

# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center

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OCTOBER 2021



## 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. September was filled with so much learning and joy. We also worked on learning our peer's and teacher's names through games and finger plays.

The themes for the month of October are Fire Prevention, leaves and apples, pumpkins, and Halloween. A separate letter will be sent out about festivities within our classroom and supplies needed for the celebration. Due to Covid-19 the Violet Room Friends will go Trick-or-Treating within our building. Unfortunately, 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 Kezia!

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



## 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.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Open House to showcase what we have been working on in the classroom over the past few weeks.

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.

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](mailto: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 Elena, Gio and Miss Jenna a very happy birthday!

Ms. Erica, Ms. Jenna, Ms. Kathryn, Ms. Lauren & Ms. Karen

### Upcoming Dates to Note for Closure

- Columbus Day - October 11<sup>th</sup>
- Veteran's Day - November 11<sup>th</sup>
- Thanksgiving Holiday - November 25-26, 2021



## Bizzy Beez News

September flew by and we have had an amazing time getting to know your kiddos! We learned all about how to be a "bucket filler" during our kindness week and will continue that theme throughout the school year! We also participated in many getting to know you activities to learn more about our friends. There will be a class book rotating through the class that will provide an opportunity for you to get to know the other friends in the classroom. It has a lot of friends to go home with so patience is needed.

October is all about fall, fire safety, pumpkins and Halloween. We will observe leaves before and after they have changed color and introduce the concept of why fall happens. Nature walks at home are a great way to observe the leaves falling and color change. Send us a picture of your favorite fall tree if you have one. Fire safety will incorporate fire drills, stop drop and roll and learning about fire fighters and the equipment they use.

The last couple weeks are my all-time favorite. We will explore pumpkin guts, dramatic play pumpkin patch, and so many other exciting activities involving pumpkins. Halloween is a fun week of sensory play, crafts and pinatas. We will have a small in class party that we will put up on zoom so parents can participate from home (details will follow). We wish all our October birthdays a very happy birthday! Also be on the lookout for more details on our virtual open house scheduled for October 14th. The three-year-old program is at 6:00pm and the four-year-old program is at 6:45pm.

Ms. Carrie, Ms. Christina, Ms. Mary, Ms. Ang, Ms. Laura and Ms. Megan

## Playing in the Sandbox News

The month of September sure did fly by! The children have been adjusting 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, as well as recognizing our own, and each other's names. New friendships have been blossoming this month!

We began working in our math program and focused on identifying numerals 0-4 and working with those quantities in various ways. In our literacy curriculum we began reviewing beginning letters and sounds of names, calendar and weather words. 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 life cycle of an apple tree, and practiced how to think like a scientist.

As we move into October we will continue to work with numerals through 10 and their corresponding quantities using ten frames and other counting games. 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 meeting we will begin introducing high frequency words each week, which we call "popcorn words." The first three that we will work with throughout the day's activities are "I", "see", and "the". The children usually have a great time looking for these in our morning message each day. We will also work with syllables in words and begin rhyming/word family activities.

Our science and social studies curricula will include activities related to fall, Christopher Columbus, indigenous people, harvest time, pumpkins, leaves, nocturnal animals, and of course Halloween. We will spend some time learning about fire safety as well since October 3rd-9th is fire safety awareness week.

Last but not least, we are excited to wish Heidi a very happy birthday!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Sbardella, Ms. Casey & Mr.  
Jason



## 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 with dinosaurs, all our different types of blocks and, playing with Play-Doh. 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 6th at 6:00.

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.

Ms. Kim, Ms. Elle, Ms. Christiana & Ms. Liz