

November 2008 Newsletter

Thanksgiving Holidays will be November 26, 27, 28

*****Early Release Tuesday, November 25 at 12:00*****

3 Year-Olds

This month our three year-olds will be remembering all that we are thankful for. We will learn that "Every perfect gift is from God." James 1:17. We will continue our unit on "Autumn Fun", then we will learn all about "Sizes, Shapes, and Locations". We will end the month by "Giving thanks to God." Psalm 136:1 and studying "Thanksgiving". Our Thanksgiving parties will be November 24 (M/W and M/W/F) and November 25 (T/F). Thanksgiving holidays are November 26-28. We are continually "thankful" to have such wonderful children in our classes this year!

4 Year-Olds

November begins with enriching activities of opposites, sizing and spatial concepts. Proverbs 1:5 "A wise man will increase in learning." Thankful hearts lead us into the traditions and history of Thanksgiving and lots of turkey talk and turkey fun. Our trip to the Mayborn Museum will set the stage for our historical exploration of the Native Americans and Pilgrims. All classes will be giving thanks to God and learning about the importance of the first Thanksgiving. Colossians 1:13 "We give thanks to God." John 15:14 Jesus says, "You are my friends." As a service project, all Pre-K classes will be collecting canned/dry food to stock some of our local food pantries. Dates to remember:

Mayborn Museum: Dates and times to be announced. Please watch for information to come home in your child's folder.

Thanksgiving Parties: Dvorak: Monday, November 24, 2008. All other classes: Tuesday, November 25, 2008.

Thanksgiving Holiday Break: Wednesday, November 26 - Friday, November 28, 2008.

5-Day 4 Year-Olds

We are going to keep your children busy. Themes for this month include: Manners and Thanksgiving. Our party is scheduled for November 25 at 10:30 a.m. During our Thanksgiving Unit, we will visit the Mayborn Museum. More information on this will be sent home later. Our service project includes collecting canned goods for local missions. Check your child's folder for more information. Some of the skills your children will be learning will include: letters, patterning, shapes, positions, counting objects, and nursery rhymes. We will also sharpen our listening abilities. Bible verses include: Colossians 1:13 and John 15:14. All of our Bible verses are connected to the themes for the month.

Kindergarten

We have some fun things planned for November in Kindergarten! We will be studying the letters S, F, R, K, and B. It seems we are gliding right through the alphabet. Our students are becoming great readers already, and will have even more practice this month. In Math, students will study numeration in regard to practical things like their telephone number. They will also begin exploring geometry through some fun activities. Everyone is enjoying the cool weather and learning quite a bit about Fall! "Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker." Psalm 95:6.

First Grade

November is a wonderful month as we take time to really focus on all the blessings our great God has given to us. One of our Bible memory verses for the month is Psalm 46:8 "Come and see what the Lord has done. He has done amazing things on the earth." We will practice sharing from our abundance as we participate in Operation Christmas Child and in bringing food items for a local family that needs encouraging. In Social Studies and Science we will study about pioneer America and the use of simple machines and how we continue to use them today. We are looking forward to our Thanksgiving meal and singing on the 12th. We will present a Thanksgiving Reader's Theater for our parents on November 25 at 11:30. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

Second Grade

November is such a great month to reflect on what we are thankful for. We are continuing to discover more of God's Promises through the life of Moses. We almost have the whole armor of God memorized (Ephesians 6:11-20). We are learning more about grammar as we look at nouns, pronouns, and verbs in Language Arts. In Reading, we will continue our novel study of "Pippi Longstocking". She is a very interesting girl who had a very different life. We will have many great discussions about her life and ours. Math is everyone's favorite subject this year, so we are trying to keep it challenging with number patterns and beginning the very basics of multiplication and division. We will also be starting fractions. We will be looking at our nation and our world in Social Studies. This should be a great month of learning together.

Third Grade

As we look forward to November, we are excited about the promise of cooler temperatures, as well as the "cool" things we will be studying in third grade this month. We will learn about "sowing and reaping" during our Bible study. One of our verses comes from God's promise in Proverbs 3:1-2 "My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you prosperity." In Math, we are "multiplying" our enthusiasm, as we anticipate our upcoming celebration. After mastering all of the facts through 12 x 12 this semester, we definitely look forward to our "Lemonade and Popcorn Multiplication Celebration" which will kick off the New Year in January. In Science, we will study about the solar system. Social Studies will give us the chance to discuss the voting process as we grow near to the time of the election. As we approach Thanksgiving, we will have fun writing a Thanksgiving story...from the turkey's point of view! In Language Arts, we will also write from our hearts about the many things for which we are so thankful, as we create our "Pumpkin Patch Praises". Praise God for the many blessings that He has bestowed upon us!

Fourth Grade

Fourth graders are thankful for the month of November. This month we will memorize the six verses of Psalm 1, and then start on Luke 2:4-14. In Bible we will be discussing the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ - our main reason to be thankful in this season of Thanksgiving! In Math we will estimate products and experiment with different methods of multi-digit multiplication. Keep practicing basic facts at home to help us do this quicker and easier. In Language, we will study verbs and write comparison/contrast papers. In Social Studies we continue to learn about the Native American people of Texas, and in Science we will discuss sound, electricity, and start our unit on the ocean. On November 11, we will take a field trip to hear the Waco Symphony at Baylor University. As a school, we will celebrate with a Thanksgiving Lunch on November 12. Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Fifth Grade

Hello from 5th Grade and Happy Thanksgiving! It is hard to believe how far into the school year we have already come. Just around the corner are the holidays promising us a time of rest and family gathering. With grateful hearts we turn our attention to all we have to be thankful for. I am ever grateful for the precious children God has entrusted to my care this year, and I am grateful for all the support, prayers and encouragement I receive from you, their parents. This month in Social Studies we will finish up our study of the US electoral process and will be learning about the European explorers to our continent and the earliest European settlements. In Math we will continue studying whole number operations and will work on problem solving techniques. In Bible Study we will be learning about how severely God regards a complaining heart as we study the Hebrew people during their 40 year desert wanderings. Our Bible verses for the month are Matthew 6:25-34, in which we continue learning not to worry because God knows our needs and will provide for them. BLESSINGS!

Seventh and Eighth Grades

During the month of November, the seventh and eighth graders are beginning interesting new material. In History, we are learning about, as well as running, the school election. With the Presidential election so close, this is an excellent time to talk about elections. In English, we are beginning the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird". In this novel, we will learn about themes such as the Coexistence of Good and Evil, the Importance of Moral Education, and the Existence of Social Inequality. In Bible, we are reading Joshua and the Judges. We will watch a movie about Samson and Delilah. In Science, we are beginning book two of our LifePac Series. The theme will be "Perceiving Things" and involves measurement and units. In Math, we are still working on Fractions. Each book of fractions that we complete gets us closer and closer to understanding each complex layer of fractions. We hope that you and your family will have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.