

# The Spotted Zebra Learning Center



October 2022



## What is Happening in the Classrooms....



### VIOLET ROOM NEWS

It has been such a wonderful start to the new school year. The Violet Room friends are adjusting nicely to the classroom schedule and daily routine. The month of September was filled with fun, learning, and blossoming friendships! Through engaging games and finger plays, the children have been working on learning their classmates and teacher's names.

We have exciting themes planned for the month of October! We will be learning about Fire Prevention, leaves, apples, pumpkins, and Halloween. A separate letter will be sent out as it gets closer regarding festivities within our classroom, and supplies needed for the celebration.

Fall is finally here! Cold weather will soon be coming, so please send in warmer coats, hats, mittens, long sleeve shirts and pants. If it is above 32 degrees, we will plan on going outdoors.

We would like to wish a special "Happy Birthday" to Addison on October 8th!

**Ms. Christiana, Ms. Nicole, Ms. Chris, Ms. Laura, and Ms. Heather**

#### Open House

**Bizzy Beez** – October 6<sup>th</sup> 6:00-6:45pm 3 year olds; 7:00 – 7:45pm 4 year olds.

**Spotted Zebra** – October 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 – 7:45

#### Trunk-Or-Treat

**Oct 28<sup>th</sup>** 6-8pm Spotted Zebra parking lot  
26 Computer Drive East, Albany, NY 12205

\*Contact [RachelM@spottedzebra.org](mailto:RachelM@spottedzebra.org) to volunteer\*



## Blue Room News

It has been a wonderful start of the year. 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. We ended the month learning about apples and apple orchards.

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 Thursday October 13 at 7:00pm.

In October we will learn about fire safety because October is Fire Prevention month. The class will also explore the topics of Community Helpers, Autumn/Fall, 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). Daily forms will be sent home Monday-Thursday.

We would like to wish Miss Sara and Kezia a very Happy Birthday!

Here is to an amazing school year,

**Ms. Katina, Ms. Danielle, Ms. Sara, Miss Casey and Ms. Liz**



## Bizzy Beez News

September flew by and we have had an amazing time getting to know your kiddos! We learned all about kindness and how to be a friend! 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, woodland animals, 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 includes 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 games. We will have a small in class party and a pumpkin picking event (more details to follow on both) We have no October birthdays! Also be on the lookout for more details on our open house scheduled for October 6th. The three-year-old program is at 6:00pm and the four-year-old program is at 7:00 pm.

**Ms. Carrie, Ms. Kari, Ms. Hope, Ms. Rachel, Ms. Marlis and Ms. Megan**



## 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 all our different types of blocks and playing with Play-Doh. Our question of the day with our classroom dinosaur Tiny is a fan 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 apples all about fall, Halloween, and pumpkins.

Our Open House will be on October 13th from 7:00-7:45pm, more information will be sent home closer to the day.

We will be starting our letter of the week journals in October, which is supported by the Learning 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, 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. Before we close, we would like to wish Cashton a very happy birthday!

**Mrs. Christina, Ms. Elle, Ms. Sammy, Ms. Ang**



## Orange Room News

The month of September sure did fly by! The month of September sure did fly by! The children are adjusting well to the structure, routines, and activities of the Orange Room. Throughout the month, we focused on getting to know each other and our classroom routines, as well as recognizing our own, and each other's names. New friendships have been blossoming this month! We also completed a unit on families. We are culminating that unit with a special Family Tree Mural in our classroom. Thanks so much for sending in your pictures!

During our morning meeting we began, and will continue, to introduce high frequency words ("popcorn words") each week. The children have a great time looking for these in our morning message and poem each day. We have begun to work with rhyming words and beginning letters of words and will continue to do so throughout October.

In September, our math program (i-Ready) focused on identifying numerals 0-9 and working on counting, representing, and writing to "show what we know" about those numbers. Next, we will move to comparing quantities 0-10. Writing practice of these numerals will continue this month and throughout the year.

In our literacy curricula – Fountas and Pinnell and Learning Without Tears - we began reviewing beginning letters and sounds, and alphabet order. We also introduced our poetry journals and worked on using pictures to give meaning to key words. We will continue to introduce a new poem each week.

Finally in September, we began discussing the life cycle of an apple tree, the parts of an apple, and practiced how to think like a scientist. Our science and social studies curricula for October will include activities related to fall, Indigenous People, pumpkins, leaves, nocturnal animals, and of course, Halloween. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding October activities and events. In addition to all of the other learning experiences, we will spend time learning about fire safety as well since October 9th-15th is fire safety awareness week. Please consider practicing an emergency plan and routine at home as well. We are excited to wish Elena a very happy birthday on the 17th!

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Tiffany, Ms. Sunita, Ms. Brittany, Ms. Danielle, and Ms. Ang**