious about the changes happening outdoors! A family activity you can do at home is to take a walk through the woods and collect autumnal items to share with the class. We can add brightly colored dry leaves, acorns, pinecones, gourds, large smooth stones, and other pieces of nature to our science sensory table.

Happy birthday to **L, K and A.**

Here's to a month of imagination, exploration, and investigation!

~ **Jared, Ashley & Vanessa**

**Pre-K Three/Fours:** Our school year is off to an amazing start! It was a great way to end our apple study by taking a tour and picking apples at Indian Ladder. Thank you to all our parent volunteers for making it such a successful trip. Our class has especially enjoyed taste testing different kinds of apples and baking with apples.

We will be taking our second field trip to Stanton Farms soon. We are waiting to hear back from the farm for a specific date. Thank you in advance for your participation in field trips- we couldn't do it without you! Look for the sign up soon.

This month we will be working on two studies: "**Pumpkins**" and "**Nocturnal Animals.**" If you have any special books related to these topics, please label them and bring them in so we can share them with the class.

Our class has been learning to recognize our names and how to write/trace our names. Please continue to practice these skills at home.

We look forward to a fun-filled fall.

Happy birthday to **R, L, G and M!**  
~ **Maura, Stephanie & Brenda**

**Pre-K Fours:** Happy Fall! We can't believe September flew by already! We are having a lot of fun getting to know each other.

During the month of October, we will stay busy exploring all about autumn. Our studies for the month will include:

- Fall
- Fire Safety
- Pumpkins
- Cats, Bats and Spiders

We will continue working on sequences, the numbers 3 and 4; the letters D, P and B.

We will begin sending home the "Show and Tell" bag with one child each night. Please bring the bag back the next school day! Remember, only one item goes into the bag.

Thank you to all the drivers who drove on our field trip to Indian Ladder Farm. The children enjoyed cooking and baking with all the apples we picked. We are waiting to hear back from Stanton Farms for the date of our

next trip. We will pick pumpkins, go on a tractor ride and slide on a hay slide. We will get the sign-up sheet up as soon as possible.

We are off to a great start so far this year!

~ **Tara, Sherry & Angie**

---

### **Calendar of Events**

**Oct. 8 – Columbus Day - BPS closed.**

**Oct. 12 - "SaveAround" coupon book orders due.**

**Oct. 16 – Scholastic Books order due**

**Oct. 23 & 24 - School Photos**

**Nov. 12 - BPS CLOSES at 1pm** for staff training

**Nov. 22 AND Nov. 23 – Closed** for Thanksgiving