

OCTOBER

2016

Unity School Newsletter

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PROGRAM DIRECTORS

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 a few openings in some of our classrooms, especially in our new half-day (3/4 year old) Sea Turtle class so tell your friends and family about our fantastic program and support our growing community.

Thank you families for all of your support with our Munchkin Run fundraiser!! It was a HUGE success!! The children had lots of fun AND we raised money to update the Caterpillar classroom next summer! Check out the fundraising thermometer to find out where we are with our fundraising efforts.

Unity has an ongoing fundraiser of wonderful Unity shirts, lanyards, and grocery bags. Not only is this a fundraiser for our school but also it helps to get the word out around town about our wonderful program. Another fundraiser we'll be doing soon is selling tickets for raffle baskets at our Harvest Carnival. Please let us know if you may have items to donate for our raffle baskets at the Harvest Carnival.

Up and coming dates to mark on your calendar:

Parent conferences at Unity Information will be coming out soon about dates for our fall conferences.

Friday, October 7th, 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 28th, 6:30-8:00--Unity School's annual 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.

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!
Susanne and Jessica

PANDA CLASS

Welcome Panda Families,

September was a very busy month for us! The Pandas spent time getting to know new friends, and learning about classroom routines and limits. We talked about ourselves, our likes, things we can do, and things we are learning to do, such as, put on our own coats and shoes and pulling up/down our pants. You can carry these ideas out at home by allowing your child to practice doing things by themselves. We have been practicing washing and drying hands, using walking feet inside, sitting and looking at books, serving our own food, finding our name tags, and sitting together at circle time. These are things the children will be doing all year.

We made flubber and play dough, played dress-up, and played with a variety of building materials. We painted and used pencils, markers and crayons to make beautiful artwork.

We introduced our letters of the week, which included "A" and "B". Some of the words we came up with were: Aria, Ares, airplane, apple, ball, bike and barn. We traced letters with play dough and looked at various books and pictures that used letters too.

Some of you have received a paper in your mailbox asking for photos of your child and family. Each child will have a turn on our "All About Me" board. This is a fun way for children to talk about themselves, their families, and what they like to do. The teachers have started the year with pictures of themselves on the board.

We are planning a field trip to a pumpkin patch this month -the details will come soon, so watch out for them!

The rainy season is coming, and we will spend time outside when it is wet. So, please bring labeled boots, extra pants, and a weather appropriate coat.

We're looking forward to getting to know you all and to a great year ahead!

Teachers,
Cherri, Celia & Briana

CATERPILLAR CLASS

Welcome to the new school year! It's hard to believe how quickly the first month of school has passed. We are so happy to see returning families and welcome new faces into our classroom community. You should have received a Caterpillar Classroom Handbook giving you information about the Caterpillar room. This handbook will provide you with basic information ranging from what children should bring to school, classroom routines, to information about our curriculum model. Let us know if you did not receive one or if you have any questions or comments.

Our academic part of the day begins at 9am with our morning circle time. We would appreciate it if you would do your best to arrive 15-20 minutes before our morning circle. This will give you child time to settle into the



routine of the day, gives them time to get their wiggles out, and time to connect with friends before diving into morning activities.

The children have been adjusting well to the new school year. During the month of September the Caterpillars have been building new relationships with their peers and teachers. We have worked on team building activities, such as working on group puzzles and playing movement games together. The children are quickly learning classroom routines and self-help skills!

We have an exciting month ahead of us! We will be taking a field trip to the pumpkin patch on Friday, Oct. 21st. Please keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming flyer for more information. Parents and volunteers are more than welcome to join us, please speak with Jessica or Melissa if you have questions! On Halloween we ask that children do not come dressed in their costumes (Costumes are encouraged at the Harvest Carnival). Instead we will be having a Pajama Party! Come dressed in your favorite PJ attire ready for a day of fun filled activities.



Important Dates

- October 7th - Picture Day
- October 21st - Pumpkin Patch field trip
- October 28th - Harvest Carnival
- October 31st - Pajama Day

Happy Autumn!
Jessica & Melissa

LADYBUG CLASS

Welcome to fall everyone!

It's time for the leaves to start falling and crisp air. Please remember to bring rain boots and warm jackets so everyone can stay healthy and enjoy the changing season!

The Ladybugs have been very busy with sensory exploration. Our children have helped to make play dough and cloud dough, calmed down with lavender rice, soothed themselves with warm soapy water, and squished their fingers in floam and flubber. Very exciting!

In October we plan on labeling feelings and reviewing safety limits within our homes and community. Our first field trip will be to the pumpkin patch (where we will need lots of grown up chaperones), so keep your eyes on your mailbox and the class door for details.

It's autumn but its also cold season, please keep your child home if they are contagious (fever of 100+, rash, vomit, diarrhea) and we will work on hand washing, covering coughs and tissue using. Any questions please see Teacher Dorothy.

****Conferences in November****

Happy Fall!



BUTTERFLY CLASS

Dear Butterfly families,

What a fun first month we had in the Butterfly Land! We have gotten to know all the ins and outs of our new class and are making some great friends!

Gentle Reminders:

- Please remember to take your child's blanket home each week to be washed
- The weather is starting to change, so please remember to bring a warm jacket everyday...just in case! a rain coat and boots are a great idea too!
- Please remember to leave toys at home
- Kids can bring books to share

Important Dates:

- Pumpkin Patch Field Trip (date to be announced)
- Harvest Festival - October 28th



We are having a wonderful time getting to know your children, and are looking forward to an amazing year ahead!

Hugs & Smiles,

Pammie, Michelle & Kelly

SEA TURTLE CLASS

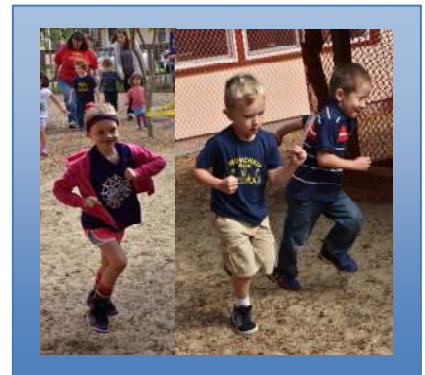
We have been having a great time in the Sea Turtle classroom! The children are adjusting to the routine and now have most of the limits down. They have enjoyed exploring the learning centers in the classroom, pretending to cook and have dinner with friends in dramatic play, creating art with glue and loose materials and painting in the art center, animals, wood pieces, and seashells in the science center, and the favorite right now is building with various materials.

The Sea Turtles are also enjoying some of our large group times. They loved to show off their awesome dance moves, play "act like an animal", and play musical instruments. Story time is also something they look forward to each day. They listen very intently and just soak up our story of the day. We even do some small group projects based on our story of the day. A favorite was reading "Froggy Builds A Tree House" and then using small wooden blocks and toy frogs to act out the story.

This month we will be going on a pumpkin patch field trip to Johnsons farm on Thursday, October 20th. Please be sure to send your child in rubber boots and a warm coat. Also a cloth grocery bag to carry the small pumpkin in is helpful. Parents are welcome to come on the field trip too. The cost for adults and children is \$4.50 each. Please pay Virginia at the front desk before the day of the field trip.

Just a reminder that we go outside in all types of weather, so please be sure to send your child to school in weather appropriate attire. Thick coats, rain boots, hats, and gloves will be needed daily. Also, please be sure to have a change of clothes for your child in their cubby.

Sincerely,
Teacher Tara





OTTER CLASS

Dear Otter Families,

The year has started well for the Otter class! The energy is high and the weather is wonderful! The Otters have been enjoying a lot of outside time and exploring the recent changes on the playground.

In the classroom, students have been very active doing art and building various structures with Legos. We have also had our first science activity where we took a closer look at sand. In the next couple weeks, we will be a lot more active in the garden and leaning about our pets.

Next month we will be focusing on fish. This will include learning about their habitats, life cycles, human-fish interactions, as well as raising fish in the classroom! After the fish are big enough to be released, we will be working with a local agency to release the fish into the wild!

We are excited to share these activities with our class, and happy to have both our returning and new students with us this year. New friendships have already began, and much talent and creativity are at work.

We have a great group of kids and look forward to the adventures in the coming year.

Teachers,
Josh & Sarah

OFFICE MANAGER

Welcome to fall everyone!

Along with the change of the season, comes the time of year when I have to update files and renew contracts. So, thank you to all of the parents that have turned the HUGE stack of paperwork I gave you all, and for those who have not - please do so.

Also, for all of you new parents and a reminder to seasoned parents, I want to let you know or remind you that you have a mailbox. Your child's teacher put reminders, field trip notices and notes in them for you. I also use them to give parents information or notes too, so please check them.

I want to thank all of the parents, family members & friends who bought t-shirts or made pledges for the Munchkin Run. The Caterpillar class is really looking forward to all of the new changes that will be happening to their classroom.

Virginia

**October
Happenings**

October 2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5 Tuition Due	6	7 Picture Day 9am-11:30am
10	11	12	13	14 Overage Fees Due
17	18	19	20	21
24	25 Schedule Changes Due	26	27	28 Harvest Festival 6:30pm- 8:00pm
31				