

STEPPINGSTONE

October 2016

October

Author Unknown

*Leaves are glowing in the air
Leaves are blowing everywhere.
We go down the road to see
Apples dancing on a tree.*

*We say hello to Autumn leaves
New teachers and the school.
We say good-bye to vacation time
And swimming in the pool.
We say hello to shorter days
And longer, darker nights.
We say good-bye to family trips
And seeing all the sights.*

*October is
A month of change,
It really does
Seem very strange.
Suddenly
The trees are bare,
And signs of frost
Are in the air.*



Tuition for October is due by 10-5-16

We realize that at the start of the school year there are so many things happening at once that some things get way-laid. As of now you should be remitting the **October payment**. If you are unsure of which payment you should be on, please call Mrs. Leake and she will help you determine your status.

Dates to Remember

UNIT - Community Helpers

CHURCH PET BLESSING - Sunday October 2nd - **ALL ARE WELCOME**

STUDENT PICTURES - Thursday, October 6th Mrs. Moore's Students

Friday, October 7th Mrs. Leake's Students & Miss Marissa's Students

COLUMBUS DAY - Monday, October 10th - School Closed

FIRE HOUSE TRIPS - Friday, October 21st All Students (combined event)

HALLOWEEN PARTIES - Thursday, October 27th Mrs. Moore's Students

Monday, October 31st Mrs. Leake's and Miss Marissa's Students

10:00-11:30 AM Both Days (this is a shortened day)



The Teachers Desks

The children have settled in nicely and are getting use to our class routine. They have already made new friendships and are exploring new learning experiences every day. We have held classes in both classrooms, this gave the children time to explore and become familiar with both of the classrooms.

In September our unit was Concept of Self - "God made me Special". The children have been learning about different ways God made each one of us special in our own way and what are some of our similarities. One day we made a graph using the children's hair and eye color and we also graphed whether they were a boy or a girl. The children learned the importance of eating healthy, drinking plenty of water, and exercising to take care of their bodies. Our class also explored their five senses through a fun food tasting activity.

This week the children are learning about what it was like when Jesus was a baby and as he was growing up as a young boy. We are comparing it to what it is like being a child today. We will finish up our unit with our Culminating Event (end of our unit) sampling food Jesus may have eaten that we can still eat today. The children will make matzah and we will have asbusa (this is a type of cookie bar) and grapes. I will be sending home information about a project the children will be doing at home called "What I Want to be When I Grow Up".

In October we will start our unit about "Community Helpers" along with our visit to the Tinicum Firehouse. We will also have a unit about "Autumn/Fall" that will include Halloween where we will discuss the differences between real and pretend. At the end of the month we will have our Halloween Party on October 27th. The children will come to school at 10:00 AM, not our regular time, dismissal will be normal time 11:30 AM. The children will arrive in costumes. Do not send in any type of pretend weapons, wands etc. save your props for trick or treating. *We will have a Halloween Parade approximately 10:10 AM on the 27th family and friends are invited to attend. The children will parade inside the Church Hall in their Halloween costume, we will bring the children into the hall. We ask for everyone to stay seated at the tables when the children are having their parade. After the parade the children will return to the classroom for their Halloween Party. The party is for the children only.

Happy Halloween! Mrs. Barbara Moore



Dear Parents,

I cannot believe that September is over and October has begun! The children have adjusted so well to our classroom routine and not too many tears have been shed.

We have accomplished so much since the start of school. We have reviewed colors, shapes and started our weekly alphabet letter. We have reviewed the letters Xx, Ss and Aa. Please have the children bring in their "Show and Tell" using any item that begins with the letter of the week. If they cannot find anything with that letter, please just have them draw it. The children seem to really enjoy this activity and it also gives them a chance to do a bit of public speaking.

We talked about how God made us all different and about God's Creation. The children learned about 5 Senses and how important it is to See, Hear, Taste, Smell and Touch.

We enjoyed our 5 Senses activity. We were able to feel sea shells, a smooth glass egg, a geo and cooked pasta. The children used their sense of taste with tasting a lemon which was sour, oranges which were sweet, an apple that was tart and pretzel sticks that were salty. We used our sense of smell by smelling, basil leaves, cinnamon and minced garlic. We used our sense of hearing by listening to the outside noises and we turned out the lights and closed our eyes to see what it would be like not being able to see.

I would like to say a special THANK YOU to SPC Michael Lawlar for coming into the classroom to talk to the children about his special job in the Army. The children had loads of fun listening to his job description and loved being able to try on his Army helmet and vest. We thank you SPC Michael Lawlar for your service to us and to our country.

*In the month of October, we will be discussing about our Community Helpers (Firemen, Police officers, Teachers Nurses etc.) We are also going to discuss about Halloween and how not to be afraid of the masks. We are going to talk about **REAL** and or **PRETEND**. We will also be reviewing letters Bb, Ee, Ff, Hh, Pp, Oo, and Qq. I look forward to another great month ahead.*

Mrs. JoAnn Leake ☺

Dear Parents!

September has flown by so fast! The children have adjusted so well and we have accomplished so much. We have reviewed our shapes and colors. We also have begun our weekly alphabet letter. So far we have learned the letters Oo, Qq, and Hh along with the numbers 3 and 4.

I will be sending home weekly emails letting you know what our letter and number of the week. Please have the children bring their "Show and Tell" that begins with the letter of the week. They also can draw the letter of the week. They love to participate in Show and Tell and I strongly encourage them to do so to practice their public speaking skills.

For all those who have returned their "All About Me" papers, THANK YOU! If you have not done so yet, please do as soon as possible. I will be having the children present them beginning next week.

The children have enjoyed our "7 Days of Creation" lesson and the many fun art activities along with it. We had fruit stamping, cloud paintings, playdough creations, planting seeds (please water them. The kids love telling me how their flowers are doing) as well as the marshmallow people. They had so much fun learning the hand motions that went along with the story. Ask them about it.

We also talked about our 5 senses and what makes us special. They enjoyed the various activities that helped them learn about their senses including the "Mystery Bag" for touch, guessing the sounds, special snack for taste as well as the mystery smell and the fun pictures for sight.

For the month of October, we will begin our lessons on Community Helpers and discuss Halloween and what is Pretend and what is Real. We will also be reviewing the letters Ii, Pp, Aa, Xx and Ff.

I am so excited for October and to see where this school year takes us. We will have so much fun!

Mrs. Marissa Howard



Church Pet Blessing

Saint Stephens Church will be hosting a **Pet Blessing** on **Sunday October 2nd, 2016**. During the **10AM** Children's Message, children and adults are welcome to bring their stuffed animal friends to receive **God's Blessing**. Later that afternoon at **2PM**, children and adults are welcome to bring their furry, feathered, scaled and shelled friends to receive **God's Blessing**. Animals must be on leashes or in cages and tanks.

All are welcome to attend!

If you would like more information about this church service, please contact **JoAnn Leake 610-237-1043**.

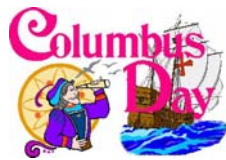


Picture Day

Preschool picture day is coming! Fliers were sent home with each student with full information pertaining to possible packages and options. It is recommended to dress your child in bright colors for best results.

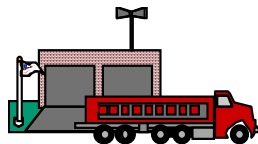
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6th for Mrs. Moore's Students

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7th for Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Students



Columbus Day Holiday

MONDAY, OCTOBER 10th is Columbus Day and school **WILL BE CLOSED**. Mrs. Leake's and Miss Marissa's Monday students will **NOT** have regular class.



Fire Prevention Week

October holds "Fire Prevention Week", in accordance; the children will be learning several important safety factors during this time. The Tincum Township Fire Company is working closely with St. Stephen's Preschool with plans in the works for a trip to "Fire Station". Due to the fire station's busy schedule we must combine our classes for this trip. Thus, all of our students, both Mrs. Moore's and Mrs. Leake's, will attend the same day and same time.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21st for Mrs. Moore's & Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Students

9:30 AM - THIS IS A COMBINED CLASS EVENT

A parent or guardian must accompany all students for the entire visit.

We will meet at the firehouse at the above-mentioned time, **NOT AT THE SCHOOL**. After our tour the students will be dismissed for the day, **no return to school**. Please be prompt and on time. Your child should receive a reminder slip for this trip via their cubbies.

The firefighters of Tincum Township would like us to inform you to be aware that **Daylight Savings Time changes on Sunday, November 6th**. This means for you reset your household clocks as well as **change the batteries in you smoke detectors**.



Halloween Celebrations

This year's Halloween parties will be held on the following dates. Please note that the class party times are 10:00 to 11:30 AM both days. It is a shortened school day for the children. There will NOT be afternoon classes that day.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27th for the Mrs. Moore's Students
Monday, OCTOBER 31st for Leake's and Miss Marissa's Students
10:00-11:30 AM BOTH DAYS

There will be sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for those parents wishing to contribute party items. If you are signing up for a treat, please bring it in the day of your child's party and label it with your child's name & class. Please supply treats enough for all class sizes. (Ask teachers for class count).

The children are to come to school in costume. Please **DO NOT** allow your child to wear a mask. Many preschoolers are frightened by false faces, and have trouble seeing through those tiny eyeholes. A good alternative is to use face make-up, which is less frightening and much safer. **Please no weapons of any type accompanying costumes.**

Weather permitting; classes will parade, in costume, within the schoolyard. Families and friends, feel free to stay and view the parade from outside the fenced area. In the event it is raining, the parade will be held in the church hall.



Communications & Attendance

The preschool staff understands that it is only the 2nd month of school; however, all ready we are experiencing problems with incorrect or outdated telephone numbers and email addresses. We cannot stress enough the importance of this information and its accuracy! (Imagine yourself trying to reach us, when your child is in our care, and our phone number being incorrect or disconnected!)

PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IMMEDIATELY IF THERE IS A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, E-MAIL ADDRESS OR EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME & NUMBERS.

As well, please be **prompt** in picking up your child - 11:30 AM for the morning classes and 2:30 PM for the afternoon or full day classes. It is very upsetting for a young child to be left waiting after all the others have gone. Your child depends on you and trusts you to be there. Also, our staff of teachers have private appointments of their own to meet after classes. If an **emergency** arises, please call us so we may reassure your child and explain why you are late. Parents' continued lateness would be brought to the attention of the preschool's governing body.

The "Pick-Up ID" tag with your child's name must be shown to the teaching staff for your child to be released. **No child will be released to someone other than you without a tag; this is for your child's safety.** If a Pick-Up ID tag is not presented, your child will be retained until we can make contact with you regarding their release.

Also, we are asking that the students be dressed in casual, easy access clothing. Student outfits with belts, flies, tights, etc. are just beautiful, however, so impractical for potty time. Please try to dress your child in clothing that has elastic waistbands and outfits that are easy for the students to tend to bathroom emergencies. There is nothing worst than trying to aide a student for potty, along with a possible 19 others waiting in line doing jigs, with clothing that takes forever to adjust.

Form 8883 EMERGENCY INFORMATION CARD		Allergies _____	
Please Print		Grade _____	Home Room _____
Student's Name _____			
Address _____		City _____	State/Zip _____
Where can parent/guardian be reached if not at home?		Home Tel. _____	
Mother/Guardian _____			
Father _____			
LIST OTHER PHONE NUMBERS: Home _____		Cell Phone _____	
<small>In case of accident or serious illness, I request the school to contact me. If the school is unable to reach me, I hereby authorize the school to call the physician indicated on reverse side and to follow his instructions. If it is impossible to contact this physician, the school may make whatever arrangements seem necessary.</small>			
<small>OPTIONAL INFORMATION: Your school may or may not require you to complete _____</small>			
<small>The following medications may be given: <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no - SUGARCO <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no - BENADRYL <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no - TYLENOL <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no - ASPIRIN <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no - MISC.</small>			
Front of Card			

Emergency Cards

There are still some student emergency cards that have not been turned in as of yet. It is very important that we have these cards for contact information within the classrooms. We ask that you please return them within the next week. Should you need one just let the teachers know and we will send it home with your preschooler.



Birthday Board Photos

Please don't forget to send your child's snap-shots for the birthday bulletin board. There are a good many student faces not yet displayed. Many of the children have been asking why their picture is not on the board, and we must explain **they're coming**.

School Contact Numbers

Preschool Administrative Office - 610-237-1043 (9:00-2:00)
 (Email Address - sstephen0004@gmail.com)
 Preschool Teaching Classroom - 484-494-5858 (8:30 AM - 2:30 PM)
 Church Administrative Office - 610-461-0490



Upcoming Events

ELECTION DAY - Tuesday, November 8th - **NO SCHOOL**

VISION TESTING - Tuesday, November 15th Mrs. Moore's Class & Wednesday, November 16th Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes.

The children will be having their vision tested by the **Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired**.

COOKING DAY - Thursday, November 17th Mrs. Moore's Class & Friday November 18th Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes

THANKSGIVING SERVICES & CELEBRATIONS - Tuesday, November 22nd Mrs. Moore's Class & Wednesday, November 23rd Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes

Family members are encouraged to attend the church services. Prior to the church services the students will have their parties. Look for sign-up sheets for party treats.

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th - **NO SCHOOL**
CHRISTMAS CHURCH DINNER - Saturday December 3rd - **ALL ARE WELCOME!** - More info to follow

CHRISTMAS PAGEANTS - Saturday, December 10th

The students will be presenting an adaptaion of the Christmas story in the church proper. All family members are invited to attend. The pageant times are 10 AM & 12 PM (students will be assigned times).