



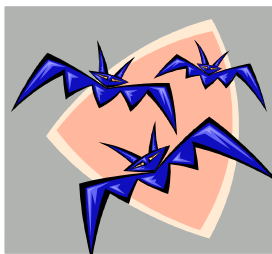
Oct.  
2009

Happy Birthday

We had 3 birthdays last month that we wish to acknowledge. Happy Birthday Lily, Danny, and Sean! This month we have 2 birthdays. Happy Birthday Abby and Caroline!

Thank you! Thank You!

We would like to thank Sinead (Abby's mom), Sandy (Danny's mom), Kerry (Robby's mom), and Megan (Brendan's mom) for coming with us apple picking. We had such a great time picking yummy apples.



Hooray! Everyone has made such a wonderful transition into the Panda Room!!

Everyone is doing such a wonderful job transitioning into the Panda room and we are well on our way to learning our daily routine. All those sad good-byes are quickly turning into a brief "bye". We just want you to know that most times, if your child is having a particularly hard drop off, he/she is usually fine and playing well before you get in your car. I know that it really hurts to hear them scream (I know first hand by listening to my own daughter scream), but they calm down pretty quickly. You are always more than welcome to call later and see how they are doing.

We had a wonderful month of September! Besides making new friends and learning a new class routine, we got a lot accomplished. We talked a lot about ourselves. We hope everyone liked the self portraits that we made. We also talked a lot about fall. We loved listening to the story about the little red house that has no doors, no windows and a star inside. The children loved watching the apple being cut in half and seeing the surprise inside.

We have also started the letter of the week

We have already completed letters A and B.. Besides looking at the letter, we trace it in the air, practice writing it in our folders, come up with words that start with that letter, and then sing a song with that letter in it. We also do a project that goes with that letter. For example, on the letter B, we glued buttons and made a bead bracelet. A few years back we started the concept bottles. If you signed up to adopt a letter, you and your child can fill a bag with objects that start with that letter. The children really like to present to the bags to the class and label what each item is. Please nothing edible or breakable.

We would like to thank Caroline for the "A" bag. It is always amazing to see the amount of objects families find that start with the letter they have adopted. Please remember to bring in a little cheat sheet labeling all the items in a bag, sometimes you are just way too creative! We would like to thank everyone who signed up to adopt a letter. But there are many lonely letters waiting for adoption. We need some really nice family who would like to adopt a letter or two. Yes, we do take bribes. Also, there are still many dates open for our Mystery Readers. Calling all moms, dads, grandparents, and siblings... We would love to have you come in and read to the class. We are pretty flexible in our timing. If you would like to come in first thing, we can have you read before circle at 9:00. Or if 12:00 is better for you, we can do it then. Just let us know what works for you. There are also many other opportunity to volunteer in the class. We have cutting projects, making playdough, and hosting a holiday party. Please check out the Parent Volunteer Board in our classroom.

## Parent Tip of the Month

Why do children want to play more than they want to learn? I found an awesome poem, author unknown, that is perfect.

***I tried to teach  
my children with books,  
he gave me only  
puzzled looks.  
I tried to teach  
my child with words,  
they passed him by,  
often unheard.  
Despairingly, I turned aside,  
“How shall I teach  
this child?”  
I cried.  
Into my hand he put the key.  
“Come”, he said,  
“Play with me.”***

Play is the most powerful form of learning that preschool children have. It teaches more than just having fun. It teaches math, science, language arts, art, social studies, physical development, and social emotional skills. So the next time your child says “Let’s play”. Just remember that he/she is learning and absorbing everything



## Our Panda creations



October is here!

Can you believe that October is here? Where does the time go? It is hard to believe that we have been in school for 5 weeks now. We are going to have such a fun filled month, We will be talking about fall and our favorite spooky holiday, Halloween! We will be making some fall banners, collages and leaf projects. We will also be making some scary Halloween projects to decorate our room with. Be on the look out for spiders, ghosts, Jack-O-Lanterns, and bats. We hope you will not be too scared to come into the Panda room! Our question of the month is: What are you going to dress up as for Halloween? So stop in and check out what your child wants to be. It may help out with ideas. We will be graphing (premath skills) our favorite candy, our costumes, and creating and carving our Panda Pumpkin into a terrific Jack-O-Lantern. Speaking of pumpkins, we are planning our first field trip to Jane and Paul’s Farm on Wednesday, October 28th. We will be going on a hayride, feeding animals, then picking a pumpkin, and going through a corn maze. If Wednesday is not your child’s regular school day, please be assured that every child will go on at least one field trip this year.

## Skills of the Month

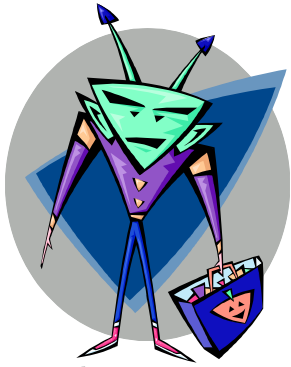
This month we will be working on the letters C, D, E, and F. This months colors are orange and black. Oct. 7th is wear orange day and Oct. 27th is wear black day. We will also be practicing our fine motor skills by hammering golf tees into pumpkins.

We will be working on our independent skills. We will be pouring our own milk at lunch and snack. We will be learning the concepts of empty, full, and half way. We are also trying to do things for ourselves before we ask for help. (Such as putting the straw in our juice box, zipping our lunchboxes, and putting on our coats.

## Web Site of the Month

I have found this awesome web site that has everything from Activities & Crafts, Home & Garden, E-Cards, Parties, Raising Kids, Life with Kids, Recipes, to Travel. Check out [www.familyfun.com](http://www.familyfun.com)

## Halloween Day



Panda of the Day

There is a calendar on the Volunteer board for Panda of the Day. This is a day for your Panda to Shine. A note will go home explaining that your child is the Panda of the Day and your family is Family of the day. Enclosed in that note is an interview sheet that we need you to fill out with your child and return back to us. If you would like to come in and talk to the class about your family, please let us know when. Many families in the past have done photo albums (both paper and Power Point) and/or Poster board with favorite family pictures. They (parents and child) explain the pictures to the class. They have read us favorite stories, danced to favorite music, whatever you would like.

Speaking of Halloween, we will be having a parade over to the Town Hall for the entire class on Friday, October 30th. Please bring in your child's costume, with their name on it, in a bag. **NO MASKS PLEASE!!!** If this is not your child's regular day, your child and an adult are more than welcome to join us. Please be in costume and ready to march by 9:50.

## Afternoon Fun

The afternoon class had a lot of fun in September making Studio Art. This month we will be looking at all aspects of nature. We will go on Nature Walks, do some nature science experiments and make some organic art projects. If your child does not stay until 3:30 and would like to join us for a fun afternoon of nature... see Diana to sign up for a day or two.

## Last Minute Notes

Please make sure your child has extra clothes in his/her cubby. Many times little spills are all that's needed to warrant a change in clothing. Also, with the cooler weather approaching, please make sure your child has a form of a coat or jacket. We do go outside every day.

## The Classroom Needs

- 3 Large Pumpkins
- 5 Mini Pumpkins
- 5 Different Gourds
- 3 ears on indian corn
- Golf Tees

## As Always

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please come and talk with us. We are always here to help. Also, if you would like to read a story or do a project, please let us know, we would love to have you!

Sandy, Becca, & Ginny

