



Seedling
News
*Where the
flowers of
tomorrow are
in the seeds of
today.*

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Preschool is in full swing!!! The classrooms have been bustling with movement, learning and laughter! I always find it amazing how quickly the children fall into their school routines. They have been making new friends, exploring their classrooms and have been very busy with fun activities like crafts, painting, building, playing on the playground and so much more!

The next couple months will be filled with fall and holiday activities and lots of learning. Please make sure that you are always checking your child's backpack or your email for notices on upcoming events, parties and activities!

In October, we will have our first board meeting of the year. Please join us if you are interested in getting more involved. It is dedicated parents like yourselves that make our preschool so special!

Also in October, we will have our first field trip for the 3's and Pre-K! Pumpkin picking, hay rides, corn mazes, oh my! There will be a visit from Sparky the Fire Dog and the Red

Bank Fire Department. We'll host our Fall Book Fair and we will finish out the month with some Halloween parades, parties and our first Movie Madness. Whew, that is one action packed month!

November is a month at Learning Tree where we reflect on the things we are most thankful for. Our front hallway will be decorated with colorful leaves naming the things for which all of the children and staff are most thankful. I encourage you to take some time to read these leaves and even add one of your own describing what you are most thankful for as well!

During the end of November and in early December, parents of the 3's and Pre-K will have their fall parent conferences. We will also be hosting our annual Silent Art Auction. Each class will be creating their own masterpieces! This auction will lead us right into our Santa Lunch on the first Saturday of December. This an event not to be missed! Other December events include our second Movie Madness, Pajama Day and our classroom holiday parties.

As I mentioned at Parent Orientation, each month we like to collect different foods for the Backpack Crew. Giving to those in need is a great experience for young children to learn and carry on through their lives. In October we will be collecting cans of soup. November will be canned yams. December is hot chocolate. Along with our Backpack Crew donations in December, we will be asking for donations of new pajamas in all sizes for the Pajama Program. There will be more details and reminders about these philanthropic ventures as we get closer to the dates. Thank you for helping us help those in need!

As always, please know that I am available if you have any questions, concerns or ideas on how to help Learning Tree continue to grow. We truly value our parent feedback!

I wish all of you a Fantastic Fall! Enjoy all of the changes that the autumn months have to offer!

A Message from the Parent Board Chair

Welcome to the 2017/2018 school year! It was great to see so many faces at the back to school breakfast and I hope everyone who came enjoyed it. Parent involvement in events, like the back to school breakfast and fundraising opportunities, is something that we really encourage here at Learning Tree Preschool. There will be lots of opportunities to support our school over these next few months. From the Kids Stuff book that you received at back to school night, to our second fundraising event, the Yankee Candle sale.

You will be receiving your Yankee Catalog soon. Please submit your completed forms along with payment to your class teacher. You will also be able to take advantage of the online ordering program! Yankee Candle will accept your fundraising orders until the end of the year. Remember this option as you begin your holiday shopping. Learning Tree Preschool will still receive 40% profit and you can take advantage of \$5 flat rate shipping! All orders will be shipped to the address you provide. So if you haven't already, set up a seller's profile and share it with your family and friends!

Another great fundraising opportunity is the Art Auction. This involves all the children and teachers in the school. Each teacher creates a piece of art with the students in their class. These amazing works of art will be on display in the school entrance for a full week so parents can bid on them. It starts Nov 27th and ends at the Santa lunch where the lucky parents who bid the highest will receive their artwork.

Always remember that instead of participating in a fundraising event you can make a tax-deductible donation to the Learning Tree Preschool. This year we are trying to raise enough money to buy each of our teachers a new vacuum for their classrooms. We all know the wear and tear a vacuum goes through picking up play dough pieces from the floor, as well as countless other items from classroom crafts! You can make checks payable to the United Methodist Church and write "Learning Tree Donation" on the memo line of your check. Your help in reaching our new vacuums goal is greatly appreciated!

We have our first Movie Madness of the school year on October 30th. Moms can drop off their kids for some fun Halloween crafts and to watch a Halloween movie with their friends. Moms get some much needed time to run errands, grab a cup of coffee or just sit and relax, what a crazy idea!! All that can happen while their child is having a Halloween blast! This is also another fundraiser to support Learning Tree, since there is a small fee involved.

Also coming up in October is the Scholastic Book Fair, held from October 23rd to the 27th. Kids can walk around the book fair and pick their books to bring home with them that same day! Remember this year its check only though!

I know we are all in a fall pumpkin spice state of mind, but when you think about it, Christmas is right around the corner! There is no better way to celebrate Christmas than with our Santa lunch on December 2nd from 11:00- 1:00. Kids will get to do holiday crafts, have fun with their friends and of course, tell Santa what they really want for Christmas. This

will be followed by another installment of Movie Madness on December 11th with a Christmas theme.

I am really looking forward to all of the events over the next few months and I hope to see everyone there!

Vanessa Siroti

IMPORTANT DATES

October

- 4th - Board Meeting - 9:30
- 9th - School Closed
- 20th - Pumpkin Trip (3's & Pre-K)
- 23rd-27th - Book Fair
- 25th - Sparky the Fire Dog & Red Bank Fire Department Visit 10 - Mom & Me, 2 1/2, and 3's and 10:30 - Pre-K
- 30th - Movie Madness - (3's & Pre-K)
- 30th - 3's Halloween Parade - 9:30
- 31st - 2 1/2 & Pre-K Halloween Parade - 9:30

November

- 1st - Board Meeting - 9:30
- 7th - School Closed
- 9th & 10th - School Closed
- 22nd - 24th - School Closed

December

- 2nd - Santa Lunch - 11-1
- 6th - Board Meeting - 9:30
- 11th - Movie Madness - (3's & Pre-K)
- 13th - Pajama Day
- 20th - 31st - School Closed





September

10th – Julia M.
12th – Norah D.
13th – Tyler N.
18th – Isaac M.
26th – Reagan M.
29th – Ryleigh F.

October

9th – Alexander C.
11th – Eve E.
23rd – Ryan P.
23rd – Ava G.
27th – Chloe S.

November

6th – Emma K.
6th – Margaret P.
9th – Christopher S.
26th – Owen T.

December

4th – Ronan C.
4th – Connor C.
10th – Violet S.
10th – Elijah A.
12th – Maxton A.
18th – Michael Joseph W.
26th – Elizabeth R.

Classroom News

Miss Heather's Mommy & Me Class

Hooray for the start of a new year at Learning Tree Preschool! I was very excited to welcome back old friends and some younger siblings, and eager to share our wonderful school with new friends as well.

Fall is a busy time of year! We started our year with school buses full of happy children and beautiful Learning Trees loaded with apples. We stamped with apples and tasted a few varieties! Our color for September was yellow and our shape was star. The kids are remembering the color stars and working on spelling their names!

In October, we will continue practicing our shapes and colors while perfecting our glue stick skills

with some pumpkin crafts. We might get a little fright from our not so scary witches! We will also learn all about fire prevention month with our own Sparky the Firedog puppets! And we will look forward to a visit from Sparky and the Red Bank Fire Department. October's color will be orange like all of the pumpkins we see this time of year! Our Halloween celebration will cap off a fun filled month. Don't forget your cameras to capture memories of our littlest ghosts and goblins!

November will bring the color green and our shape of the month will be rectangle. We will continue talking about seasons and learning about fall and the harvest traditions. We will talk about our feelings and make some scarecrows when we read "The

little old lady was wasn't afraid of anything!" We will culminate our harvest activities with a beautiful turkey out of the cutouts of your children's hands and feet. We will talk about Thanksgiving, sharing, and maybe dress up as Native Americans and Pilgrims for our own Thanksgiving feast.

In December we will start to be on the lookout for Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer and Santa Claus. Our color of the month for December will be red. The children will enjoy the crafts we will be making in preparation for the special holidays this month brings. They are going to make a special gift for mommy and daddy, no peeking please!! Our holiday festivities will include a pajama party, cookies and milk and be completed with the story "The Night before Christmas."

-Miss Heather

Classroom News

Miss Heather's 2 1/2 Class

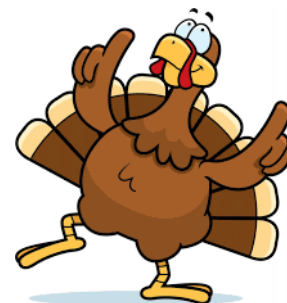
September has been a quick month in our 2 1/2 year old class. The kids have really enjoyed exploring and getting to know the classroom and making it theirs with displays of artwork and crafts and learning their way around the building for a fire drill and leaf hunt!

We are learning how to spell our names on our super stars and are thoroughly enjoying singing songs at circle time. We are beginning to talk about seasons and months of the year. We will also be practicing our shapes with some cute Jack O'Lanterns and other fun Halloween crafts. We will make witches and read the not-so-scary witch story "Room on the Broom" by Julia Donaldson as part of our Halloween celebrations! October is also Fire Prevention Month so we will continue to practice our fire drills and learn about safety and community helpers. We will look forward to a visit from the firefighters in our own community.

By November, some of our friends will be turning 3! We will continue making friends, learning our songs and working on sharing during circle. November will also bring more practice on colors and shapes. We will learn about green and brown and rectangles. We will review all of the colors we have worked on when we make our scarecrows and our turkeys. We will learn about corn and have our first cooking project when we prepare corn muffins and butter for a Thanksgiving feast.

December will be here before we know it and we will be busy making crafts for the Santa lunch and holiday presents for our families. We will continue learning colors and shapes and talk about red and green and blue and silver being the traditional colors of Christmas and Hanukkah. We will learn some traditions for each of these holidays and have lots of fun preparing for Santa's visit and learning how to play dreidel too!

-Miss Heather



Classroom News

Miss Katie's 3 Year Old Class

Welcome to Miss Katie's 3-year-old Class! It has been such a joy getting to know your children! They are working so hard and doing an amazing job adjusting to preschool and their new classroom.

We are learning the class rules and routines and why School is Fun! We have also spent some time getting to know each other. We talked about our feelings and respect, and we began our Letter of the Week Curriculum. Over the coming months, we will explore our Alphabet by practicing identification, writing, and making the letter sounds. We will also have continuous exposure to Numbers, Shapes, and Colors. We learned about the four seasons, and are excited to note the changing weather from summer to fall, and eventually fall into winter. We look

forward to finally being able to feel the changes around us.

Our Class Trip to Dearborn Farms in Holmdel is always a highlight in our fall curriculum. We will pick a perfect pumpkin for our class to investigate. After carving it, we will count the seeds, roast them, and eat them. The class will also get dressed up and participate in Learning Tree's Halloween Parade and have class party. We will enjoy a visit from "Sparky" the Firedog and the Red Bank Fire Department during Fire Prevention Week, which will give us the opportunity to talk about different kinds of emergencies and ways to stay safe. We will put our knowledge into practice by performing monthly fire drills and lockdown drills. The children will love to see the firetruck and the firefighter's gear up close. We understand that firefighters are our friends and help

keep us safe. Veterans Day and Thanksgiving remind us to be grateful for our blessings. The winter holidays will fill us with the spirit of the season and anticipation of our celebrations will keep us very busy at school!

We can't believe how quickly the school year is already progressing. In our classroom, the greatest learning opportunities will present themselves through play and cooperation. We will have countless opportunities to play, share, sing, dance, create, run, smile and laugh! We are having so much fun learning and playing, and look forward to watching our friends grow together in friendship. It's going to be a great year in Miss Katie's class! Thank you for entrusting your children to us!!

Miss Katie & Miss Tricia

Classroom News

Miss Kelly's 3 Year Old Class

Welcome back to another exciting school year! I hope everyone has enjoyed the first couple of weeks back to school. Miss Kelly's class has been busy making new friends, learning our class rules and our class routines. The boys and girls seem to be adjusting nicely to our classroom. Learning new songs, reading stories, playing in the classroom centers, making crafts, and working with Miss Kelly at the red table keeps us busy all morning long. We will continue to work on one alphabet letter a week throughout the year, so be sure to continue to work with your child on these letters at home.

Over the next few months we will continue with name recognition and name spelling. We will work on our fine motor skills with tracing activities and scissor practice.

Our class will be learning about the fall season and all of the changes that it brings. We will be exploring fall leaves and pumpkins in our science center as well as making a lot of fall themed crafts to decorate our classroom.

We will celebrate Halloween on Monday, October 30th since we will not be in class on the 31st. We will have a costume parade and a class party. More information will follow as the date gets closer. We also have a

class trip to Dearborn Farms on October 20th.

In November we will reflect on all of the different things we are thankful for. We will continue to talk about the fall season and the First Thanksgiving. During the month of December we will be very busy talking about the holidays and different family traditions. We will make beautiful holiday crafts to decorate our room for the season.

I am excited for this school year! I have a lot of fun things planned for the boys and girls. Thank you for your cooperation!

Miss Kelly

Classroom News

Miss Kelly's 3 Year Old Enrichment

Wednesday's Class

We will continue to work in our All About Me Unit over the next month. The boys and girls will learn about the 5 senses, talk about their favorite things, families and what it means to be a good friend. We will move right on to our Community Helpers Unit. We will make a booklet about all of the different people that live and work in our community. The boys and girls will learn about all the important jobs that make up a community.

Friday's Class

We will be reinforcing the letter that is taught in class during the week with extra activities and crafts. The boys and girls will continue name recognition, spelling and writing.

We will be very busy cutting and tracing to build up our fine motor skills, as well as being introduced to classic authors such as Eric Carl, Jan Brett, Dr. Seuss and more.



Classroom News

Miss Ferrugiario's 4 Year Old Class

We began the school year with a review of colors and shapes. We also learned some facts about apples, identified the parts of an apple, and made applesauce.

With October and then November soon upon us, we are coming into a very busy time of year. Fall is here and fall is a great time for science. We will be talking about the air around us, the rain cycle, good wind and bad wind, and the three forms of matter. The children will observe some simple science experiments dealing with air pressure and a tornado in a bottle.

Some fun things for Halloween include making a monster picture and a ghost picture from which the children will

compose a ghost story which I will dictate using their exact words. They will be read aloud in class. Future stories of this kind will also be acted out in class. The children will also be able to enjoy a trip to Dearborn Farms to go pumpkin picking and more.

During fire Prevention month, we will learn how to stay away from fire and will enjoy a visit from Sparky, the fire dog and the Red Bank Police Department. We will learn about 911.

As Thanksgiving approaches, we will be learning about the Pilgrims and the Indians and the first Thanksgiving. We will be learning about the difficult voyage the Pilgrims made to America and the challenges they faced when

they arrived at what would be their new home. We will talk about how the Indians helped the Pilgrims survive their first winter in America. We will look at the various forms of shelter the Indians lived in. We will make Pilgrim and Indians costumes. Finally, we will make cornbread and butter to enjoy at our own little feast, which we will have the day before we break for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Shortly after you read this newsletter, the children will be learning their phone numbers. Please reinforce the learning of this task at home. It is a time consuming task and your help will be needed and greatly appreciated.

Classroom News

Miss Cathy's 4 Year Old Class

We had an Amazing September! The beginning couple weeks could not have gone better. The children have all transitioned beautifully to their new classroom! All the children are making new friends and happily going about their days!

September was filled with learning about our classroom and adjusting to a new routine! We started our letter of the week program and have done many fun activities for the letter A and B! We loved making homemade applesauce and graphing our favorite color apples! We have also spent a lot of time talking about having a "happy heart" and using kind words with our friends. We work on growth mindset concepts all year! We already started writing our names and learning about our writing program!

The next couple of months are going to be filled with many learning experiences that are centered around creativity and exploration! In October we will learn the letters C, D and E! We will be learning about the changing of the seasons. We will learn about the life cycle of a pumpkin and one of our favorite activities will be opening a pumpkin and investigating the inside of a pumpkin. For Science, we will learn about our five senses and how we use them when "investigating a pumpkin!" We will talk about what we see, how it feels, how it smells, see if we hear anything, and what it might taste like. We will also be taking a nature walk and pick up our leaves to make "leaf people". We will also learn all about different leaves and sort our leaves! We will learn why leaves change color. The Highlight of our

month will be when we go on our Fall Pumpkin trip and of course, Halloween! We will do many fun Halloween crafts and projects and learn Halloween songs. We will also talk about Fire Safety and get a visit from Sparky the Fire dog. The children work very hard on all their projects and look for a lot of them to be displayed around the classroom!

November is a month to be reflective on how grateful we are for all things! We will spend the month reading books about the "The First Feast" and we will talk about what we thought the First Thanksgiving was all about. We will spend the month making keepsake projects with extended language. The children will be asked to talk about all the things that they are grateful for! We will prepare for our class feast by making Native American Headpieces and come up with our own Native American names. This is an activity that the children love. We will also make vests and nametags for our feast. We will read many Thanksgiving books about Fall and Thanksgiving!

December will be upon us before we know it. This is also a time that is special and filled with many memories! We will learn about the lifecycle of Evergreen Trees and paint with Evergreen branches. Look for fun Holiday Trees to pop up in the Hallways! We will ask the children; "What is their Holiday Wish?" We will spend a lot of the month learning Holiday songs and fingerplays. A highlight is always; Must be Santa! We will make keepsake cards and presents for our family members! We will talk about Christmas and Hanukkah and

learn about the word tradition and talk about what our family traditions are! We will start our Snowman Unit and read Snowmen at Christmas, by Caralyn Buehner.

Letter Learning: Each Week we do a letter of the week and the week is filled with letter games, activities and crafts! We will also be doing a page in our Alphabet Journals each week! We are working on the proper way to hold a pencil or marker and learning about using the lines for writing!

Number Learning: We are working hard on learning our numbers and each week we are trying to learn how to write our numbers. This is a very hard skill!

We have a truly wonderful class and I am so looking forward to the next couple of months! Thank you for all your generous donations to the class! We will be using all of them! Please always feel free to contact me for anything!

Best Wishes,

Miss Cathy



Classroom News

Miss Cathy's 4 Year Old Enrichment

We had a wonderful start to September! The children have learned to transition beautifully from their morning class, to lunch buddies and then to Enrichment. All the children have learned how to hang their backpacks and get started in the afternoon! We had a fun month talking about what a Scientist is!!! We learned that Scientists, explore, observe, wonder, predict, draw and experiment. We loved mixing colors with finger paint! We do Science all year as a foundation of young STEM learners (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

In October we will do a literacy unit with the Nancy Shaw book Series. These books include; Sheep Out to Eat, Sheep in a Shop, Sheep Take a Hike and Sheep Trick or Treat! These are excellent beginning rhyming books with some silly sheep that get themselves into a lot of trouble. We will make fun crafts that reinforce fine motor skills and imagination. We will do rhyming projects which is an important skill that facilitates reading as children learn to identify relationships between words. Look for fun projects and rhyming activities to come! We are also going to be doing an interesting Halloween unit on Nocturnal Animals. We will be learning fun facts about many night animals especially bats and owls. !

In November we will be learning about the lifestyle of Native Americans. We will learn new Vocabulary Words and make a fun tepee project that reinforces the math concepts of patterns. We will also spend a lot of the month making centerpieces for our Learning Tree Breakfast with Santa morning! We will be writing in our language journals and this is an excellent way to reinforce extended language!

In December we do one of our very favorite units. We will do the Gingerbread Man Unit! We will read The Gingerbread Man, Gingerbread Girl, Gingerbread Friends, and Gingerbread Pirates! We will learn about characters in a story, we will talk about the beginning, the middle and the End of a story! These are all important skills that are talked about for many years to come! We will also work on sequencing in a story. We will be making a special keepsake Gingerbread Ornament. The kids will have a great time mixing the dough and decorating the ornament! We will also be doing a fun Candy Cane experiment! We will continue to practice our letter sounds! December is a month filled with many learning activities!!!! In The New Year look for more Kindergarten Readiness skills to be happening all around us!!!! We are having so much fun and look forward to the rest of the year!!!!

Best Wishes!!

Miss Cathy



Learning Tree Preschool of Red Bank, NJ

Where the flowers of tomorrow are in the seeds of today