



November 2011



We are so excited about the busy and exciting month ahead of us! Here are some of the important dates and reminders for the month of November:

November Important Dates:

Tuesday, November 1st – 3 & 4 year old curriculum meeting 7:00pm

Wednesday, November 2nd– 5/K curriculum meeting 7:00pm

Thursday, November 3rdth – 5/K Field Trip to the Fairfield Academy (in school field trip)

Friday, November 4th – Parent Coffee at 9:15am

November 11 – Scholastic Online Orders Due

Friday, November 11th – NO SCHOOL – Veterans Day

Monday, November 14th – REGULAR SCHOOL DAY

Tuesday, November 15th – Friday, November 18th – Conference Week – MODIFIED SCHEDULE for Tuesday through Friday– See below:

Conference Week Schedule

Two's program - regularly scheduled times (NO LUNCH BUNCH T-F)

AM Threes and Fours Program – 9:00-12:00 NO LUNCH BUNCH T-F)

PM 3's and 4's – attend regularly scheduled days from 9:00-12:00 (NO AFTERNOON sessions this week T-F)

Fives and Kindergarten Program – 9:00-12:15 – EARLY DISMISSAL (T-F)

ALL DAY CHILDREN – regular schedule this week

November 21 and 22 – Thanksgiving Feasts – please see the special section below for your schedule.

November 23-25 – Thanksgiving Break

As always, we are continuing the tradition of our **Thankful Tree** as we talk about the many different things that we are thankful for. We will be making our handprint turkeys that we will hang on our tree in the main hallway. On these we will write what each of us is thankful for. During conference week the materials will be available so that you can make a handprint, write your thankful thoughts on them, and hang them on our tree.

Thanksgiving Feasts

Our Annual Thanksgiving Feasts will be held on Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd. These feasts will take place in our classrooms. The children will be gathering with one another and feasting on foods that they helped to make. Many of the foods will be ones that the Native Americans and Pilgrims would have eaten on the first Thanksgiving.

Two's Program – Your feasts will be on Monday, November 21st and Tuesday, November 22nd. If you do not attend Mondays or Tuesdays please choose a day for your child to attend this week. The feasts will be part of our regular school day activities.

Threes and Fours Programs - your Feast will be on Tuesday, November 22nd. If you do not normally attend school this day we welcome your child to attend in celebration of the feasts. The feast will be part of our regular school day activities.

Fives and Kindergarten Program – your feast will be on Tuesday, November 22nd. The feast will be part of our regular school day activities.

Two's Program

We will be making stick puppets from selected fairy tales such as Little Bo Peep, Humpty Dumpty, Three Blind Mice and Mary Had a Little Lamb. Some Choice Time projects include 3 dimensional acorns for our bulletin board, tissue paper Harvest Corn, Turkey placemats, sponge painting, Handprint Turkeys and Thanksgiving coloring. We also will be creating Thanksgiving projects such as a Native American Headdress with feathers and a paper bag vest. Our cooking project will be cornbread ,muffins to share during our Feasts. Some songs we will be singing will be "Hello Mr. Turkey" and "The Turkey is a Funny Bird." We look forward to seeing you all at our Feast.

Threes and Fours Program

Our threes and fours will be starting off the month learning about the letter B, creating our Bumble Bee puppet, Goldilocks and the 3 Bears Felt Board story and cooking Bagel Pizzas. The Felt Boards will be sent home in clear plastic envelopes with a Blue felt board. There will be several other Felt board stories we will be creating throughout the year to use with these boards.

Next we will focus our attention on Colonial America and the first Thanksgiving. We will create a "First Thanksgiving" Felt board story in which the children can recount the events leading up to the first Thanksgiving. Another Work Time project will be our traditional Turkey Handprint plates which the children will also use during their Feasts in school. To help us learn more about what daily life was like for the Pilgrims the children we are making Pilgrim Spoon Dolls such as the ones that Pilgrim children would have played with. To help us understand the early colonists we will be transforming an area of our Block Center into a traditional Colonial kitchen where we will try to better understand the ways in which the early settlers lived when they first came to this country. Some of our cooking projects for the month will be in preparation for our Thanksgiving Feasts (see note above for schedule). Some of the cooking projects will be authentic dishes that the settlers and Native Americans might have eaten at the first Thanksgiving feast. Of course we will be making our famous Pumpkin Muffins!!

Five's and Kindergarten Program

Our letters this month will be F and D. In regards to Math we will continue to look at teen numbers and their relationship to tens and ones. As we internalize this concept we will continue breaking larger numbers into tens and ones. Our study of Colonial America continues with a trip to the Fairfield Academy. Art, literacy and cooking projects will culminate with our Thanksgiving feast on Tuesday November, which we will share with you!

Just a look ahead: We will have our Annual Holiday Gathering on Friday December 16th at 5:00pm. This year we will be switching our format to a Holiday Family Sing Along here at our school. We encourage all families to come to school at 5pm dressed in their warmest clothes and bring with them their singing voices. We will have an old fashioned caroling evening. We will be inviting many of our neighbors to come over and join us. To help us celebrate there will be hot chocolate and cookies at the end. We look forward to celebrating the holidays together with all of our 3,4 community. Lyrics to all selected Holiday songs will be sent home in early December. We will be practicing with the children here at school over the course of the first few weeks in December. Look for the music in your Friday Folders in the coming weeks!

Finally, we the staff at Three Four Open the Door would like to offer you and your family our prayers and wishes for a healthy, happy Thanksgiving .

Happy Thanksgiving!

