



400 West Union Street
Bloomington, Illinois 61704

October 2010

The Monthly

View

President's Letter

Time is going by too quickly! There are so many fun family activities this fall—at my house we sometimes have a hard time choosing which to do. Preschool parents have been busy putting together some of these events. The ISU Homecoming Parade was a blast. The weather could not have been more perfect. Some children rode on the trailer and waved to the crowd. Others threw handfuls of candy. Parents handed out flyers to let families know we're here and what our preschool is like.

Our next fun event is the Fall Family Funfest. This is one of the preschool's major fundraisers and a fun way to raise money! Children will have another chance to wear their Halloween or dress up costumes. The hall will be decorated with fall colors, hay bales, pumpkins, and brightly colored leaves. You will enjoy family games with prizes, chili and snacks to munch on, and a book walk where everyone has a chance to win a book—there's something for everyone! At last year's Fall Family Funfest, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and family friends came along for the fun, and all are welcome this year as well.

With Thanksgiving around the corner, my family is working on a Thankfulness Quilt. We borrowed the idea from a book, *Kindness Quilt* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, and we're creating a paper quilt full of things we're thankful for. We're hoping to each create a square every day and have a full wall by Thanksgiving Day! For Antonio's first square, he said he is thankful for Mrs. Jennings. I have a feeling a 'thankful for school friends' square is coming soon.

I hope you are enjoying fun fall days with your family, and that you have much to be thankful for.

Terina

Mom to Antonio, 4s a.m.

Child-friendly websites

<http://pinkandgreenmama.blogspot.com>

<http://www.princessandthefrogblog.blogspot.com>

<http://www.sandiegozoo.org/kids>

<http://www.starfall.com>

Calendar

- 11/7 Fall Family Funfest, 4-7 pm
- 11/9 Parent Board Meeting, 6 pm
(All parents are welcome to attend!)
- 11/24-11/26 NO SCHOOL
- 12/13 & 12/14 Winter Programs, 3's & 4's
- 12/14 Parent Board Meeting, 6 pm

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A Teacher's View

A Note from Mrs. Jennings

Dear Friends,

The conferences were a wonderful success! It was so good to see everyone and get to know your family just a little bit better. I am truly looking forward to the weeks and months ahead as I learn even more about your child.

As I remember the childhood of our children (and how quickly it went) I am reminded of all the choices we have each day. We can encourage (or discourage) our children with a word or a look. We can offer our time and attention or can be 'too busy.' We can read a book together or go for a walk. We can provide activities and toys that stretch the imagination. We can speak often of our love for others and our respect for ideas different than our own. We can love a child because they return the love wholeheartedly. I would be interested to hear of ways that you find to be positive with your child. Perhaps you will share these ideas with a friend.

As you enter another busy season with your family I hope that you and yours will take the time to enjoy one another and make some special memories!

Looking forward to another week!

Mrs. Jennings



A Note from Miss Mary

We have been in school for almost two months now, and I can see so many changes in all of the children. They are excited to be at school, find their names on their hooks, wash their hands (with soap!), and use their words to ask a friend for a turn. Our circle times are filled with singing, dancing, reading, and great conversations. We are taking turns at activities and learning the virtues of patience and sharing.

We do many things during the day that aids in the growth of the children's social and emotional development. The process of socialization is critical as children learn the values and behaviors accepted by society. It also helps the children become more confident in their abilities. With these areas developed, they are better able to communicate with friends, better able to listen and better able to take on new tasks.

Thank you, parents, for reinforcing good social behaviors at home.

Miss Mary



Wellness

This is certainly the beginning of cold and flu season. It is in the best interest of all the children (and teachers) if your child remains at home when they are sick. Children with noses that must be wiped constantly, sleepiness, coughing, and other symptoms of a cold should be left at home. A fever is **always** an indication your child should be at home. Your child will recover more quickly if they can rest in their own home and have the attention of their family. We understand that children may seem well when left at school, but their condition can change quickly. We will call you when we feel a child would benefit from home rest. Please respond as quickly as possible.



ISU Homecoming Parade—A Success!

We had a wonderful time participating in the ISU Homecoming Parade in October. The weather was beautiful and the children enjoyed waving to the crowd and handing out candy.

Children enjoyed riding on the trailer and in wagons on the parade route. (top left, bottom left)

Thanks to Cecily Parmalee (Lily's mom, 4's p.m.) for toting a few students on her surrey. (right)



Student Records

If you have not turned in items needed in your child's school file, please be sure to submit them as soon as possible. The school is required to have this information as part of our certification from Department of Child and Family Services. If items are missing, the school may incur penalties.



Santa Letters

This was a great fundraiser started by parent Patty Patti-G'Sell last year. She has a direct line to the big guy at the North Pole—she asked for letters to be sent to any child whose parents requested one, and each child received a personalized letter in the mail. I know my kids' eyes lit up when they received their letters. The feedback for this was so positive that we're planning to do it again this year. Keep an eye out for more information.



ArtSonia

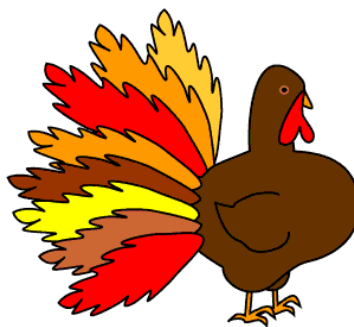
<http://www.artsonia.com> is up and running! If you have granted permission for your child's art to be published on the website you may now view the first works published online, purchase an array of items emblazoned with the image of your choice, and invite friends and family to the same. If you did NOT sign and return permission form and would like to, you can at any time. See details on the bulletin board or ask Julie Lynd or Lisa Rattan.

ArtSonia is designed primarily to showcase children's art, but anything you purchase will generate a donation to our preschool (15% of proceeds from the sale). Please note that you can upload additional pieces and siblings' art as well (ask us if you need assistance!). Consider ArtSonia for your holiday gifts! And don't forget about GreenRaising (<http://www.greenraising.com>) for holiday shopping as well!



Bulb Sale & Rummage Sale

Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make these two fall fundraisers a success!



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!