

The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

OCTOBER 2020



Important Upcoming Zebra Dates/Notes:

- ✓ Monday, October 12th – Closed for Columbus Day
- ✓ Friday, October 30th – Halloween Party in each classroom!!! Children should bring costumes. (More info to come from classrooms)
- ✓ November 9- November 22nd – Online Scholastic Bookfair (more info to follow)
- ✓ Thursday, November 26th & Friday, November 27th
Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

**CLASSROOM OPEN
HOUSES PLANNED
FOR THE WEEK OF
October 5th!**

**Watch for more
information from your
classrooms!!**

What is Happening in the Classrooms....



VIOLET ROOM NEWS

Happy Fall! The Violet Room friends are adjusting nicely to the classroom schedule and friendships have already begun to blossom. During the month of September we worked on learning our classmates and teachers names through games and finger plays.

The themes for the month of October are Fire Prevention (Ms. Katina's son Ryan will do a virtual fire house tour), leaves and apples, pumpkins, and Halloween. A separate letter will be sent out about festivities within our classroom and supplies needed for the celebration. Do to Covid-19 the children will go Trick-or Treating within our building and parents will not be allowed to attend, but don't fret we will take lots of pictures to share with you.

Cold weather will soon be upon us, so please send in warmer coats, hats, mittens, long pants and long sleeve shirts. As long as it's above 32 degrees we go outside.

We would like to wish a special "Happy Birthday" to Giovanni.

Ms. Laura, Ms. Chris, Ms. Katina, and Ms. Kathy

Remember that you must complete the daily health survey for your child before they can come to Spotted Zebra. The link is now located on our website at www.spottedzebra.org!!



Blue Room News

It has been a wonderful start of the year. We would like to thank the families who have helped make this transition during this different kind of year go so smoothly. We spent the first month of school getting to know each other. We played a variety of name games and getting to know you activities. We also spent time learning the classroom routine. Finally we ended the month by discussing families. Thank you for sending in your family pictures! Each child has a collage of his or her family displayed in the classroom.

In October we will learn about fire safety because October is Fire Prevention month. The class will also explore the topics of apples, leaves, pumpkins and Halloween. Thank you for signing up in our Google Classroom. We will be posting a sign-up for virtual conferences. These will be conducted in the afternoons on Zoom in October and November. We will also be posting a Google slide presentation in our Google classroom. This will be in place of our traditional in-person open house. As the weather gets cooler please be sure to send your child to school with a sweatshirt or light coat. We will be sending daily communication forms home. Please feel free to email us at blueroom@spottedzebra.org with any questions or concerns. This form will include information related to your child's day along with items he or she may need (such as diapers or extra clothing). Thanks for labeling all clothing, masks, personal items and blankets. Finally we would like to wish Miss Jenna a very happy birthday!

Ms. Erica, Ms. Jenna, Ms. Dominique and Ms. Karen



Bizzy Beez News

Happy October! We can't believe we are already in the second month of school. It seems like just yesterday you were dropping them off for the first time. The kiddos have settled in quite nicely. They seem so excited to come into class and see their friends. We look forward to our "virtual" open house night in October where the families can meet one another. Look for more details coming soon.

Thank you so much for sending in lots of pictures for our September projects. We learned all about each other, about our families and about ourselves. We worked on several group projects such as making a friendship tree with our hand-prints and making classroom rules. We also worked on our "All About Me" books and made family trees.

This month we will continue adding on activities to our morning circle time. We start with music and dance, which seems to be everyone's favorite time! We have started Halloween songs and they just love them. If you know what they are going to be for Halloween, please let us know so we can talk about it in class! We continue to work on our days of the week, weather, and our topic of the day. We are also incorporating as much sign language as we can into our circle time. We are working on signing the days of the week, the weather outside, colors and farm animals. Topics this month for our curriculum will include Apples, Fire Safety, Pumpkins and Halloween!

Starting this month, we will send out a more detailed lesson plan of what we have been doing during our program time. It took a few weeks to get a steady daily schedule down, but the kids have worked hard and we have made tremendous progress. Also, next week you will find in their bags a calendar as well as a weather chart. Please add these to your virtual learning bins. These will be helpful if we ever go virtual and have to do circle time activities at home.

Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns. We are just an email or phone call away. See you all soon!

~ Mr. Jason, Ms. Christina, Ms. Taryn, Ms. Laura

Orange Room News

The month of September sure did fly by! The children have adjusted quite well to the structure and routines of the Orange Room. Throughout the month we focused on getting to know each other and our new classroom routines. We participated in many name recognition activities, including learning a song called "The Friend March." We began working in our math program and focused on identifying same and different as well as basic shapes and numbers 1-5. In our literacy curriculum we began reviewing letters and their corresponding sounds. We also introduced our poetry journals and worked on using at least three colors when illustrating each poem. Finally, throughout September we began discussing the changing season as well as the life cycle of an apple tree.

As we move into October we will continue to work with numbers and quantity and we will begin to work with ten frames. We will continue to introduce a new poem each week. The poems for this month are all related to fall and we will begin showing the children how to label items in their pictures by listening for and recording beginning sounds. During our morning circle we will begin introducing 2 new high frequency words each week, which we call "popcorn words." The children usually have a ball looking for these in our morning message each day. Our science and social studies curriculum will include activities related to fall, Christopher Columbus, harvest time, pumpkins and of course Halloween. We will spend some time learning about fire safety as well since October 4th-10th is fire safety awareness week. Last but not least, we are excited to wish Nick a very happy birthday!

Ms. Terry, Ms. Sbardella, Ms Casey and Mr. Jason

PARENT RESOURCE!!!!

Kids love to decorate their backpacks with keychains that show off their interests and personality. This year, help them flaunt their individuality while protecting themselves from germs. These hand sanitizer holders come in cute characters and designs.

Go on Etsy or Amazon and search for "Hand Sanitizer Holder"!!! They are really cool!!!



Green Room News

Fall greetings! We have been having such a nice time getting to know each other in the Green Room. We have found that our friends really love to dance and sing; play in our kitchen and construction play areas; and build with wooden blocks and use the train set. Story time is also a favorite.

We have many exciting things planned for October as well. We will be learning about fire safety and will focus on what to do if there is a fire - stop, drop, and roll; stay low and go; get out and stay out; and call 911. There will be lots of role playing, so don't be surprised if your child drops to the floor to show you what to do!

We will also be learning about feelings (e.g. The Color Monster pairs colors with emotions), fall leaves, pumpkins, scarecrows, and Halloween. Look out for more information about our Open House Parent Night via Zoom on October 8th at 6:30 and Halloween in our classroom.

We have begun our letter of the week journals, which is supported by the Handwriting Without Tears curriculum. This will help us draw shapes and "Mat Man", as well as practice many other pre-writing skills. We will also introduce simple story sequencing/recall using visuals and actions this month with one of our school's favorite stories – *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything* by Linda Williams. We look forward to seeing the children's response to these activities.

Before we close, we would like to remind everyone to label masks, clothing and outerwear coming to school. Also, just a quick reminder to change the clothing in your child's spare clothing bucket over to fall attire, if you have not done so already. We have two birthday this month, so we would like to wish Kellan and Heidi a Happy Birthday!

Ms. Liz, Ms. Elle, Ms. Heather & Ms. Carol