



## Upcoming Events

### Alaska Day

**Wednesday, October 18th**  
*No Preschool*

### ZIP-A-DEE-DOO-DAH Concert

**Saturday, October 21**  
**Noon-1:00 p.m**

Kids concert featuring story telling, music and food. See newsletter for details.

### Preschool Halloween Celebrations

**Monday, October 30th and  
Tuesday, October 31st**

See details below.

### Parent-Teacher Conferences

**November 10th.**  
*No Preschool*

See details below.

**KEEP COLLECTING THOSE  
LEAVES FOR UPCOMING LEAF  
JUMP!**

## Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah Concert:

**Saturday, October 21, Noon-1:00 p.m.**

Please join us for our first fundraiser of the 2017-2018 school year. The Zip concert is a low-key, family event featuring storytelling, music, and food. We are fortunate that Northern Lights Church donates the space and in the expert assistance of former teacher, Rhonda Gardinier for getting the entertainers. Our job is to provide healthy food for the lunch/ bake sale at the event. Please consider making sandwiches, wraps, fruit cups, meatballs, or the like, and bringing them to the church between 11:00 and 11:30 the day of the concert. Contact Teacher Mary or text Selena Hanvold at 907-518-1290 for details. Hope to see you there!

## Halloween Celebrations:

**Monday, October 30th and Tuesday, October 31st**

*We'll celebrate Halloween at preschool on Monday, October 30th and Tuesday, October 31st. It's fun but can really amp kids up so please observe the following guidelines:*

### **Do not send your child to preschool a costume.**

Anyone who's watched kids tear through the preschool dress ups on an average day knows that if you send your child in a special costume, it's not what they're likely to be wearing when you come to pick them up. Instead, please bring the costume in a labelled bag and store it in your child's cubby until it's time for the costume march. If a weapon or scary mask is part of your child's costume, they may wear it for the costume march only. Face painting will be one of the activities on offer. If you prefer that your child not use face paint, please let us know and let your child know too.

We welcome (implore) any parent who is able to come around 11:20 to assist children in donning their costumes after snack. Instead of going outside, we'll gather in the group area for a few stories, songs, and a costume parade around the jack-o-lantern. You are all most welcome to join us.



## Coatroom Chaos: Please Read

We value outside play at preschool. Only the most inclement weather or unsafe conditions on the play yard keep us indoors because we believe kids benefit from being outside on a daily basis. However as the weather becomes colder the transition from snack to the play yard becomes one of the most difficult transitions of our preschool day. The children are eager to get outside and you will encounter a barrage of simultaneous requests/demands for assistance. Here are some guidelines to make it just a bit easier for all of us:

**Unpack everything** you want your child to wear outside. When we are getting 20 kids geared up, it slows things down if we have to go rummaging through back packs for hats, mittens, or rain pants. For young children, out of sight is most often out of mind and when asked about their hat or mittens they'll say "My parents didn't send it" if they can't see it hanging right there in their cubby.

**Label everything.** This includes gloves, hats, rain pants, and boots. We have silver sharpies if you need something that shows up on black.

**Get yourself ready** before you begin assisting children with their gear. As soon as four or five kids are ready and sitting on the bench, take them outside.

**The coatroom is not the time and place to teach dressing skills.** Some children know how to zip their coats, many don't. Many still put boots on before rain pants or put their mittens on first which renders them unable to do anything else for themselves. Gently talk them through the correct order of operations if this happens but don't spend time trying to teach them a new skill in this environment.

When a child asks for help, it's good to ask what part of getting ready they can do themselves or what they've already tried. Let them know you expect them to do what they can but be willing to help if needed. Sometimes children who know how to dress themselves competently at home will start acting squirrely in the excitement and stimulation of the coatroom. If any child seems overstimulated or overwhelmed and another adult is available, have one of the adults take that child to a quieter place to get ready.

If you notice that some children have dressed themselves and have zipping skills, refer children who need assistance to that child.

**The preschool "rule" is that children will wear the gear their parents send.** Convey this expectation in a friendly, matter-of-fact manner. Refer any power struggles to a teacher. If you know your child will have issues with outside gear, please talk with one of us about it. We have extra hats, coats, mittens and rain gear we are happy to lend. It's best to choose it in the morning because some children balk at wearing something that is not theirs.

**Support us at home** by talking to your child about your expectations on what they will wear. Remind them that they will get outside faster by doing as much of the dressing as they are able to do and by keeping themselves calm even if the coatroom is not calm. You will get a phone call from us if your child refuses to wear their gear when conditions warrant it. Please come to pick them up as soon as possible if this occurs. We need all hands on deck on the play yard until parents arrive and one adult sitting inside with one child means less adult help where it is needed.

Thanks, and hope for snow.

# Looking Back/Looking Forward

## Looking Back

Apple Picking  
Seeds  
Soup  
Bears

## Looking Forward

Take Apart  
Bones and Bodies  
Halloween Celebrations  
Grinding Grains

### Kid Quotes

.....  
'Soup' by Evelyn

3 celery  
4 hummus  
5 watermelon 11 chickens  
Boil the celery, hummus, watermelon and chickens 3 minutes. Then eat it.  
This is called soup.

.....  
Jack to Mary regarding the bear pelt:  
"Keep an eye on that bear. I don't want it to come alive while we're playing."  
.....

### PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

We've set aside Friday, November 10th for parent-teacher conferences. We can schedule a conference at any time upon request but we set aside this time to check in with you about how preschool is going for your child and to address any questions or concerns you may have. Look for an email and sign up sheet shortly after Halloween.

## PRESCHOOL GARDENING FUN





## AROUND THE SCHOOL

THANK YOU \* SPASIBO \* GRACIAS \* GUNALCHEESH \* TAKK \* SALAMAT \*  
GRAZIE \* TESEKKUR EDERIM \* KHX KHXBKHUN

### *Many thanks this month to:*

The Parks (Evelyn) and Harutyunyan (Daniel) families for donating bags of dried leaves for our upcoming leaf jump.

Teacher Linda and gardeners Pat and Joel for hosting the MWF class at the community garden. We harvested 40 pounds of carrots for the food bank!

All the parents who accompanied us at the community garden.

Noelle Derse (Esme's mom) for art project assistance.

Taylor Beard (Otis's mom) for research on a new preschool computer

Olcay Caf (Nehir's dad) for expert rope work and swing hanging.

Everyone who came out for our parent ed meeting.

Talea Kellar (Jack's mom) for supplementing our collection of bear books.