

ERDMAN NEWS

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FAMILY OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15

**5 to 6 pm for 4 day 4's, MTTH 4's, T Th AM & PM 3's,
6 to 7 pm for MWF AM & PM 4's, MWF PM 3's,
WF 3's**

All the family is invited to visit school this evening.
Let your child show you his classroom and his work.
Enjoy cider and refreshments made by each class.

This format, similar to the Family Gathering, makes it less crowded for you to visit your child's classroom, view his/her artwork class books, pictures and enjoy your class's homemade snack. If the times listed are not convenient for your family's schedule then please come whenever you can. A special invitation will follow.

Welcome to a new year at Erdman! It was great to see so many of you at the Family Gathering and parent-teacher conferences. We hope you are excited about the year ahead. Special thanks to Maureen Mustard and Julie Nicolo, PAC co-chairs, for arranging the Family Gathering and recruiting Class Ambassadors to keep you informed of special PAC events. A special thank you, too, to Patty Thompson, Caitie Kurtak, Laurie Kelly, Jen D'Alotto, Kim Spires and Maureen and Julie for cleaning the playground and to Nico Afanasenko, Sasha's dad, for building a new balance beam! Everyone is invited to the first PAC meeting on Tuesday, October 6 at 7 pm in the Big Room to learn about this year's plans.

OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

All classes have been busy learning classmates (and teachers) names, making friends and becoming acquainted or reacquainted with school routines and expectations. This is an especially big job for Threes and you may notice that they are more tired than usual. Everyone is adjusting well to the new school experience and we are off to a happy start. Each month in this

column we will note several examples of the [Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences](#) that are part of our curriculum to help you understand how we use these principles. Would you like to know more? Please refer to the "Curriculum" section in the Parent Handbook for an overview. We have several copies of the [Guidelines](#) available for you to look at and/or borrow. More examples of the [Guidelines](#) at work in our school day can be found on the Parent Board. Most importantly, please ask us any questions you may have! The [Guidelines](#) allow us to document how we are helping your child develop a solid foundation for later academic learning.

During October all classes will watch the change of seasons, take nature walks and bring back interesting items for the science table and creative projects. (Science – Living Things and Their Environment, #16) They will explore apples, cranberries, pumpkins and corn and do lots of cooking. The aroma of applesauce and other apple and cranberry treats will fill the school. The Fours have already enjoyed an apple picking trip and will try to watch the cranberry harvest at a local bog. (History & Social Science #10) We will try to give you

several days notice about field trips but they depend on the weather and when busy people can accommodate us. The Scituate Fire Department will visit on October 20 and 21 to talk about fire safety, show us the truck and let us squirt the hose. We will have our first evacuation drill during that week. (Health Education – Safety & Health Care #24). The month will end with some very low key Halloween activities. Most will focus on pumpkins. Fours may bring a costume to school for our parade to other classrooms. Please make sure that the **costume and the bag it comes in are labeled** with your child's name. Threes do not wear costumes but we will make masks in school for our parade. If you would like to provide a special treat (not candy) for your child's class please speak to the teachers. Thank you for remembering our NO NUT policy. Please remember to read the white message boards and check your child's bag each day. Along with the monthly newsletter these are our major means of communicating with you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- No School – October 12 – Columbus Day
- **SCHOOL PICTURES will be taken on October 6 & 7 by Stephanie Olson who has taken great pictures for us for several years. An order form has been sent home. Please read it carefully and fill it out completely so that your order can arrive on time (in about 3 to 4 weeks).**
- Lunch Bunch begins for Fours classes on Monday, October 5. Information/permission slips have been sent home with your four year old.
- October 15 – Family Open House
- October 26 -Toddler playgroup begins. Ask Debby for more details.

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 pick up time.

** Please dress your child warmly as the playground can be cold and windy. Layers are great. Girls will be most comfortable in warm tights or pants. Please label ALL clothing. Hats and mittens will be necessary very soon.

** Brief, loving good-byes with a quick kiss and a reassuring word are easier for both you and your child. We will call you to let you know how your child is doing and you are welcome to call us if you are concerned at any time.

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

** At both drop off and pick up time 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 on Tuesday from 11:00 to 3:30, all day Wednesday and Thursday from 12:15 to 3:30 to answer questions about tuition payments, book club and other school programs. Stop in or give a call.

PAC EVENTS

Are you able to donate some time or some needed supplies to the school? Then our new "Helping Hands" venture is for you! Just pick a hand from the Parent Board, purchase the noted item on your next shopping trip and bring it to the office. You might also choose to donate your time as a Lunch Bunch helper once or twice a month. We hope that with this help we can keep our budget on track and provide some extra funds for special events for kids and families. Let us know what you think.

- ERD hats (\$15. for adults and children sizes) and ERD car magnets (\$5.) are still available. See Debby or Julie Nicolò.
- Looking ahead.....Toy Box Shopping day on November 22. 20% of your purchase benefits the school. More information to follow.

THANK YOU...

For helping your child start the school year on such a happy note. We are enjoying getting to know our new families and reconnecting with former ones. Please let us know how we can help you.