



### What's Happening in Class

Fall is here! The end of October brought with it a fun day of Halloween fun into our classroom! We enjoyed seeing everyone's costumes while we had fun exploring the inside of a pumpkin, made mummies, and danced to music.

This year November has lived up to the name "no school November". We only had 7 classes this month but we sure made the most out of it! November was all about weather; we took advantage of the changing seasons as an opportunity to learn about what we see outside and what it means. We decorated rain boots, stomped through pretend puddles in class, watched a tornado in a bottle and made "snowy" art. Our weather unit will be a continuing theme as we move into winter and then spring, we will continue to make observations about what we see out of the windows in our classroom.

In December we will be focusing on animal habitats and all things winter. In our classroom we will learn about forest and arctic habitats, discover the animals that live in them, and make our own habitats to explore. In our class December will be a month to celebrate winter and the world around us.

Finally, November ended with a celebration of what we are thankful for. It's never too early to start an appreciation of what we have. Continuing with this, in December we will be holding our annual Foster Welcome Box fundraiser. This is a great opportunity to give back to children in our community. More information will be coming soon!!

### DAILY ROUTINE

- 8:00 am- Arrival and Free Exploration
- 8:20 am- Clean-up
- 8:25 am- Morning Carpet
- 8:40am- Sensory Learning Stations
- 9:00 am- Snack
- 9:20 am- Outdoor Patio Play
- 9:40 am- Clean-up, Return to Classroom
- 9:50 am: Class Wrap-up
- 10:00 am- Pick-up

### EXPERIMENT DISCOVERY

In November we began introducing early science elements into our curriculum. Our first experiment was during our Halloween celebration; we made predictions about what is inside a pumpkin. All students then got an opportunity to see and feel what was inside. While learning about weather experiments played a key role. We got to see what happens to a cloud when it rains using a sponge, a bowl, and water, and how clouds form by making our own in a jar.

I love bringing experiments into the classroom because it adds a fun and exciting element to the day!

### SENSORY BASED LEARNING

Here are the Sensory Bins that we have had in our classrooms thus far. I have also included the recipe for the moon sand we played with at the start of the year.

September: Lavender Moon Sand

- 8 Cups Flour
- 1 cup vegetable oil
- 5-7 drops lavender essential oil
- Crushed chalk for color

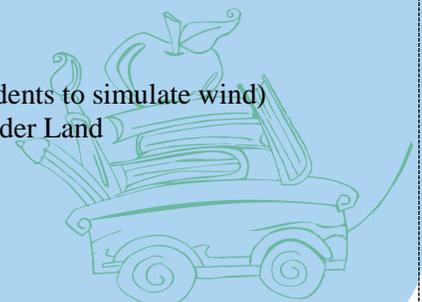
October: Pumpkins

November: All about Fall!

- Mini Pumpkins & Gourds
- Hazelnuts
- Feathers
- Indian Corn
- Pipets (for students to simulate wind)

December: Artic Wonder Land

- Cotton Balls
- Jingle Bells
- Snow Flakes
- Artic Animals



## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences will be occurring during winter break on Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup>. On Monday, conferences will be available in the morning only and all day on Tuesday. Each conference will be 20 minutes long.

Conference sign-ups will be first come, first serve and will be made available at drop off starting Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. If the times available, do not work for your family's schedule please let me know. I will have some flexibility and am willing to make accommodations whether that be additional conference time or a phone conference.

Please note that parent teacher conferences are optional it is your decision if you would like to have a conference or not.

## REMINDERS

### Inclement Weather and Changes of Clothes

As we move into winter it is good time to take a look at what happens in the case of inclement weather. Sprout Academy follows the PPS Calendar which also means we follow their lead when they cancel school due to weather occurrences. If school for the full is canceled on a day we normally have class, all preschool classes will be cancelled that day. If PPS has a late opening, all morning preschool classes will be cancelled which includes our 8am and 10:30am classes.

As we start moving towards the new year it may be a good time to take a look at the changes of clothes in your child's bin and make sure that they still and replace any items with current sizes.

We also have our boot bin available for everyone to use. If you do choose to bring in boots to have in class, please make sure to label both boots to make it easier for us to find the right ones for each kid.

I hope everyone has had a fabulous November! Please let me know if you ever have any questions or if there is anything I can help you with.

Teachers Erin & Leah



## Dates to Add to your Calendar

**December 19<sup>th</sup>- January 2<sup>nd</sup>: Winter Break!**

**December 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>: Parent Teacher Conferences**

## Need to Reach Me?

**Front Desk:** 503-823-2840

**Teacher Erin**

[erin.dunlap@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:erin.dunlap@portlandoregon.gov)

**Tim Haberman:** 503-823-2847

[tim.haberman@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:tim.haberman@portlandoregon.gov)

If you know your child will not be able to come to class due to illness or other conflict, please let us know!

## Recycled Materials Wanted!!

If you have any of the following at home, we would be happy to take them off your hands!

Toilet & Paper Towel Rolls  
Yogurt Containers  
Egg Cartons  
Oatmeal Containers  
Pringle Cans (with lids)

