



What's News at Sage?



Sage Academy's Preschool – Elementary School Newsletter

October 2009



Halloween Fair Saturday, Oct. 31st
10AM - 3PM! Food, Games, Fun!!

From the Director...

Dear Sage Families,

Just an update regarding our flu status at school: I have not heard about any more cases of H1N1 thus far, and our attendance is very normal this week. We will continue to monitor any symptoms of illness at school, and together with your support we will minimize the spread of viruses this season. **Thank you to all parents last week;** I really appreciated the proactive approach and feedback.

A reminder that Halloween Fair Volunteer forms are due to the classrooms or office by this Friday, October 2nd. We need 100% participation! Thank you to our Room Parents in each classroom who have organized a donation drive to sponsor the booths at the Fair, and thank you in advance for your support with this group effort! (Sign up sheets and envelopes are in each room.)

Forms went in folders regarding "**Priority Enrollment Month**" which takes place in October. Reserve your child's space for the 2010-2011 school year! (Space is reserved on a first come, first served basis.) Please email or call with any questions.

Please remember to check your child's folder every day for announcements and important forms.

Enjoy this gorgeous weather!

Kristi



SERVING HEALTHY SNACKS

We are on a mission to serve the healthiest snacks we can find! After researching the options, we have modified the list of items that we routinely stock at school. Fruits, veggies, baked crackers, pretzels, bagels, and low fat or nonfat dairy items are included. We will avoid foods with trans fats, hydrogenated oils, and a high sugar content. 100% fruit juice is served, but most often water is the drink of choice. Preschool parents, on your child's snack day please provide fruits or veggies if possible, since these have the shortest shelf life and are the hardest for us to keep in supply. The exception to the above list is of course birthday treats and other special occasions at school.

If you have healthy snack ideas to share, please email Kristi!

The Yellow Room with Giselle & Andrea

The school year is off to a wonderful start, and I am happy to say that our little Yellow Room friends are adjusting beautifully to their new routine. Separation was tough, but we are getting through it. Each day is getting better, and our little ones are quickly growing to love school!

We have some exciting activities planned this month. As we jump into autumn, we will begin with a week of exploring leaves and the way they change and fall. Hopefully the weather will cool off soon and start to really feel like fall!



Once we get the fall feeling going in the classroom, we will spend a couple of weeks investigating apples and pumpkins. We will learn all about them through tasting, stories, art projects, and of course, cooking activities. It will surely be a ton of fun!

We'll finish out the month with a unit on cats (mostly friendly black ones) and Halloween (not too scary). We will be doing lots of creative art, playing silly games, and we'll even have a little Halloween cookie decorating party. Then the month will be topped off with Sage's world-famous (okay, maybe valley-famous) Halloween Fair! Happy October!

The Purple Room with Audra & Jennifer

Welcome to the new school year! Audra and Jennifer are having so much fun getting to know the Purple Room friends! In September, we welcomed everyone by singing name songs, displaying pictures of our first days together and talking about our families, homes, and community. Thank you for your help with the family tree project! We now know the daily routine and look



forward to being "the snack boy/girl," who gets to ring the clean up bell. Please continue bringing healthy snacks, including fresh fruits and vegetables.

For October, we are starting with the basics of shapes and colors, and we'll build on these concepts

throughout the year. We will explore what is inside a pumpkin and sample some harvested crops to celebrate autumn. At the end the month, we will ignite our imagination with costumes and stories. We look forward to seeing our friends at the Halloween Fair!

Please check the sign-in sheet for reminders, the purple board for our daily activities, and the potty chart to gather information about our fun day. Thank you to Leegie Bowers, Nkechi Carroll, Shannon Komsky, Amy Nacimiento and Grace Lew for being our room parents. We look forward to many fun activities and parties in the Purple Room!



The Blue Room with Margaret & Marlyn

We're off to an amazing start. The children have settled in to their new routine and are doing great. We started off by getting to know each other and the families we live with. They were eager to share and talk about who lives at their houses. We touched on Rosh Hashanah and Ramadan, which gives us an opportunity to learn about the world around us and our similarities with each other.

Next, we'll explore life on the farm by talking about animals and how plants grow. We'll even have a chance to make our own butter from cream!

Apples will be another fun unit that will allow the children to taste and compare different apples, make applesauce, and even paint and print with them.

We'll be talking about night time and nocturnal animals, which will bring us up to Halloween. The children are already so



excited about this event and the costumes they'll be wearing. We'll be having two parties this year: One on the 29th of October, and one on the 30th. Our room parents will bring in sign-up sheets for our party days. With that in mind, I would like to inform you that our room parents for Tues/Thurs are Julie Goldin (Ari) and Sherry Shavit (Joshua) and our MWF room parents are Lisa Dumke (Troy), Erica Baltodano (Camilo), and Joie Mendes (Brooke). Thank you for volunteering to help assist the Blue Room this year.

Thank you to everyone for signing up for a snack day. The children love sharing food from home. A reminder that we're 16 children on MWF and 9 on Tues/Thurs. Just so you're aware when sending in snack, we do have some nut and dairy allergies.

It will be a great year! Thank you Blue Room Families!

The Green Room with Laysha & Aimee

Congratulations, you survived the first month of school! We have been so busy already and have had a lot of fun getting to know all of our new friends. Everyone has settled in really well, and I am so impressed with all the progress we have made in such a short time. We spent September talking about what makes each of us special and learning about color-mixing and shapes. Thank you for sharing all the beautiful family photos.

In October we'll spend some time exploring apples, apples, apples! We'll make some yummy apple treats, have a taste-testing, and even paint with apples. Then



we'll *moo*-ve onto the farm and learn about some of the fun animals that live there and make our own biscuits and butter.

As we start getting ready for Halloween, we'll talk about the moon and nocturnal animals. Cats, bats, and owls, oh my! We'll do some activities to see what it's like to live in the dark. We will do

some messy projects with pumpkins and make our own jack-o-lantern. Then we'll have some fun getting ready for the Halloween Fair by decorating our room and discussing the difference between real and pretend. We will have a small Halloween party on Friday the 30th, so be on the lookout for a party sign-up sheet.

Thank you again for a wonderful September, and for all the healthy snacks you have provided. Remember to check our white board for a more detailed account of our daily activities so you can ask your children about them.

Pre-K-1 with Martha & Parvaneh

September was full of meet and greets! We were greeted with our new classmates and met with fun art projects and lots of songs. We have all seemed to settle in so nicely.

In October we will kick off the month by talking about shapes and colors, along with how to keep our bodies healthy. The Halloween spirit will be upon us as we discuss all things Halloween, as bats, cats, ghosts, ghouls, and pumpkins become our topic of classroom conversations. So much fun we can't wait to do it all! Thank you, for all your continued help and support.



Pre-K-2 with Jen & Leslie

September was a great month. We had a lot of fun exploring our new classroom and we also made some new friends. We learned about our senses by seeing, touching, hearing, smelling and tasting things at circle time and in our science center. We learned about community helpers like the doctor, dentist, fire fighter and police officer. We had fun exploring fall with leaves and apples in our science center. We are looking forward to October and learning about



nursery rhymes, fairy tales, animals that come out at night, and Halloween. We are also looking forward to the Halloween fair!

As a reminder, our class starts circle time at 9:00am. During circle we discuss our weekly theme and the daily topic before we explore them through play at centers. We don't want our friends to miss out on this very important time, so please arrive promptly.

Kindergarten with Mrs. Small & Mrs. Sasooness

Mrs. Small and her students have started this year off with a BANG!!! We have been very busy over the past weeks personalizing our classroom with the perfect Kindergarten touch! The students created charming self-portraits and a beautiful classroom puzzle. Using our budding writing and math skills, we already have loads of work displayed on our "Wonderful Work" board.



Our days are packed with fun and exciting activities in reading, phonics, math, social studies, science, music, art, P.E., and computers! This month we will begin our "Colors All Around" unit in Language Arts. In Math we will explore sorting and numbers to 10. My EK-Kindergarten friends will also be very busy discovering creepy crawly bats and spiders. I am very excited to say our first field trip is this month. We will be having a pumpkin patch adventure! A week is not complete without the excitement of Show and Tell, Times for Kids, and learning centers!



On another note, I am proud to say that my students are very busy exploring books. On top of checking out library books every Monday, my class has explored a

variety of books at home with their families! Looks like a bright future SAGERS!

1, 2 & 3 with Mrs. Florez and Ms. Shelly

The month of October has been filled with many exciting lessons and activities in the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade class! We have begun our new Science units that center around the theme, "Living Things". So far, we've explored the roles of plants and animals in our ecosystem, with an in-depth look into the world of spiders! Our first field trip will be later this month with a visit the Spider Pavilion at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles. This trip will give students the opportunity to get up close and personal with these shy and fragile creatures by actually going into their enclosure, and studying the magnificent webs that they produce.



The first grade is fully immersed in learning about school and family in Social Studies, with the focus on "getting along" and being a good friend. So far, they have conducted interviews with their peers to learn more about one another, and will be creating posters that emphasize important concepts such as sharing, taking turns, and listening. The second and third graders are being introduced to the concept of "community" and are currently studying what makes communities different from each other. They are even beginning to make maps that depict the various characteristics of rural, suburban, and urban communities! So far, this year has been off to a great start, and we can't wait to see what the coming months have in store for us!



See you at the Halloween Fair!