



## PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Goodbye to our warm, beautiful Oregon summer and hello to an all too familiar fall. We have had an excellent start to the new year, meeting new families and welcoming back returning Unity kids. There are still openings in some of our classrooms, so tell your friends and family about our fantastic program and support our growing community.

Up and coming dates to mark on your calendar:

- \* Parent conferences @ Unity--October/November. Please check with your classroom teacher to sign up for a conference.
- \* October 10th, 9am-11:30 am-- The smile bus will be here! This is Unity's version of school pictures. If the day isn't one of your scheduled attendance days, please feel free to bring your child during the time the smile bus will be here if you want a school picture of your child.
- \* October 17th, 6:30-8:00--Unity School's Harvest Carnival! Come celebrate the fall with us and enjoy activities, food and fun!

Friendly reminders and info:

- \* Please be respectful of our 5-minute parking spot (the drive-thru part of our driveway). We do understand that parking is not ideal, however, we are trying to accommodate all types of drop off/pick ups, so please--only use the drive-thru space if you plan on being quick. Your cooperation in keeping this space clear for those in a hurry is greatly appreciated. On the subject of parking, we do appreciate when you turn your ignition off in the parking lot. It keeps the air healthier for everyone, especially our children.
- \* Unity has an ongoing fundraiser of wonderful Unity shirts, lanyards, and grocery bags. Not only is this a fundraiser for our school, but it helps to get the word out around town about our wonderful program.
- \* Classrooms will be planning their field trips to local farms to collect pumpkins and have a fun tractor ride. Be on the lookout for dates and times for each classroom. Parents are always welcome; please let your teachers know if you are going along on this fun event!

Thank you all for your support and commitment to making Unity such a special and one of a kind program!

Our office is always open, stop by and say hi!  
Chris and Susanne

# OFFICE MANAGER

Hi Everyone,

I hope your first month of the new school year has not been too painful for everyone with all of the enrolling children and updating paperwork. By the way, I wanted to say thank you to all of you for turning in your paper work and having patience with me until all of it was turned in.

October is the beginning of the holiday season and we have lots of things going on around here during this time of year, so please watch your parent boards in the classroom, the Calendar on the back of the newsletter, the calendar in the lobby, the website, and often times teacher will put notices in your mailbox in the lobby. So, please keep an eye out for any updated news.

Also, remember if you have any questions or concerns that you can talk to me any time — in person, by phone, or email.

Have a great month,  
Virginia

## PANDAS

Hi Panda Families!



Let's start this fall by welcoming all of our new families, and watching a few of our friends move on to Caterpillar Land.

The first week of school was dedicated solely to exploring the new environment, getting to know one another, and observing interests. The children have all been very interested in talking about colors and shapes. So, we started the second week of school by creating a web. You can see the webs we create on are bulletin board near the door in our classroom, as well as, our daily schedule and daily planning sheet which shows the activities we work on each day.

We have been busy Pandas! We have made green play dough, melted crayons on a hot plate, and painted with a variety of tools, including our hands, fingers, Q-tips, paintbrushes, and circles from our shape sorter. You can find our art displayed on the wall, or in your child's art file, which is located just above the cubbies.

We are learning how to hold crayons and markers, as well as, replacing the caps when we are done using them. We are also learning to assemble puzzles after we dump them out, and are practicing clean up in general.

The Pandas are all doing great in the bathroom! The children are regularly sitting on the toilet, and often times producing positive results. We're so excited! We are working hard on the hand washing process: soaping, rubbing our hands together, and thoroughly rinsing and drying our hands with only one or two paper towels.

As you know, we are transitioning into cooler wetter weather. So, thank you for checking your child's cubbies, and ensuring he/she has plenty of layers, including a jacket and possibly rain boots. October is

a very busy month here at Unity! Be on the lookout for more info, and dates posted on the calendar in the lobby.

Here are a few reminders:

- \* Picture day — Friday October 10<sup>th</sup>
- \* Harvest Carnival — Friday October 17<sup>th</sup>
- \* Panda Field trip to Johnson Family Farms for a tractor ride and to pick a pumpkin — Friday October 24<sup>th</sup> (Feel free to join us, or meet us there)
- \* Panda Conferences — The last week of October.

Thanks,

Cherri & Celia

## CATERPILLARS

The Caterpillar class had lots of fun in September. We worked on color identification, self-help skills, using our words and started our shape of the week.

Each week we will focus on a basic shape and when we finish we will be moving on to letter of the week. Look for collages of the shape of the week on our children's artwork board.

The Caterpillars are all working on their self-help skills, serving themselves food, putting on their own coats, taking them off, and hanging them up. A few favorite activities from last month were finger painting, baking soda and colored vinegar science projects, making flubber, and playing color and shape recognition games at circle. Don't forget to check out our daily activity sheets on the parent board back by the cubbies.

We will be going to the pumpkin patch this month so watch for updates on our classroom parent board as well as the main parent board outside the main office. Parents' are welcome to join us for our field trip and also always welcome in the class as well. Let us know if you can join us!

Our first circle of the day starts at 9:00 am, so we would appreciate it if you would do your best to arrive 15-20 minutes before our Circle time. This will give your child time to settle into the routine of the day, and gives them some time to get their wiggles out and connect with their friends outside before starting the morning activities.

Please remember.....

- \* Coats
- \* Rain boots
- \* Change of clothes
- \* Nap blanket that fits into a nap bag
- \* Sharing day is on Fridays



Caterpillar staff,

Tara, Jessica, and David

## LADYBUGS



Dear Wonderful Ladybug Families,

We have gotten off to a great year!! The Ladybugs are having so much fun learning and building new friendships. We hope everyone feels comfortable enough to keep communication open between family and teachers. Please ask us if you have any questions or concerns.

Dorothy and Michelle want to remind everyone to check the **planning sheet** (above cubbies) and the **"Parent" board** (in our class by front window) each day, not only to see what new things we're learning and doing, but also to read some of our class stories and discussions. Just recently the kids have gotten involved in building the parent board... one boy found a "B" sticker to add to the letter of the week and another child designed a "bee" to hang up.

The Ladybugs are also doing well in earning class parties!!! We have one more day to fill on our calendar for **"Pet Care Sign Up"** (see our classroom door) and the kids have half filled their **"Pom Pom Jar"** (every time that we see listening ears or kindness we put pom poms in the jar)!!! WAY TO GO LADYBUG KIDS!

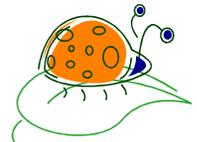
Thank you for remembering extra clothes and jackets. Continue to keep your eye on the sky in case rain boots and heavier coats are needed. Also, thank you for remembering to take nap things home every week for washing. So far... we haven't had any major illness outbreaks and we'd like to keep a healthy classroom.

Keep checking your mailboxes for the upcoming **Picture Day** (Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>), the **Pumpkin Patch** field trip (Oct.) and **Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences** (something new this year).

Here's to a great fall!

Love Ladybug Teachers (Dorothy, Michelle and Mandolin)

## BUTTERFLY'S



Happy Fall Everyone!

We hope you all had a wonderful, fun and safe summer.

The school year is in full swing, and we are all having so much fun exploring our new class and getting to know each other better.

This month is going to be really full. It's our month to volunteer for pet care, so please look for the sign-up sheet outside our classroom door! Thank you in advance for your kindness!

Important Dates:

- \* Friday, Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> — Picture Day!!
- \* Friday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> Pumpkin patch field trip
- \* Friday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival
- \* Wednesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Teacher Cassie will be on vacation

The weather is beginning to change, so please remember to bring in a spare (weather appropriate) change

of clothes, a raincoat, boots, and please have your child wear a warm jacket or sweater every morning. Thank you.

This month we will be doing a lot of basic skills practice to prepare for our fall conferences in November. Fall is finally here, so you will be seeing a lot of "fallish" activities coming home too!

Well, have a great month and as always, please feel free to chat with us if you have any questions or concerns.

Happy Fall!!

Pammie & Cassie

## OTTER PUPS & OTTERS



Welcome to the new school year! What a great start to the year we have had. You should have all gotten a kindergarten welcome packet or an "Otter" welcome letter giving you information about the class. Let us know if you did not receive one or if you have any questions or comments.

The Otter-pups do a weekly 'web' of ideas to have a focus for learning. This 'web' gets posted on the 'Parent Board' if you ever want to check it out! The sound of the week also gets posted on the board and our daily activities. So far this year we have 'webbed' about: school, maps, animals in Oregon, and ramps. The letter sounds we have focused on were a, p, m, and s. The kinders have also all received a math packet that they can work on here at Unity or at home as 'homework' if they would like to. Have your child turn it in once they are finished and they will get a new one to work on. Ask your child if they have been working on their math packet!

It has been a lot of fun in the afternoon with the Otters a.k.a. the 'big kids.' They have been working on Lego structures, creative art projects, homework, harvesting in the garden, and all kinds of other things! Please let us know if your child is not getting their homework done here at Unity and you need them to.

We will be planning a field trip for the Otters and Otter pups to go on together to the pumpkin patch sometime this month. Please keep an eye open on the parent board and in your mailboxes for a flier with more details on this.

Please sign up to take care of the outdoor pets on a weekend in November! The Otters and Otter-pups are responsible for the weekend pet care in November if they want to earn a party. Also, as many of you know, we have started a sign-up sheet to take, Hermoine, our guinea pig home for the weekends. It is a fun way for kiddos to learn about taking care of pets. If you would like to do this, then please sign-up! The sign-up sheet is on top of her cage.



Happy fall! Sincerely,

Teachers Jessica and Sarah

# OCTOBER 2014

| MONDAY              | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY                           |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|----------|----------------------------------|
|                     |         | 1         | 2        | 3                                |
| 6<br>TUITION<br>DUE | 7       | 8         | 9        | 10<br>PICTURE<br>DAY             |
| 13                  | 14      | 15        | 16       | 17<br>HARVEST<br>PARTY           |
| 20                  | 21      | 22        | 23       | 24<br>SCHEDULE<br>CHANGES<br>DUE |
| 27                  | 28      | 29        | 30       | 31                               |