

**Dear Sprout 3's Families,**

We have had a lot of fun in the month of November in Sprout Academy! We have been exploring a farm and harvest theme, with lots of fun hands-on activities! The kids have especially enjoyed singing, dancing, and cooking together! As the weeks pass we are all enjoying getting to know each other better and forming a stronger classroom community.

**FALL FUN!**

In spite of the many days off in this last month, we have found the time to dive into learning about fall, farms, and the harvest season!

At Halloween time, the kids were so excited about pumpkins that we extended our learning about them into the beginning of November. We learned about the five senses by exploring the inside of a pumpkin with our eyes, nose, hands and ears. We incorporated taste by baking pumpkin seeds together. The kids had a great time practicing early literacy skills by helping read the recipe, and even more fun eating the finished product!



We got ready for Thanksgiving by learning about corn and turkeys. We discovered a lot of uses for dried corn! The kids were fascinated to learn that, unlike the pumpkin, corn cobs have the seeds on the outside. We tried sprouting the seeds in water, and rolling the cobs in paint to make patterns on paper. Finally, we got to use our recipe-reading skills again by popping corn still on the cob! For our final day before Thanksgiving, we celebrated with turkey songs and crafts, and each child shared what they were thankful for – everything from Mommies and Daddies to roller coasters!

This month we also had our first fire drill, and our students did a great job. We are beginning to take more walks into the park. We have made a lot of fun discoveries, including new mushrooms every time it rains.

## SKILLS WE ARE WORKING ON

It was wonderful meeting all of you for parent-teacher conferences and checking in about the social skills all of the threes are working on. I greatly appreciate all the support you have provided at home with learning to say, "please stop," and ask for turns with toys. I have seen so much growth in all of your kids in the last month. They are playing more collaboratively and showing more thoughtfulness towards each other every day! To keep up the positive momentum, here are a few more skills we are working on:



- Noticing when they are feeling frustrated and taking some quiet time when they need to. There are quiet places to play or have some time to themselves, and I am encouraging all the kids to feel free to do this! We even have teddy bears to cuddle with until they feel calm and ready to play with friends again.
- Holding on to a ring when we go for walks. To stay together in a group, we have a walking rope with ring-shaped handles. Kids can earn a sticker for holding their ring and walking nicely for the whole walk. The more we get the hang of this, the more fun we can have exploring the park!
- Packing up lunch boxes and putting on coats independently

It's exciting to see how quickly all our students are gaining both independence and teamwork skills! Thank you for all the help and encouragement with these skills!

## IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP

Thanksgiving Break: No School on November 23rd-25<sup>th</sup>.  
Class resumes Monday Nov. 28.

I wish all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Love,

Teacher Jacquelyn

