



Website: <http://mounthermon.org/playschool>

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Halloween celebrations can be especially scary for pre-school age children.

Fantasy and imaginative play are a very important part of a young child's life. Every day at home and at school your child pretends and experiments with being someone or something else. Through this play, a young child learns the difference between reality and fantasy and discovers who he/she really is. Halloween, however, can be an over stimulating and frightening time for young children because the difference between what is real and what is not real, but pretend, is not always totally clear to them. It is no longer fun when a child is genuinely afraid. We will be talking about these things with your children.

Week SEVEN Themes: October 31-November 4, 2016

- COLOR: BROWN!!! Wear a lot!!!
- LETTER: "I", as in INCH, IN. This is for Pre-K.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Thanksgiving, Turkeys, Farm, Fall, leaves
- On Friday: Monica will make sun-butter play dough with the kids. Yummmm! Thanks to Molly for 2 jars of sun butter!!!

Week EIGHT Themes: November 7-11, 2016

- COLOR: ALL FALL COLORS. Have fun!!!
- LETTER: "U" as in UNDER, UP, UNDERWARE. This is for Pre-K.
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Thanksgiving, Turkeys, Farm, Fall, leaves, pumpkins, Pilgrims
- On Friday, Mrs. Zweers will be making

Week NINE Themes: November 14-18, 2016

- COLOR: ALL FALL COLORS. Have fun!!!
- LETTER: "C", as in CAT, CUP, COAT
- TO STUDY AND PLAY: Thanksgiving, Turkeys, Farm, Fall, leaves, Stone Soup Feast
- On Thursday & Friday, the 17th and 18th, Monica will be cooking Stone Soup with both classes.

***** NO SCHOOL ** Nov. 21-25, All Week**

Book Orders Due: by Friday, Nov. 11. The Dec. order will be due by Dec. 2nd, so we can get the books back in time for Christmas. Happy ordering. We get points to use on products when you order. We are excited about a listening station that is available by Scholastic!!!

Tuition Due: Always due by the 10th of each month to avoid a late fee. Thanks, Kahleen

Donate Your Used Children's Clothes: We collect for a clothing ministry in Gilroy, so please drop off your used and not needed children's clothes at Play School. Thanks for the girl clothes that came in!

Food to donate: We use sun butter from Trader Joe's. Any sun butter will do. Thanks

Birthdays: Here is the list dates of the first birthdays that I plan to give each child a crown, so that only one child (if possible) can be the birthday person each day. We are going to change the summer birthdays to ½ birthdays this year. Here are the names and dates for crowns coming up soon. Nicene - Nov. 30, Gwyn - Dec. 2, Stevie - Dec. 6, Stella - Dec. 8. On MWF if you want Eliana and Evie to eat what you bring, call their mom's from the class list. Theo's Mom can be called from the TTh class list.

I have posted all these dates on the big calendar on the website, and if you do not find your child, please let me know (<http://mounthermon.org/playschool#calendar>). If the day that I picked is not good for you, please let me know and we can work out something else with a day that will work better for you. You may bring a treat to celebrate the birthday crown day. We suggest small, non gooey treats. Jello jigglers, pop corn, small cookies and cupcakes, small pieces of fruit, **rice crispy treats**, favorite veggie, etc. These are just some ideas. Remember that we are peanut free, but other nuts are fine.

About FOOD ALLERGYIES: At this point I have Eleana, Evie and Theo with food allergies. **If your child has a food allergy, please see Kahleen this week, so we can be sure our lists are up-to-date.** Please provide a birthday treat for your child to be kept at school for any celebrations, if they have a food allergy

Helpful tips for success at school: *(Especially important for our new Wed. only class!!!)*

1. **BATHROOM:** The children are trying to go to the bathroom on their own, but when there are snaps and zippers, or even really tight fitting elastic in the waste of the pants, it is impossible for them to complete this task alone.
2. **SHOES:** We allow shoes off upstairs during our pretend play time. Downstairs, we require that the shoes stay on downstairs, outside. Please try to have shoes that the child can take off and put on by themselves. Long shoe laces can get caught in the wheels of the trikes. Velcro and elastic can usually work, but we hope they can put them on by themselves. Thanks for your help and support.
3. Please do not send any food or drinks with your children to school, unless they are for allergies and then take them to the kitchen to be served at snack.
4. Please leave toys and blankets at home. They get lost at school.

Leaves: As we slide into the Fall, keep an eye out for leaves that are falling off trees in big piles. We love to have big piles of leaves for the children to play in, so we are asking that you bag leaves and bring them to school. Since they will be rolling in the leaves, please do NOT include oak leaves or any other that have sharp pokies on them. Thanks so much!!! Thanks to Declan and his family for many bags of amazing leaves!

Special Prayer Meeting Offer:

On the first Monday of the month from 9-10am, Kim Chestnut will meet with any moms that would like to share and pray. We have the infant room available for this special time. You can bring your babies and toddlers, let them play and you can pray. It would be nice if Kim could know if anyone was interested and planned to attend.

Kim <ikchestnut@hotmail.com>

Time with other mothers is valuable. Feel free to gather and visit, pray, and let the kids play any Monday. Use the room in the back, the infant room, bring your own snacks and remember to leave by the door by my office and do not go back and say good-bye to your children. Thanks!!!!

Volunteers at Play School: Since the state has new requirements this year, anyone that wants to volunteer at Play School needs to see Kahleen to update the necessary information. All volunteers need: Proof of TB test, Measles & Pertussis vaccines, fill in 2 forms to be background checked, fill in a form in the volunteer binder for the state. The only parents that are all up to date are; Janelle, Stacy, Nicole and Susie, at this time (10-18-2016).

Blessings to all, Faith Filey, Monica Zweers, Brigitte Ross, Kate Wadhams, and Kahleen Edeal

*****We are looking for substitutes that have ECE units. Please check with Kahleen if you know anyone that may be interested. Best if they don't have any children in Play School right now. Thanks!!!**