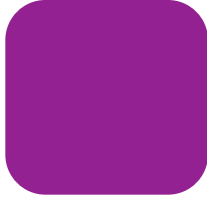




November  
2011



# The Fun Times



## From the desk of the President...

I hope everyone's Halloween was safe and enjoyable! I know the children were really excited to share their costumes and trick-or-treating stories at school. Thanks to all the families who attended the parade! I love those songs and poems! Please try to have your children to school on time each day so that our teachers can maximize their classroom time and the children can enjoy these activities. Also please be on time to pick up your child – the teachers have family and tutoring responsibilities after / in between school times.

Attendance at the first meeting was poor. We only require members to attend 2 general meetings per school year, so please plan to attend. Raffle tickets and information will be handed out at that meeting.



November is an exciting month at the Coop, as we will be having our annual Thanksgiving feast. I encourage everyone to attend, the children work very hard at preparing for this special day to share with their families.

As the cold and flu season is upon us, please remember to

keep your child home if they are not feeling well and at least 24 hours after a fever has gone completely away.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call (440) 552-4162 or [bethmifsud@gmail.com](mailto:bethmifsud@gmail.com).

- Beth Mifsud  
[bethmifsud@gmail.com](mailto:bethmifsud@gmail.com)  
440-933-4630

Our one fundraiser is fast approaching. Please consider making a donation to the raffle or the auction. The funds raised go to the enrichment programs within our budget, so they do directly benefit our children!

The Mandatory General Meeting will be on Thursday, January 19th at 7p.m., at the Avon Lake library.

## Inside this issue:

Terrific Threes	2
Fantastic Fours	3
From the Administrator	4
Important Dates	5
From the Registrar	5
Fundraisers	5

# The Terrific Threes!

The three's are hard at work cutting our way through October. With an introduction to scissors, sponge painting, numbers, and colors, we have our work "cut" out for us. We have added to our books the letters F (family/feelings/fall), T (trees), P (pumpkins), and H (Halloween). The kids are loving show-n-tell. Thanks for coordinating the toys they are bringing in from home and our color of the week! We will be building on our already impressive skills as we give thanks for November. My chef's in the kitchen have already cooked applesauce and banana bread for our Thanksgiving Feast. We will be shortly adding to that pumpkin bread, cornbread, and cranberry sauce as we plan to push up our sleeves and get messy! As we enhance

our knowledge of numbers, the children will be practicing one-to-one correspondence with the numbers three and four. Scissors will be put to the test as we move from cutting scraps to solid lines. Every

Tuesday (as you may have heard) we go fishing for the letter of the week. This month we will discover the letters N (November, nursery rhymes, names) and C (cornucopia, cranberry, cornbread). The last week we will be reviewing all of the letters we have been taught, and focusing on giving thanks as we learn about the first Thanksgiving! We will see what the three's are thankful for in and out of the classroom. Be prepared to see lots of little "turkeys" in the classroom as we discover the color brown and the texture of feathers. Please check your child's book bag daily for useful information that may pertain to our classroom.

As November unfolds we will start our "tummy time" during Free Play. This is a great time to start writing the letters we have learned so far in school and also the ones in our names! I greatly encourage the children to lay on their tummy's as we write with our dry erase markers and boards! By doing so, we place more pressure on our elbows for support which allows us to use our wrist rotation while writing instead of our entire arm!

The children smiled great for picture day and we should be receiving them in a few weeks!

Our third visit with Coach Margo will be coming up November 17th and our third visit with Miss Jaime is scheduled for November 8th.

Please look for the sign up sheet coming soon in the hallway for the Thanksgiving Feast. All are welcome! Our Feast Day will be on Nov. 22 and we are off the following Wednesday and Thursday. The children are working hard on their words and I am so proud of the progress we have made since the beginning of the year.

As we sink into November, allow me to give thanks to you for your support and for being so involved in your child's school and for helping me out along the way!

P.S. Our turkey looks so nice and warm with his feathers back! Thanks for taking the time to do our projects at home!

Thanks!  
- Mrs. Luznar



# The Fantastic Fours!



We sailed into October by learning about Christopher Columbus. We acted out the story of Christopher Columbus using a felt storyboard and made our own tiny ship as well. We had fun sorting, stamping, and doing crayon rubbings of leaves using our fall colors of red, yellow, brown and orange as well as our beautiful fall masterpieces hanging on our bulletin board. Next we learned all about those nocturnal mammals called bats. Your children have become quite the experts on these interesting creatures. Finally, it was time to learn about one of our favorite parts of the fall season—pumpkins. We had so much fun (and quite a fine-motor workout) making our Mr. and Mrs. Pumpkin Heads. After scooping out our pumpkin, we got to use our seeds to make our pumpkin seed pictures. This project gave us an opportunity to cut, sequence and write our numbers. In addition to putting the number writing poems right on our pumpkin seed project, the website [www.baycoopschool.org](http://www.baycoopschool.org) also has the number poems that help the children write their numbers. All together, in October we covered

letters C, L, P and B to add to letters A and F which we covered in September. These letters along with those in your child's name are the most important to reinforce at home at this point. November promises to be equally busy. We began the month with letter "N" for November and names. Now that the children have a clear understanding of upper case and lower case letters, they will receive their very own nameplate with their name written the "Big Kid Way" and be expected to start writing it that way. I know it may frustrate those who've already mastered their name in all capitals, but after speaking to several kindergarten teachers, it is their preference that children enter school with this skill. Next we will cover letter "E" another one of those tricky letters that has 2 sounds! We will learn about the election process and also cook scrambled eggs! After reading *Green Eggs and Ham* we will hold an election to determine which color eggs we want to cook. In fact, we'll be doing lots of cooking this month as we prepare for our Thanksgiving "Feast." We will make our own cranberry sauce and breads for

our Thanksgiving Feast and even churn our own butter.

Finally, we will end the month of November with letter "T" for Turkey by learning about Thanksgiving, including the story of the Pilgrims and Native Americans. (Be sure to ask your child why we used to call them Indians—that silly Christopher Columbus!) We look forward to serving our families all the special foods we have learned to cook at our big feast on Tuesday, November 22. We will learn that just like the Pilgrims, we have much for which to be thankful. Speaking of thankfulness, I am so thankful for the opportunity to spend time with your wonderful children and partner with you in their education.

Please note that early in December we will transform our science table/workbench into Santa's workshop with real tools (on loan from Santa himself!). **If we have any handy parents or grandparents, I would love someone to come in and do a tool demonstration the first week of December.**

- Mrs. Kestler

# From the Administrator

From Patti Blake

## FEAST DAY

We would like to invite parents and siblings or special guests to come and share a child prepared "feast" with us on Tuesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will have class at the normal time and guests may join us at 11:00 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. We will share our cooking surprises, have a short circle time and leave at the regular dismissal time. Watch the hall bulletin board for a sign up sheet. We want to make sure that every child has at least one guest and that we have enough juice and breads. There is no school on Wednesday or Thursday. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your families.



## BACK PACKS AND SCHOOL BAGS

Thank you so much for providing a means of transporting important papers and beautiful artwork between school and home. Please try not to allow them to transport toys or inappropriate items to school. Some of the little ones have such a hard time keeping these objects inside their bags or putting them on the safe shelf and not playing with them. There are only a handful of children who still need a special transitional "lovey" to bridge the gap between home and school and that is just fine. Please remember to check the bags on a daily basis – there may be some special notices as well as calendars, reminders, newsletters, etc.

## WINTER CLOTHING

We will be encouraging all the children to dress themselves at going home time. The threes do spend extra time on learning to zip or button those big winter jackets and will be taught the flipping trick to get those arms in the holes just right. The fours review all the tricks and still need help with sweatshirts or jackets that go over the head. Encourage your child to be responsible for all their outer clothing, please let them practice at home, which may necessitate getting ready for school a little bit earlier. The children will be encouraged to do their

own mittens and gloves. On very snowy days we do provide chairs and paper in the hall for parents to supervise the removal of boots. We do not want wet boots in the classroom. It will help the teachers and parent helpers if articles of clothing are marked with names, just in case your child forgets what he/she brought for the day.

## CLASSROOM OBSERVERS

It is that time of year when you may see new faces observing in the classrooms. Many parents visit schools before registering their children for the 2012-2013 school year. All preschools in the area usually hold registration in January. If you are a parent helper please feel free to answer any questions posed to you and be a vocal salesperson to all your friends and neighbors. Encourage anyone who has a child turning three by next September 30<sup>th</sup>, or has someone in the threes program elsewhere and is considering the co-op experience for the following year to come to our Open House on Monday evening January 9<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:00 PM. Word of mouth sells our program! The registrars will have flyers available for you to post around town or hand to friends next month.

## Raffle & Auction Items Needed!

Please help us build a fabulous collection of raffle and auction prizes for the 2012 Spring Raffle! Items needed include service certificates, event tickets, general merchandise and keepsake items. Please contact Ellen Maynard or Alison Fitchpatrick with your item information. (See contact information below.)

### February Fundraiser

Our annual fundraiser is being held on Thursday **February 23rd from 6:30-8:30 at the Bay Village Middle School cafeteria**. There will be silent auction and raffle that evening. Services and merchandise the whole family can enjoy are up for bidding! The raffle could send you home with a cash prize! Bring the whole family (and maybe grandma and grandpa or aunts and uncles...) for an evening of games, food and other activities to keep everyone entertained. Then stay for the St. Ignatius jugglers! Mark February 23 on your calendar and look for more information in the next newsletter. If you have any ideas or contributions to make for the auction or raffle please contact Ellen Maynard [eam\\_maynard@yahoo.com](mailto:eam_maynard@yahoo.com) or Alison Fitchpatrick [Sheehan45@hotmail.com](mailto:Sheehan45@hotmail.com).

### Raffle

**Raffle tickets will be distributed at the January 19th meeting** to be sold for our fundraiser in February. Each family will receive a packet of tickets as well as general directions and due dates. Each family is then required to sell 10 tickets at \$5 apiece. Winners of the raffle will be announced at our February Fundraiser. If you have any ideas or contributions to make for the auction or raffle please contact Ellen Maynard [eam\\_maynard@yahoo.com](mailto:eam_maynard@yahoo.com) or Alison Fitchpatrick [Sheehan45@hotmail.com](mailto:Sheehan45@hotmail.com).

### From the Registrar...

In October we attended the Westlake Early Childhood PTA. Preschool Fair. We will also be attending Avon Lake's and Bay Village's fairs in November. There are still 2 openings at the co-op. There is one in the 3pm class and one in the 4 am class. Please continue to advertise the co-op!

**Our current and former member registration will take place on Monday, December 12, 2011 at 7pm.** Anyone interested in signing their child up for next year should plan on attending.



## Important Dates

### November

22 Thanksgiving Feast Day  
23, 24 Thanksgiving Break, no classes

### December

12 In House Registration for 2012-2013.  
(Current and former members)  
15 Last day of classes

### January

3 Classes resume  
9 Open House 7-8 p.m.  
16 Open registration 7-8 p.m.  
on first come basis  
19 **Required General Meeting**

### February

23 Family Dessert Social, Raffle  
& Silent Auction