

Greenhills Co-op Preschool

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News Flash from the Co-op

Mrs Doose has volunteered to take our class photos and individual shots of your children! She is a very talented photographer and put together lovely pictures last year of our children. The dates for the pictures will be on Monday, October 23rd and Tuesday, October 24th. The rain dates will be October 25th and 26th. All of this will be happening during our class times. The cost will be \$20.00 for a class photo and 3-5 individual shots of your child. I believe that the "pictures" will be provided to you on a disk or chip. If you only want the class photo, the charge will be \$5.00. Siblings (non co-op students) can be photographed for \$15.00. The cost can be covered by checks (made out to the Greenhills Co-op) or cash and we will need to have them paid for in advance. Please just put the cash or check in an envelope marked "photos" with your child's name and class on the envelope also. You can give the envelope to your child's teacher and they will make sure that I get it.

Any questions? Feel free to talk with me.

Thanks!

Jan Johnson



Upcoming Events

October 25

Pumpkin Night with Dad (4s)

October 26

Pumpkin Night with Dad (3s and Pre-K)

November 9

Fall Conferences (No school on Thurs November 9th and Fri November 10th)

Important Announcement

Thanksgiving Break will be Wednesday November 22nd- Sunday November 26th.

Administrator's notes

It is with great pleasure that we have started our new year at the Co-op and everything seems to be going well! There is always a "learning curve" for all of us as we get to know new families, learn all of the little ones names and try to figure out what makes our classes "tick". But, it is still so much fun to watch it all come together! I love being with the 3 year olds as they experience all of this for the first time, but it is also so much fun to watch the 4s and 5s who have grown up so much over the summer!

I am excited to let you all know that I had our school become part of the Cincinnati Water Works program that checks for lead in our drinking water. We came out in great shape!! No traceable amounts found in the Muscle room sink, which is where we fill our water pitchers. No traceable amounts in the utility room or the boys or girls bathrooms. There was a very small amount (way below the amount allowed) found in the drinking fountain water. The Water Works said to just let the water run for a few moments before getting a drink. I always hold it on for a few moments while the children are climbing up the steps. The testing procedure was very explicit as to how the samples were to be gathered, in what order, and how to store it, until the testers came to pick up the samples. If anyone is interested in seeing the results, I would be glad to share them with you. With our "older building" I have to admit I was a bit leery to do the testing, but I knew that it needed to be done. It was so good getting our great results back!

Reminders have been going home about needing to get your child's medical updated. If you get a reminder, please call your Doctor's office ASAP. I am now being told that it can take 8 to 10 weeks to get a well child check-up scheduled.

Thank you to all who turned out for our annual popsicle night! We had such a fun evening! Thank you so much for the special events committee! The floor mopping was exceptional, as was all of the rest of the clean-up! It would have been **really** great if we had not had the rain, etc!!

Our next special events activity will be our Pumpkin Night with Dad. You will be getting notices about that soon. We always have so much fun with Dads at school!

Thank you to all of you for choosing the Co-op for your child/children. I speak for all of the staff when I say, "We are so glad to have you join us"!

I will be seeing all of you "In the hallway"!

Jan Johnson



3s News

We are having so much fun getting to know each other! It always amazes me as to how fast your little ones adjust to coming to school. And, how fast the parents are ready to leave also! When a little one is sad it is so hard, but when a parent is struggling with leaving...it is downright heart breaking! :)

We have been enjoying getting to know our friends names, learning that we are each so special in so many ways, sharing, taking turns, and listening to each other. The list could go on and on, preschool is so important. It is a shame, but "big school" - Kindergarten and up -is no longer allowing the littlest ones to be little for long. They are expected to no longer have the need to explore their environment, learn social manners or so many other important things. We need to remember one of my favorite quotes..."children have not changed, but their childhood has" Children still have the same needs as always, we are just trying to rush them through their childhood phases and push them into being "big kids" even though they may not be ready.

October will have us doing even more fun things! By the way, be on the lookout! We are starting to practice using scissors. We always have someone try to cut their hair (or a sibling's) at some point in time. My own brother apparently played "barber" with me when he was about 3.5-4 years old. Maybe that is why my hair has been long for my adult life (surely it is not that I just can't be bothered with it)!

Anyway, we will be having lots of fun learning about fall and so many of the things that are different in the fall. We also will be learning some things about community helpers. The highlight is when our completely volunteer fire fighters (Greenhills best volunteers!) come to school to meet us and talk about fire safety. They will even bring the fire truck and ambulance and let the children squirt the hose, sit in the trucks, etc. The children are always thrilled with the activities that day. We do get our more cautious children to try new things, but if they are truly worried about an activity, I do not force them.

We have our pumpkin night with dad later in the month and we will be having our class Halloween party on the 31st! More information will be coming home about these two events soon. (Continued below...)



Special Events Committee

Fall Update

The special event committee would like to thank all of the wonderful families for coming out and making popsicle night such a success! The Popsicles joined us in melting, and the room was as warm as our fellowship but the temperature did not seem to put a damper on our fun. Don't forget! The next special event at the school is coming up the end of October, pumpkins with dad! On October 25 for 4s and October 26 for 3s/pre-k, we encourage your ghouls or boos and their dads (or another male with a special connection) to come to the school for an evening of pumpkin decorating and fall fun! Pumpkins will be provided, please bring a knife for carving and smiles to help the candles light up the room!

November 9th will be a conference day. There will be no class that day, but please be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet so you can come to school to find out how wonderful your child is! Our conferences will be about 15 - 20 minutes long, so please try to make some time to come talk with me.

It is so wonderful to have all of "my" new and returning families. Thank you so much for sharing your children with me this year! I am looking forward to a great year.

Co-operatively yours

Jan Johnson

4s News

Well another year has begun and we would like to welcome you to the Four's program. We are looking forward to working with and getting to know your children and your whole family, as the year goes on. We have gotten off to a great start, as the children are making new friends and becoming re-acquainted with old ones.

During the month of September, the Fours have spent time learning about themselves and talking about what makes each of them unique and special. We made face cookies for snack, began our journals, began our individual photo albums, worked on our "All About Me" posters, and even had our bodies traced for a class portrait. On Teddy Bear Day we all brought our bears to school. We had lots of fun together – and the bears were very well behaved. Buddy Bear began going home with the children that week. If Buddy hasn't visited your house yet, be on the lookout because he will be coming soon. He will be sent home according to the order of the hook tags.

Reminder: Please return Buddy Bear the following class day. You may use one side or both sides of the page in Buddy's book, and please make sure that younger siblings don't scribble in it. Wash Buddy in a pillowcase when he seems dirty or if your child has had him and has been sick. Also, please make sure that all of Buddy's belongings (his clothes, toothbrush, crayons, pencil, and pencil bag) are in his bag, too. The children notice right away when something is missing!

We spent the last week of September having fun with apples. Our activities included an apple tasting contest, making Apple Crunch, and making a very cool apple tree using coffee grounds for bark. (We know many of you coffee lovers will enjoy "sniffing" that bark!) We also began working with letters and letter sounds (one letter per week – the children are having fun trying to think of words that start with the letter of the week).

We will spend the second week of October talking about fire safety and prevention, the proper use of "911", and how the firefighters and police officers are our friends. We will walk to the Greenhills Fire Station on Wednesday, October 11th. The kids will get to practice fire safety, sit in a fire truck, and squirt a fire hose. It is a really fun field trip, and we hope all of you will be able to participate!

On October 18th we will try a new fundraiser/fundraiser! It will be a bike-a-thon. We are hoping that all the children will participate and have lots of fun raising some extra funds for our school. Written information will be going out very soon to explain the event. If you have any questions, check in with Mrs Doose (our Pre-K teacher) or Jeannie Stephens (our fundraising chairperson). And pray for good weather!

During the month of October, we have been discussing autumn and its many changes. We will enjoy cooler weather (we hope!), and be on the lookout for busy squirrels and beautiful fall leaves. (We wrote some very cute stories about our good friends, the mysterious leaf creatures, so check them out in the hallway). We will be doing lots of fun things with pumpkins, too. Along with autumn come the many activities of Halloween. We will have Pumpkin Night with Dad on Wednesday, October 25th and we really hope that all of our dads can make it (a grandpa or uncle or mom could fill in, if necessary). Our Halloween party and parade will be on Monday, October 30th. Watch for more information on all of these events. Also, please note that fall conferences will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9th, with no school on the 10th.

As the weather changes and it becomes cooler outside, please dress your child according to the weather. We will be going outside whenever possible. Thanks!

Co-operatively yours,

Kathy Curry

Four's Recipe for Apple Crunch

In a muffin pan or baking dish, layer:

1. Graham cracker crumbs mixed with melted butter
2. Applesauce
3. Cinnamon and sugar

Repeat 1, 2, and 3 as desired. Heat in warm oven and serve warm. Yummy!



Carmel Fondue

(by Mrs. Gaige)

1 pkg. (14 oz.) caramels

2/3 cup light cream

½ cup miniature marshmallows

Put cream and caramels into pot on low. Add marshmallows. Add more cream if too thick. Serve with apple chunks. Great around Halloween!

Mrs. Curry's Circle Song

Put a smile upon your face,
let's hear you whistle
(whistle).

Put a smile upon your face,
let's hear you sing (la la la).

Put a smile upon your face,
and clap your hands (clap).

What a lovely way to start
each day, with a smile upon
your face!

(Sing it again!)

Pre-K News

Happy October!!

There's a lot happening in the Pre-K classroom! To offset a "busy" room, we will be breaking into two groups. There is no distinction between the two as far as abilities. It's just to help us learn self-control and give the teachers more one on one time with each student. It's a win/win situation!! Check out the new lesson plans for the week and it will help you understand how our day is broken down into two groups.

Don't forget about all the fun activities we have planned for October!!!

Firehouse Field Trip

Bike-A-Thon Fundraiser and Bike Safety Day

Pumpkin Night with Dad

Costume Party!

Oct. 2-5: D is for Dinosaurs!

Oct. 9-12: E is for Earth

Oct. 16-19 F is for Fall

Oct. 23-26 G is for Ghosts (and other scary-**but pretend**-things)

Oct. 30 H is for Halloween

Mrs. Doose

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