

A Fly on the Wall...

Pre-first with Mrs. Barta

The pre-first children enjoyed learning all about colors. Each student has written their very own color book that will be "published" for the party in late Spring. The young authors have been remarkable with their writing and creative illustrations! We continue to work on sentence structure, using capital letters when necessary, and punctuation. In language arts, we have been learning about digraphs which are two letters together that create one sound. The children are becoming digraph detective experts! In math, we have been comparing numbers, representing sums of 10, counting "up" and "down" on a number line, making tally marks and graphing. The pre-first enjoyed their first time together as "Team Marvel." We were able to spread joy throughout the school as well as remind the students about the Redeemer Rules: Be Kind, Be Safe and Have Fun! We have a class full of incredible



Spanish with Mrs. Wyatt

iHola! So far this year, Spanish class has been fantastico. We started the year learning about where the Spanish language is spoken and about words that are the same or similar in Spanish and English. We learned how to introduce ourselves and ask, "How are you?" We learned a number of different adjectives we can use to describe how we are feeling. We learned how to count to 10 and had a quick lesson on how to count to 100. We learned all of the colors and played a number of games to reinforce them. For Halloween, we woke a sleeping spider and made Jack-O-Lanterns. In the weeks to come, we will talk about the Day of the Dead and some of the other holiday celebrations in Spanish speaking countries. ¡Feliz Halloween!

Library with Mrs. Cummings

Greetings from library! September has been filled with learning the different parts of a book, library checkout routines and enjoying back to school stories. This month we have been focused on all the fun to be found in Autumn such as apples and farm life. We even had time to enjoy some classic Halloween stories. Happy Reading!



The 2s with Mrs. Pyzik & Mrs. Zuidema

October has flown by in the 2s! And we've had so much Fall fun. The children are all acclimated to our classroom and routine now and I think we're over the first month of school jitters- for all of us! The children have continued to explore our room and are slowly learning to play together, and which toys are the most popular :) We started off the month talking about all things Fall! Trees, Apples, Farm Animals and the changing of the seasons. The children painted using apples as stamps and made beautiful watercolor leaf prints that we used to decorate the classroom which made for a cozy Fall feel. We danced around the room pretending we were way up high in an apple tree and practiced counting down from 10 using apples. We have quite a group of music lovers. Dr. Seuss' book 10 Apples Up on Top has become a class favorite and the children are all helping me count down from 10. Our Farm Animals week was tons of fun and quite messy! We muddied up some pigs using a large plastic zip loc bag, brown paint and shaving cream - this was a fun sensory experience! Once the pigs dried they were very very dirty. We also played outside in a sensory bin of dyed green and yellow rice and large plastic farm animals and some smaller plastic farmers. The children loved the way the rice felt on their hands. The children also all painted on one large piece of paper using only the animals as the paint brushes. Once the animals were good and muddy we took them outside and filled the water tables with lots of soap and bubbles and scrubbed them down. They were very muddy animals! Most recently it's been all things Halloween and pumpkins. We carved our own big pumpkin out on the playground and played with the insides and pulled out the seeds which wasn't easy because they were so slimy, but we used scoopers and pinchers, and this was a fun way for the children to really use their hands and fine motor. We're now busy making spooky Halloween spider webs and cotton ball ghosts and talking about what we're all going to be for Halloween -it is so much fun to hear their answers. As with all our units we have a several wonderful stories that accompany the theme, the children all seem to really enjoy sitting down for story time in our classroom which is a nice way for us all to wind down. Whew! It's been a busy month as you can see. We look forward to next month and talking about what we're all so very thankful for.

Science with Mrs. Craig

In science all the classes enjoyed our duckling visitors from Quiver farm. The duck eggs and incubator arrived last week. Our classes played mother duck by turning the eggs throughout each day, and on Monday morning we were surprised with 6 little ducklings waiting for us in the science room! Three more hatched throughout the day, and the students were excited to watch the process. We sure will miss watching them and hearing their sweet little peeps when they return to the farm at the end of the week!

The 3s with Mrs. Blair, Miss Ball, Mrs. Hobson & Mrs. Wittstadt

The threes have been enjoying everything that Fall, and the Halloween season has to offer. We have learned about and explored the worlds of spiders and bats, discovered what's inside a pumpkin, created the color orange (and as a result, painted many art projects!) We also became scientists and predicted the weights of various gourds in comparison to pumpkins. We also tested them out in our scale to see if we were right! We have been practicing and exercising our imaginations through reciting and acting out "Little Miss Muffet" and "5 Little Pumpkins." This not only reinforces our early reading skills but also strengthens our friendships through sharing, playing and learning. Every day we read, read, read!! Please continue to do so at home as well. Please also continue to work with your child to put their masks on independently. Thank you for the incredible Fall Festival of Activities. What a treat! The 3s teachers have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating the gifts of October with your children.



Values with Mrs. Smith

Now more than ever, it is vital to teach your child important values to make the world a better place. Respect is a vital value to teach your child from a very early stage. Respect everyone, no matter what age, race, religion, or status they may be. Teaching respect helps them be to be kind and thoughtful to strangers they will encounter daily. It will also help them be kind to you no matter what stage in life they are at. Having good manners is another essential value to teach your child. When they have good manners, they can better interact with people on a daily basis in a considerate and thoughtful way. The more you practice and use good manners, your more your child will as well. Teaching manners can be as simple as always using please and thank you. In Values we teach the children how to become the best version of themselves.



Kindergarten with Mrs. Smith & Mrs. Vandenberg

Your kindergartener has already been learning by leaps and bounds! We are more than halfway through the alphabet and their sounds and are already sounding out words. During writer's workshop we are really working hard at writing words by sounding out each sound that we hear in the word. In math we are counting and comparing numbers 1-10, working with ten frames, learning how to do simple word problems, figuring out how many more to make ten, and writing the numbers 1-10. During the month of November, we will be learning about nutrition, Native Americans, Pilgrims, and the first Thanksgiving. Please continue to read with your child every night.

Pre-k with Mrs. Arrup, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Knott & Mrs. Wyatt

The Pre-K classes are having a great time learning through Exploring, Experimenting, Engaging in Exciting activities and even going on an Exit hunt throughout the school. The children have just spent some time with the letter Ee and had fun with estimating the number of objects in different containers, watching a chemical reaction in our experiments with green foam and getting to see an actual duck hatch out of its' egg! They are connecting the letters and their sounds, counting with ten frames, cutting, painting on the easels and learning how to take turns and share with classmates. There have been lots of stories read and we are always listening for those rhyming words! We are looking forward to finishing up our farm unit but not before we talk about pumpkins, corn and scarecrows and all the harvesting that takes place. Fall is such a wonderful time to explore nature and we will be looking for signs of change all around our campus. The children have enjoyed all the wonderful activities of the Fall Carnival and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Halloween Parade!



Music with Mrs. B

In the Threes and PreK we are enjoying some spooky and fun Halloween music! The K, pre first and 1st are listening and exploring the orchestra playing Grieg 's In the Hall of the Mountain King and acting out Saint Saen 's Dance Macabre! Lots of imagination and ghostly fun! Do you know what instrument the Ghost plays?

Art with Mrs. Craig

It's been super spooky in art this week! The 3s made beautiful watercolor diffusion pumpkins and painted bats. The PreK classes created a pumpkin patch at night. Last week we did direct drawing pumpkins and this week we painted the pumpkin patch. Kindergarten did a wonderful job with their tempera pumpkins that we glued onto a watercolor landscape. Pre-first created paper bag Halloween tree sculptures filled with colorful fall leaves, pumpkins, and ghosts. First grade traveled to Japan to learn about artist Yayoi Kusama, whose art is filled with dots. We painted foam pumpkins, filled them with our own dots, and



PE with Mrs. Craig

All classes have been enjoying a variety of fall and Halloween themed games! A favorite is Ghostbuster tag. When players are tagged, they have to perform jumping jacks until they hear the word "ghostbuster" in the song. We had a build a skeleton relay race and tried to drop clothespins into a pumpkin bucket. We also got our Zen on with a Halloween yoga pose story.



First Grade with Mrs. Hoover

First grade has been busy traveling all over North America! We spent time in Canada learning about the wildlife, people, and government. We even gave Curling a try (minus the ice). Then we traveled south to Mexico and learned about the Day of the Dead. We celebrated by trying a variety of foods from Mexico, dancing the Hat Dance, making our version of sugar skulls, and having a chili pepper relay. We read I Am America by Charles R. Smith Jr and are writing our own book about our class. We all decided we are lucky to live in such an interesting and diverse country! In Language Arts, we have begun reading and phonics groups, and the kids are getting so independent at our Daily 5 Centers. We are working on personal narratives in Writers Workshop, and the first graders are learning how to add details and juicy words to make their writing more interesting. We continue to work on using capitalization, punctuation, and complete sentences in our writing. In Math, we have been playing a variety of games to build fluency for combinations of 10. We have also been working on problem solving. They are learning to identify important information from the story to solve the problem and to share their strategies using pictures, numbers, and words. The kids are very excited to be able to lead the school in prayer at Chapel and to begin "Hi Neighbor", an exciting new first grade partnership with Govan's Elementary School.

