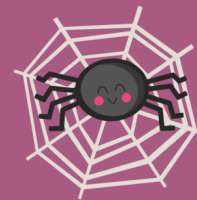


DOVER BETHANY ELC

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



DATE

ACTIVITY

- October 9th INSERVICE, Center closed
- October 23rd Bagels & Books
- October 24th Firehouse Subs Fundraiser
- October 27th Halloween Parade & Fall Literacy Night
- November 1st Picture day
- November 17th Thankful Feast
- November 23rd & November 24th Thanksgiving Center closed
- December 17th Christmas Pageant
- December 25th Christmas, center closed
- January 1st New Year's Center closed
- March 25th Children's Easter Sunday
- March 28th DBELC Easter Egg Hunt
- March 30th & April 2nd Easter Center closed
- April 27th Parent Appreciation Lunch
- May 14th Muffins with Mom
- May 20th Pre-K Graduation
- May 28th Memorial Day Center closed
- June 18th Donuts with Dads
- July 4th Independence Day Center closed



Picture Day Is Coming!
Wednesday, November 1st!

HALLOWEEN PARTY AND LITERACY NIGHT



DBELC will be holding our Halloween party and Literacy Night on Friday, October 27th at 4:30 pm. Family members are encouraged to attend and bring candy to hand out to the children. Children may dress up for Halloween in costume if they would like to do so. We ask that the children do not

dress up in costumes that are too scary, such as devils or witches or "scary" monsters. And please, no weapons. Our Halloween parade will take place at this time. The children will be parading through the lower parking lot. We will also have literacy-based games and activities for the children to play and the book fair taking place.

45 DAY OBSERVATIONS

It has been about a month since the children transitioned to their new classrooms. We hope it was a smooth and positive experience for all. Thank you to all families who attended our Open House, as communication eases all changes and transitions. We have more students and teachers than ever before. I am very excited to watch DBELC grow and develop, but we also aim to maintain a comfortable and home-like environment where children receive the individual care they need to succeed. In attempt to monitor and communicate with you about how your child is developing in this new environment, teachers will be completing a 45 day observation for each child. The tool that we use to complete the 45 day observation is called the Ages & Stages Questionnaire (or ASQ). It is a short developmental checklist that can assist us in determining how well your child is adjusting and thriving in the new classroom. Teachers will also send home a copy of the same checklist and request that you complete it based on what you observe your child doing at home and return it to us. Please be as accurate as possible. Comparing your child's progress in both environments is extremely important in developing an overall view of your child's growth and progress. Please complete and return your portion to your child's teacher. You may be asked to meet with your child's teachers or you may request a mini-conference to meet with your child's teachers to discuss your child's progress. Phone conferences are available. More thorough evaluations will be completed and conferences will be offered as the year progresses.

Paulus Orchards Field Trip

On Friday, October 6th, the preschool and pre-kindergarten classes will be embarking on their first class field trip together for the school year. They will be visiting Paulus Orchards, where they will get a tractor ride and tour through the Paulus Orchards to pick pumpkins and apples and to learn about how important bees are to the farm. They will also be having a picnic lunch (provided by DBELC) and will get to play in the Playland. The cost of the trip is \$12 per child. For information about Paulus Orchards, check out their website at www.paulusorchards.com. The \$12 field trip fee and permission slip will be due to me by October 4th.

FALL REMINDERS

During inclement weather, we try to remain open as long as we possibly can. We will only close the center if we lose power and/OR water or the roads are not travelable. Delays are determined if more time is needed for snow removal and safe travel. Please be prepared and have a plan before bad weather forces us to close or delay opening. Read over the "bad weather policy" in your center handbook. We no longer broadcast any closings or delays on ABC 27. Your most direct and quickest methods for checking our weather status are the following: call the center and listen to the voicemail, check our Facebook page, or sign up for the Remind app. Remind is a free service that allows the center to send any reminders directly to your cell phone. To enroll in this program, send a text message to the number 81010 containing the message @dbelc0147. If we close or delay, we follow the procedures stated above and listed in the center's handbook.



With the coming of cold/flu season, I would like to review our illness policy. We enforce an illness policy that corresponds to the DHS Illness Policy for licensed child care centers. If the following symptoms or signs of illness are apparent, your child will not be able to attend for the day: fever of 101 degrees or higher, diarrhea (more than 2 times), vomiting, draining or suspicious rash, eye discharge or Pink Eye, lice or mites. **Children must be symptom-free without medication for 24 hours before they return to care.** We may ask that your child be examined by a pediatrician. There are times when a pediatrician may approve your child to return to care but we cannot allow your child to return until your child is no longer contagious. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

BAGELS & BOOKS Please join us for breakfast October 23rd for our first ever Bagels and books event from 7:15—8:30 am. You will have the opportunity to peruse and purchase books from our annual book fair and to spend a quiet breakfast with your child.

CLASSROOM UPDATES

School-Age Welcome back to another school year! The children have been settling in to their new school routines and our before and after school routines. We are excited to welcome Madalyn, Zai'nez, Zai'niyza, Christian, Makayla, Braxton, Xavier, Gannon, Brianna, Taiven, Greyson, and Conner to our class! We are getting quite full in our classroom, and we have some reminders for you to help us transition to our larger group. Please take all of your child's belongings off his or her hook and check the folder in the classroom daily. Do not allow your child to walk through the hallways in the building unattended; it is state regulation that all children must be directly supervised at all times, despite age. You must come to the fence to pick up your child when we are playing outside. We provide the children with homework time every day after school for 15-20 minutes. This may not be enough time, so make sure to check that your child's homework is completed daily. Please please please remember to contact us if your child will not be attending for the day, especially if your child will not be getting off of the bus in the afternoon. If we expect a child to get off the bus and the child does not, we assume the child is lost and react immediately by calling parents, schools, and bus companies. This process often takes quite some time before we are able to get in touch with someone. This removes a teacher from the classroom for a period of time, which leaves the remaining teacher alone and delays the entire class from their normal routine and schedule.

We are focusing on being better friends to each other and filling our buckets with marbles for being good friends and showing "friendly" behaviors. After earning 10 marbles in their personal buckets, each student earns a prize. If the class is able to earn 25 buckets together, the kids will earn a field trip to Laserdome on November 27th. More field trip information to come, but the class will only be able to go if they earn their 25 buckets. Right now, they have earned 8 buckets. We have a long way to go!

We will continue talking about our feelings, focusing on the feelings anger, happiness, envy, and sadness, and using our words to describe our feelings before we act or speak. We will be working on keeping our hands to ourselves, respecting each others' spaces and bodies, and speaking to each other kindly, quietly, and respectfully. To reinforce these ideas, we will be making sensory bottles to match and visualize these feelings and playing some games that encourage us to cooperate (versus compete) with each other. Our next unit for the school-aged class is pumpkins! We will be getting hands-on with some pumpkins by dissecting them to learn the parts of a pumpkin, making pumpkin slime with real pumpkin guts, doing some pumpkin art projects, and using pumpkins to make 3D pumpkin geoboards. Do you know what states grow the most pumpkins? We will be learning the answer to that question as well!



When communicating expectations for young toddlers, it is most important to be brief and clear (“feet on floor”), tell children what to do more than what not to do (“Blocks are not for throwing. Blocks are for building.”), to be consistent (we may have to say it a million times), and to realize it’s okay to have feelings (“It makes me sad when you hit.”).

Infants

In September, we said goodbye to Solomon, Ava, Kensley, Delainey, and Wyatt as they transitioned up to the young toddlers classroom. We can’t believe how many of our friends are so grown up already; we will miss them being a part of our class. We are excited to see them develop and wish them good luck in their new class. We welcomed Ryan to our class in September and will be welcoming Tommy and Cayden in October. We are happy to welcome them to our group and to get to know them. Last month, we enjoyed sensory play with water beads and made books with our pictures in them. In October, we will explore a fall sensory bin with leaves, pumpkins, and apples. We are also working with our older friends on the sign language signs for “more” and “all done.” We have a few reminders for families: please make sure to label ALL of your child’s belongings, including bottles, bottle lids, pacifiers, blankets, and sheets. Take your daily sheets daily so you know what happened throughout your child’s day and what items we may need you to bring from home. Please bring in 3-4 family pictures for us to hang for the children to see throughout the day. They love seeing and touching them.

Young Toddlers

This month, we talked about me, family, pets, and apples. We named body parts using Mr. Potato Head. We played a matching game using family pictures. We used stamps and stickers to create a pet collage. We scooped apples from one bin to another with big spoons. We also got to taste the apples! In September, we welcomed Solomon, Kensley, Wyatt Delainey, and Ava! They love exploring their new classroom and friends. In October, we will be learning the sign language signs for mom, dad, and apple.

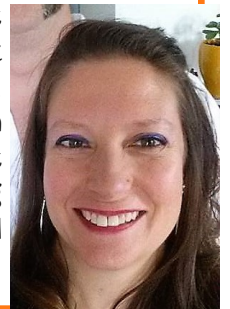
Older Toddlers

Happy Fall Everyone! We have had a great month adjusting to our new room and learning about our friends. We talked about our families, how they are the same and different. We also started talking about colors. Fall has arrived, and what a great season for learning! There are so many fun things to experience in autumn: falling leaves to rake into a pile for jumping, leaves changing colors and the crunching sound as we walk on them, the smell of apples, and, of course, playing with pumpkin guts. We have already added pumpkin pie playdough to our classroom. Some great fall activities that we will be doing in class include sorting leaves by color and size, finding acorns and counting how many we have, and exploring the shapes we find in nature. You can reinforce your child’s learning by doing these same activities at home. Children learn best by exploring and playing. Have fun and enjoy their wonderment. If you would like any more ideas on what you can do at home, just ask.

A few reminders: the weather is finally getting cooler. Please be sure to have weather appropriate extra clothes. We go outside in the morning and sometimes it will be a little cool yet. Feel free to keep an extra sweatshirt in their cubby for those just in case times. Please make sure coats are labeled. The children are learning to be independent and love to get their own jackets and put them away, but sometimes we miss our own cubbies. It helps having a name to get the right coat on the right child.

Welcome Back, Ms. Amy!

You may notice a new face floating around our infant and toddler classrooms this week. That would be Ms. Amy! Ms. Amy knows DBELC well. In 2010 and 2011, Ms. Amy spent some time teaching in the toddler and preschool classrooms. She has also been our exercise instructor for the past two years. Ms. Amy has returned temporarily to help out in the infant and toddler classrooms. Ms. Amy’s passion is dance and she has spent time teaching dance and theater throughout York and Lancaster counties, including places like Greater Dover Dance Academy, York College, Fulton Opera House, Dream Wrights Theater, and Silver Spring Dance Conservatory, to name just a few. Amy also spent some time working as an advocate for children with disabilities. Amy earned her Master of Fine Arts at the University of Colorado and spent time studying psychology and sociology at Stratford Career Institute and teaching certification at the University of the Arts. Even if it’s just for a short while, we are thrilled to have Ms. Amy back with us! She is an incredible teacher! Please help me welcome her!



Young Toddlers’ Song of the Month

Apple

(sung to the tune of “Bingo”)

There is a fruit that’s red and sweet

And APPLE is its name-o

A-P-P-L-E, A-P-P-L-E, A-P-P-L-E

And APPLE was its name-o

There is a fruit that’s red and sweet

And APPLE is its name-o

“Clap” P-P-L-E, “Clap” P-P-L-E, “Clap”

P-P-L-E

And APPLE was its name-o

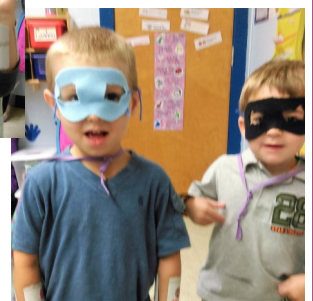
(continue like “Bingo”)

The preschool and pre-k classes are having a great time participating in the Soccer Shots program on Tuesdays, Bible Story Time on Wednesdays and their exercise classes on Thursdays. Please remember to wear sneakers and dress appropriately for soccer and exercise classes.



PRESCHOOL

This month we have been working on listening skills and using words to solve a problem. We have been learning about people in our family, being a super friend, and pets. Here some pictures of our Super Friends, they said "Up, up, and away!!" We did a water color fish and used corn to make the first letter of our name; both art projects are displayed in the room if you would like to see what your child did. We seem to enjoy painting at the art center. During free choice, a lot of our friends are painting instead of coloring. They have had purple and yellow water to explore with different scoops, funnels, large spoons, and eye droppers. This gets their fingers and wrists moving to help with fine motor skills. They are also talking to their friends about what they are doing and how things work. Another popular area is the sand table. Working with sand gives them a calm activity to collect themselves and also lets them fill different sizes of containers (which is a great math skill). The block area is always bustling with builders and various vehicles. The kids are doing great with knowing how the nametag system work. Now we will encourage them to clean up before going to the next activity. During circle time they get to pick a job to do during the day. We have learned the letters T,E, and L so far. You can encourage letter recognition at home and review these letters with them in a fun way to help this developing skill. They should also be able to show you the letters in sign language; we practice this every Wednesday. We also did a chart about our topic each week. This past week we asked, "If you could pick any pet what would it be?" Our friends had some cute answers: Cambria chose a pink pig, Rayce chose a red kitty, Easton chose a big dog, Alba chose a horse spirit, Aubrey chose a cave wolf, Emma chose a dinosaur, Amelia chose a purple snack, and both Carson and Isa are partial to kitty cats with stripes. A reminder, we have show-n-tell every week. You can help your child look for something that starts with the letter of the week from you house. Try to be creative and make it fun. We also allow snacks to be brought in if it starts with the letter. ;)



PRE-KINDERGARTEN

We would like to thank our families who were able to attend our open house meeting. We addressed important classroom rules, procedures, expectations, curriculum information, upcoming events, daily schedules, and any other questions you may have had for us. If you still have questions, please come see, call, or email us. We would be happy to answer them for you.

During September, we introduced our P.A.T.H.S. (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) to help with language and literacy skills and age appropriate social and emotional development. This part of our curriculum will continue throughout the year. We also began our focus on letters Aa, Bb, Cc, and Dd and numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4. It is important to play games and engage children in daily activities that address the alphabet and numbers to extend and reinforce learning, like alphabet memory, alphabet scavenger hunts, practicing writing letters in sand or rice or with playdough, or building letters with Legos or other blocks. We ask that you review these at home to help your child prepare for kindergarten!

We would like to remind our families that show-n-tell is every Tuesday at 10:00 am and the object your child brings in to share must begin with the letter of the week. We ask that no personal items or toys (other than nap items) be brought to school any other day of the week. A stuffed animal is permitted at naptime only.

October will be a busy month for Pre-K as we look forward to a field trip to Paulus Orchards, fall-related activities, fire safety month (stay tuned for October homework), and Halloween events. Please check our parent board as we have four sign-up sheets posted there!

Finally, we welcomed our new buddy, Quwan to our class! He loves block center and is making new friends quickly!