



October Newsletter

Dear Preschool Families,

It's so hard to believe that we're already into the month of October! September was so much fun getting to know all of our friends, learning all about ourselves and getting back in to the swing of things. We've been diligently working on our letters A,S & F, our shapes and colors. We can't wait to see what this next month has to offer us!

A few reminders: Please remember to send a change of clothing with your child! As everyone is doing very well using the bathroom and staying as clean as possible, accidents do happen and it's always nice to change into clothes that are yours. We do have a few extras on hand for emergencies, but we try our best not to have to use those. As the weather gets colder, please be mindful of coats and warmer clothing. Layers are key this time of year as it's a bit chilly in the morning and rather pleasant come afternoon. Please be sure to label, label, label! We try very hard to make sure everyone goes home with what they came with, but mistakes do happen and if your child's name isn't on something, we can't guarantee it will find its way home again. Please also look for driver forms and background check information in your folders. Background checks need to be done once every 6 years and driver forms need to be done once a year. Even if you're only going to be driving your own child, it's still best practice to have one on file. Fun Run is fast approaching so please get those donations turned in! We have just one more week to do this as October 6th is the last day we'll be accepting donations. Remember, 10% comes back to the class so we can buy some great new materials for everyone! This is a wonderful fundraiser for the school and loads of fun. Hopefully I'll see everyone on Sunday October 1st from 3:00pm-4:00pm at the Kennewick High School track!!

October is going to be a very fun, but busy time of year! We're quickly moving into our apple lessons which are followed by pumpkins, gourds and then a trip to the farm! This is also the first month that we'll be working on one of our continents. The first one being Africa! As we move throughout the year, we'll be discussing all 7 of our continents. If you have any special traditions, holidays you celebrate, foods that are specific to a certain culture or have some cool souvenirs (pictures, etc) from a trip, please let me know! If you'd like to do a demonstration/lesson at some point, even better. We'll be focusing a lot on culture and what better way to learn about it than from our very own families.

October 9th will be our annual pumpkin patch field trip. We'll be going to Hatch Patch and it will be a very fun filled day! Please be aware that it is a working farm, so wear your boots and be prepared to get a little dirty! We will need volunteer drivers so that we can go. Those parents will drive the children and also be responsible for them during the extent of the field trip. We try to put 2-3 children per parent including your own child. It really just depends on how many drivers we have in total. If you won't be able to make the field trip, we do ask that you remember to bring your child's car seat the day of. If your child will be in daycare, you can leave it with them and we'll be sure to swing through and collect them. If you do not bring a car seat for your child, they will be unable to go and will have to be sent to the office until their class returns. As you can imagine, this can be a very sad situation for a friend, so please remember those car seats! If you plan to only drive your child, we'll have you join a group and help the other parents at the pumpkin patch.

We will be having our annual Halloween Party on Tuesday October 31st! We'd love some volunteers that would be interested in making sugar cookies and bringing in frosting for our snack on that day. This will also be a day filled with crafts, activities, our Halloween carnival and a costume parade throughout the school! Children are allowed to wear their costumes to school. However, if they're in daycare, they need to come to school in normal attire. Please put their costume in their backpack and we'll be happy to help them change in to them once they're in our care. This will also be a wonderful volunteer opportunity! Please get in touch with either Maelyn or myself if you have questions about helping during that day. ☺ Also, on October 28th, the PTO puts on a Trunk or Treat. It's a super fun family event and we'd love to see you all there! There will be a car decorating contest, fun games, food and activities in the gym. Please keep an eye out for more information at a later date. We can't wait to see everyone there!

I've currently been assessing all of the children in anticipation of conferences coming up later this month. We will have conferences on October 17th and 18th and I'll have a signup sheet for you to select a time that is most convenient. The rest of the school will be on a half day for October 17th – 19th. We will be on our regular schedule so children will be coming both in AM and PM. Please be mindful not to bring your child to the conference. This is an important time for us to discuss your child's development. More information will be sent at a later time. For the Pre-Kindergarten children, I will be sending home progress reports on October 16th. Please return these after you have reviewed them and you will get them back at the end of the year.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 🚩 October 1st – Fun Run Kennewick High School Track @ 3:00PM. Picnic following in Dillon Hall
- 🚩 October 4th – Blessing of the Pets 12:45PM
- 🚩 October 9th – Pumpkin Patch/Apple Orchard Field Trip
- 🚩 October 10th – Picture Day
- 🚩 October 13th - NO SCHOOL Staff in-service
- 🚩 October 17th & 18th – Conferences
- 🚩 October 20th – Grandparents Luncheon with a Book Fair in Dillon Hall
- 🚩 October 28th – Trunk or Treat – School parking lot (time to be determined)
- 🚩 October 31st – Halloween Party

Blessings,

Teacher Jessica and Teacher Maelyn

P.S. (A note from Melissa)

Starting this month, Teacher Melissa will begin our Atrium. The Atrium is a room dedicated to children learning about the life of Jesus through Montessori methods. Each child will be able to visit the Atrium for a 45 minute period during the week. Teacher Janet's classes come on Monday, Teacher Jessica's on Tuesday and Teacher Leslie's on Wednesday. Each week we will learn different things about Jesus and life in the church. This is a beautiful program. It is called The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and was developed in Italy. If you would like to learn more please go to CGS.org.

Many Blessings, Teacher Melissa-Catechist