



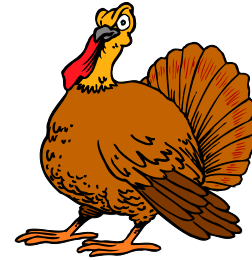
ERDMAN NEWS

www.erdmanpreschool.org

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It's a busy season at Erdman!

Here are some special upcoming events to put on your calendar

Homemade Soup with your Older Three or Four

MTTH 4's class on Thurs. 11/17

4 Day, MWF AM & PM 4's and MWF Older 3's classes on Fri. 11/18

Watch for your invitation!

HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG & PAC BAKE SALE - DECEMBER 15 & 16

Please save these dates to join your child at our traditional sing-a-long at 11:15 or 3:15 on the last day of school before the holiday break. Every child needs a special adult with them and siblings are welcome. Our Parent Committee holds a spectacular holiday bake sale to benefit the school during those days. November and December are busy months at Erdman. Please make sure to read the Newsletters, classroom message boards and check your child's bag every day to stay up to date. We thank you!

HARVEST HAPPENINGS

Don't miss "Understanding Your Preschooler's Social World" on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 pm with Katy Shamitz, Social Coach and Educator right here at Erdman. See attached & please RSVP!

In October the Scituate Fire Department visited all our classes. We learned about fire safety and had a chance to squirt the hose on the pumper truck. We will now practice our evacuation drills every month. Every class has been busy exploring the change of seasons and the fall harvest. We have taken nature walks and made nature gluings with our finds. The science tables are full of interesting fall items and we'll continue to look for seeds, leaves and dried materials. (Living Things and their Environment) Just before Halloween we focused on pumpkins, learned how they grow, carved jack o'lanterns and roasted seeds for snack. We also saved some to plant. Each class will take their jack o'lantern to the edge of the woods where it may become home to a white-footed mouse ([Mousekin's Golden Home](#)) The Fours

are planning a field trip to the Webster Cranberry Bogs in Norwell to watch the harvest on November 9 and 10. Watch for details and permission slips! Soon they'll make pickles with children doing the cutting and measuring. The Threes are still learning classmates names and school routines. They are becoming more self-sufficient, learning to care for themselves in the bathroom, take care of their belongings, pack up their school bags and walk up or down the stairs with you each day. They are enjoying the seasonal activities and paraded with their creative, colorful masks at Halloween. This month we'll begin to talk about families, traditions and nutrition. We'll make vegetable soup from scratch in all classes. The Fours will grind cranberry relish and the Threes will make corn muffins and butter to bring to Thanksgiving dinner. If you have special family holiday traditions we welcome you to share them with your child's class between now and Christmas. Please talk with your child's teacher to plan a visit.

Many parents ask us when their child will learn letters and numbers. It's happening all the time

within our curriculum! At this age children do not learn well by rote. They may be able to recite the alphabet or count to 20 (or 50 or 100) but have little understanding of letter sounds or number concepts. Here are several examples of how we introduce children to letters and their sounds. At meetings, the Fours often draw scrabble letters out of a bag and brainstorm words with that beginning sound. In one class the mystery box is sent home and comes back with an item that begins with the first letter of the child's name. We use letter boxes with several small items that correspond to letters in curriculum topics. "C" for cranberries, "P" for pumpkin and "N" for November are current examples. When we connect letters to topics that children are interested in they begin to understand the importance and relevance of letters and become interested in further investigation. All classes ask children to put their name on artwork and projects. Everyone has a journal to write in. Other small books for writing in are available along with many ABC puzzles, games, stamps, stencils and magnets. Letters and numbers are talked about every day – in songs, stories, counting the number of children present, counting items for snack, how many children are allowed in the jumping bed or loft. As the year goes on, children trace and paint their initials, their age and learn their phone numbers and addresses. Classroom books help them understand how they can put their ideas into words! We do not do group "lessons" because each child is at a different stage in their understanding and interest level. To force a child to participate in activities they are not yet ready for is counterproductive. We provide countless opportunities for children to be exposed to number concepts and letter names and sounds. We pick up on their interest and guide them along the road to developing sound pre-reading and pre-math skills.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **THERE IS SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 8!**
- **No School – November 11 – Veterans Day**
- Lazy Eye screenings will take place on 11/3 & 11//4 during classroom time. Permission slips have gone home.
- Threes are now welcome at Lunch Bunch. Information/permissions slips have been sent home and must be returned before attending. Please check with your child's

teacher about their readiness for Lunch Bunch. **You may call Monday morning to sign up for Monday Lunch Bunch.**

- **Thanksgiving Break: No School on Wednesday, 11/24, Thursday, 11/25 and Friday, 11/26.**
- Threes conferences – early December
- Fours conferences – mid-January

REMINDERS

FOR SAFETY'S SAKE....please do not park beside the orange cones. This area must be clear for children and parents entering and leaving the playground. Turn off your car's engine and ask a friend to watch siblings in the car if you don't want to bring them inside. Children should never be left alone in the car nor should they be allowed to run between the car and the playground at drop off or pick up time. ***Please dress your child warmly as the playground can be cold and windy.** Layers are great. **Hats and mittens are necessary.**

* Please arrive and pick up on time so that your child can start the day with his or her classmates. If you are delayed due to an emergency, call the office so that we can reassure your child that you are on the way.

*** At both drop off and pickup please come INSIDE the playground fence and make verbal contact with your child's teacher before leaving.**

*You are welcome to be on the playground with other children as long as there is no class or Lunch Bunch outside.

*Darcy is available in the office Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9 to 2, to answer questions about tuition, required forms and book club, etc.

PAC EVENTS

Get ready for the holidays!

Shop at the Toy Box in Hanover on November 27th and/or the Harbor Light Toy Company on December 1 and a percentage of the proceeds will benefit our school.

Join other parents for informal socializing at the Dog Watch after shopping on Dec. 1st.

A huge thank you to everyone who has participated in Helping Hands. Your donations are making a big difference!

LOOKING AHEAD...

Registration for September 2012 will begin in January for Erdman families, past and present. More information will follow in December's newsletter, but please urge interested friends to call the school now for registration information and to schedule a visit.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Winter is just around the corner. In case of bad weather we follow the Scituate Public School cancellation policy. **No school in Scituate means no school at Erdman. A one hour delay means a one hour delay at Erdman. Any delay longer than one hour means no school at Erdman. Listen to WBZ (1030AM), WATD (95.9 FM), WJDA (1300 AM) or watch channels 4, 5 or 7. You may call the Scituate no school number at 545-8787 or check the Scituate schools website at www.scituate.k12.ma.us. It is your responsibility to access this information.** We will call you if we must cancel school for another reason.

WISH LIST

We are in need of one or two parents with very basic sewing skills (stitching a straight line) to help prepare a holiday project for the Threes.

The office is looking for a 2-drawer lateral file, 30" w by 20" deep. Let us know if you have one to recycle. Thank you!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Order for the Holidays! & Oooooops

The Holidays are right around the corner and Scholastic is a great way to get ahead of the game with books as gifts. Last month I gave you the wrong Activation Code. SORRY! If you have not registered yet, please feel free to do so as a PARENT at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs and use our Class Activation Code GX772 (not GX722). Registering is free and allows you to take advantage of all the great books and materials available.

The deadline for the Holiday book order is **Tuesday November 22**. We need to allow atleast two weeks for processing/shipping the order. So take a look! Contact me with any questions or problems. Thanks! Darcy darcyconlin@gmail.com

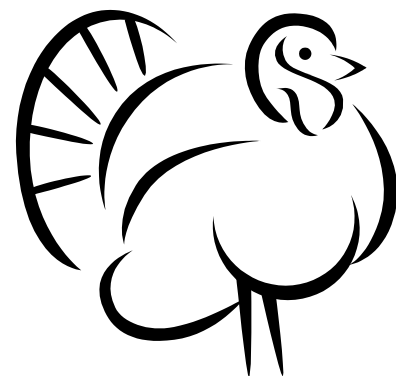
AFTERNOON EXPLORERS

We are off to a fantastic start in our Afternoon Explorers program. We will continue exploring the alphabet with fun, hands-on activities. November will include outdoor "D"iscovery, literacy activities, science "E"xperiments, exercise, talking about our "F"eelings and much more. Come explore with us!



"B" is for binoculars!

*HAPPY THANKSGIVING
TO
ALL OUR ERDMAN FAMILIES*



You can find a copy of the newsletters and the events listed here on our website at:

<http://erdmanpreschool.org>