

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL
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THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

A Letter from Jennifer...



Mark your Calendar

November 7th & 8th
FCPS Holiday
NO SCHOOL

Thursday November 3rd
Picture Day for 2s, 3/4s

Friday November 4th
Picture Day for CDO, 3s, & 4s

Monday November 14th
Parent Education Presentation
6:15pm
November Board Meeting
7:30pm

November 14th & 15th
CDO and 2s
Parent Teacher Conferences

Saturday November 19th
Barnes and Noble Fundraiser
Schedule TBD

Tuesday November 22th
Thanksgiving Luncheon 3/4s & 4s

November 24th & 25th
Thanksgiving Holiday
NO SCHOOL

Saturday December 3rd
PNS Holiday Shop
10am-1pm

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com by November 20th for December's issue.



Happy Fall!

This is my favorite time of year – cool weather (finally), beautiful leaves, a warm fire in the fire place and so many holiday events to look forward to! This school year is moving right along and my kids continue to have so much fun learning with their friends. I hope everyone enjoyed their chance to dress up and show off their Halloween costumes to their friends. I love seeing the costumes! I also can't wait to see all the sparkling smiles on picture days, November 3rd and 4th. We've made many wonderful memories at PNS so far this school year and will make many more in the coming weeks as we enter into the busy holiday season.

Please mark your calendars for these important dates: School is closed on November 7th and 8th due to a FCPS teacher work day and Election Day. Our monthly board meeting will be held in the Big Room at school on November 14th at 7:30pm with a parent education presentation right before, beginning at 6:15pm. This is a great night to earn a parent education hour and volunteer hour if you attend both.

We have one of our biggest fundraisers of the year on Saturday, November 19th at Barnes and Noble. Bring the kids out for a morning of fun which will include story times, sing-alongs and more. Finally, school is closed on November 24th and 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking ahead to December, we have the PNS Holiday Shop on December 3rd. This is a fantastic and fun event for the children to buy presents for Mom, Dad, Grandparents, etc. It's also a great way to earn some volunteer hours. Our fundraising committee works incredibly hard on this event and they need your help. Please contact Liz Claeys or Carisa Pineda if you can give some of your time, any amount would be appreciated.

In the spirit of the season, I'd like to thank our PNS families, teachers and staff for all you do for our children and our school. Your generosity and dedication to Providence Nursery School is amazing. You are appreciated.

Wishing you a warm and relaxing Thanksgiving,

Jennifer

CDO & 2's

November is a month for being thankful and, fortunately, we have plenty to be thankful for this month. I am certainly thankful for the time I get to spend with your wonderful children, and for our caring preschool community!

In the first week of November, we'll be learning about doctors and dentists. We'll get out the school's sizeable collection of doctor dress-ups to play pretend, and make our own siren sounds as we roll the emergency vehicle toys.

This will lead right into our second week's theme: hand-washing! It's the time of year when cold and flu germs are in abundance, the perfect time to hone our hygiene skills. We'll learn a song about washing hands, and get a little silly practicing the right way to cover a sneeze!

In the third week of November, we'll be focusing on food and the kitchen. We'll use food to make art and kitchen utensils to make music. With Thanksgiving coming up soon, the theme of food is school-wide, so the teachers will be transforming the Big Room accordingly. One week, the Big Room will hold a restaurant, with menus, chef costumes and servingware; the next week, it will become a

grocery store, with shopping carts, cash registers, and shelves full of food!

The week of the 21st will be a short week; we'll learn about being thankful and saying "thank you," enjoy Thanksgiving themed art, dress-ups and stories, and then head off to spend the holiday with our families.

The November calendar is full of school events and holidays, with Picture Days on November 3rd and 4th, no school on the 7th and 8th due to the FCPS schedule, and the Thanksgiving holiday on the 24th and 25th. We also have our first Parent-Teacher conferences scheduled on the 14th (for CDO) and 15th (for 2s), during which we will have a chance to discuss your child's

individual experience in class this fall, and any questions or concerns you might have. Please tune in to my weekly emails for reminders about upcoming events!

Thank you, parents, for all that you do.

Ms. Auten



PICTURE DAY!

School Picture Day is coming soon!

November 3rd & 4th is Picture Day at Providence Nursery School. Your child was provided with a Picture Order Envelope. Please complete the envelope and have them bring it to their teacher before Picture Day. If you did not receive an envelope or have misplaced it, please contact Heather and Peter Streckfus-Green hgreen11@gmail.com

The 2's and 3/4's classes will be photographed on November 3rd and CDO, 3's, and 4's will be photographed on November 4th. Remind your preschooler to smile big!

It's November and all the Halloween creatures have gone back to their haunts until next year. Now the winter holidays are approaching and everybody's getting excited about travel plans and visits, feasting and football. It's hard to tell if we're shivering from excitement or just the colder weather.

We'll do our best to stay focused on our plans for the month starting with a week about Hibernation. We'll talk about what happens to the plants and animals as they get ready for shorter days and colder weather. Next we will investigate ways that we use our Senses. We'll focus on seeing and hearing this week. Come check out our restaurant in the Big Room if you have a few minutes at drop-off. The following week we'll talk about a favorite subject: Food and the senses of smell and taste with a smell guessing activity and a survey of what foods tastes best. The Big Room restaurant will transform into a food market complete with shopping carts and cash registers. Then it's Thanksgiving time! We'll talk about family plans for celebrations and also try to think of things we are thankful for. This can start some very interesting conversations!!

Dates and Reminders:

School Picture Day is on Friday, the 4th. So make your haircut appointments, pick out the perfect outfit and practice those smiles.

Don't forget our big fundraising event at Barnes & Noble on November 19th. Come enjoy story times and art projects with classmates and friends. This fundraiser is tons of fun and can also help with some of those holiday shopping needs.

Please remember to update spare clothes for cooler weather and when it gets really cold, please, please, please send mittens and hats for playground time. No one wants cold fingers!

In this month of Thanksgiving, I can definitely say that I am thankful to be spending time with such a great bunch of kids and with such dedicated and helpful parents. You all make it fun to come to school!

Miss Susan



November is traditionally a month to give thanks. At Providence, we have so much to be thankful for...terrific children, caring parents, a fabulous facility, and a whole month to celebrate our blessings! Our weeks will be crammed full of fun as we talk about Food(10/31), Manners(11/9), Thanksgiving (11/14), Our Feast (11/21), and Music(11/28). My Monday Gang will be looking at the letters P, T, S, and M during the month.

Our traditional Providence Thanksgiving feast will take place on Tuesday, November 22nd and we will be celebrating with the Fours' class. We will all be doing some of the food preparation and cooking in addition to the feasting. Although space does not allow us to invite parents to eat with us, a few extra hands to help with final details would be greatly appreciated. I will be posting a sign-up sheet later in the month listing some foods that will be needed...if anyone could contribute, that would be terrific! Lunch Bunch will be Fun Bunch that day...no lunch will be necessary!

Please remember to change seasons with the clothes in my "emergency basket"...and to label all those hats and mittens.

Star of the Day is a great success – I think being line leader is the favorite part of the job. Show 'n Tell is also going well. I really appreciate your effort when you encourage your Star to bring something that relates to the topic of the week (and that fits into the "sharing can, too!).

Important dates for November:

School pictures for us are on Thursday, 11/3.

The BIG PNS fundraiser for the year will be held at the Barnes and Noble bookstore in Fair Lakes on Saturday, the 19th. Please put it on your calendar...it is such a terrific morning and the Fundraising Committee (Yay, Liz!!!) does a fabulous job scheduling fun activities for the kids.

There will be no school for us on the 7th and 8th (Fairfax Co. Public School holidays) and November 24th (Thanksgiving).

I am having a great time with your kids! They have all become good friends with each other...and I love listening to their conversations! Lastly, I hope you are enjoying your co-op days as much as I enjoy having you with me! Happy Turkey Day to all!

Happy Turkey Day to all!

Jane Millward



In our house, November feels like a month that revolves around food, family and feasts (and quite a bit of football too!). Of course, we also spend a lot of time talking about all the things for which we are thankful.

This is a great month to talk to our kids about doing for others. I encourage you to spend some time talking to your children about these same ideas and letting them participate in a meaningful way in helping others.

In our class at PNS we will also spend the month talking about food, family and feasts, as well as helping others and being thankful. We will have an opportunity to help fill the Providence Presbyterian Church's Food Pantry toward the end of the month. Children from the 3/4s and 4s class will help carry up donations left in at PNS.

The week of November 1 we will focus on **Night Creatures** and compare the features of nocturnal and diurnal animals. Our imaginations will certainly be exercised this week. We'll make owl art, have a Pajama Day and play a fun game pretending to be Owls and Bats. The Letter of the Week will be N. The week of November 7, we will be focusing on **Food**. We'll look at how to create a healthy plate and spend time talking about fruits, vegetables, soup (where all the parts of a healthy plate can come together) and desserts. We'll look at liquids and solids, creating solutions and how temperature changes our ingredients. Our class will be making Stone Soup. An email request for ingredients will come out the first week of November. The Letter of the Week will be S. The week of November 14, we'll be **Thinking About Others**. We'll emphasize thinking of and helping others, being mindful in our actions, and being thankful for what we have. The concept of Filling Buckets will be introduced this week and the Class Comforter job will get a little more responsibility with helping fill our daily Buddy Bucket. We will use teamwork to create a Class Quilt of Thankfulness! Keep an eye out for our beautiful bulletin board "My

Hands Can..." The Letter of the Week will be T. Finally, the very short week of November 21st (our class is only at school on Tuesday and Wednesday) is all about the **Thanksgiving Feast**. We will prepare and eat a Thanksgiving meal with the 3/4s class on Tuesday, November 22nd. More information and a sign-up sheet will be out toward the end of the month regarding our feast. We will also share about the foods and family we will be enjoying over the long Thanksgiving weekend. The week of November 28th sounds of **Music** fill the air. We'll make our own instruments and talk about sound as vibrations that we can see, feel and hear. Teamwork and cooperation will be necessary when we try and play instruments like an orchestra or band, concentrating on tempo and playing "together." Perfectly timed will be our field trip to the Tiny Tots Concert at Woodson on Wednesday, November 30th. The Letter of the Week will be M.

Important upcoming dates to remember: **November 4** Picture Day, **November 8** No School, **November 24 & November 25** No School, **November 30** Field Trip to Tiny Tots

With the coming cool weather, please remember to switch out your child's Change of Clothes with long sleeves and pants. Also, please label your child's coat, mittens and hat with his/her name.

I am so very thankful for our wonderful class of friends, the other teachers and aides at PNS, and the wonderful parents who make our class and our cooperative nursery school such a special place. I am truly grateful for the opportunity to work at PNS each day. Thank you!

Ms. Ryan

CLASS PHOTO SITES

We are pleased to see so many of you are utilizing our class photo sites on Shutterfly. The pictures you've been sharing offer so many wonderful glimpses of day-to-day activities at PNS. In May we will order class photo books using those pictures, so keep uploading them! One quick reminder about our Shutterfly pages; these sites are only to be used by PNS parents. They cannot be shared with members of your extended families or friends. For the safety and privacy of our students we ask that you not give out any information about our class pages.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

It's time for the annual PNS holiday food drive! All donations are to support the Providence Presbyterian's food pantry which supplies food goods to members of our community regardless of religious affiliation. The collection boxes will be in both the main and back hallways where families can leave donations of canned and boxed goods. We will take the boxes upstairs as they fill up. The kids love to help with this and learn the importance of giving to those less fortunate. Stay tuned to your email for more details soon.

WINTER WEATHER REMINDERS

- With cooler weather upon us, don't forget to update your child's emergency clothes.
- Emailing the school or class google groups is the quickest and most effective method we have of distributing information. You should always pay close attention to school email and at no time is this more important than when we are experiencing inclement weather. School delays and cancellations will be announced through the pnsall google group. We do follow FCPS for all closings and delays.
- Please make sure you label all hats, coats, scarves and mittens that your children bring to school. This is the only way to make it sure they make it home! It is helpful if mittens are tucked into the sleeves of jackets.

ENRICHMENT

This month we will be joined by the Fire Safety Truck and Puppet Show on November 30th at 11:30 in The Big Room. Parents, 2s and CDO are welcome to attend as well.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Each family enrolled in a co-oping class must complete eight volunteer hours during the school year. CDO-only families are required to do four. We urge you to complete half of your hours during the first half of the school year. You will be getting an email from Stephanie or Dan in December with a summary of your logged hours, so be sure you are letting them know when you are earning volunteer time. Here are some ideas to help you get those hours in before winter break!

- We need three volunteers to cover lunch bunch including one to cover soccer until 2:30 on Wednesday, November 2,.
- Attend the Board Meeting on Monday, November 14 at 7:30 p.m. for one volunteer hour.
- Help out with our Picture Days, November 3 and 4. Contact Photo Coordinators Heather and Peter Streckfus-Green for more information.
- Volunteers are needed to help with our Barnes and Noble Fund Raiser on November 19. Contact Liz Claey's or Carisa Pineda for more information.
- Volunteers will be needed to help with Holiday Shop on December 2 (evening) and December 3. Contact Liz Claey's or Carisa Pineda for more information.

Contact Stephanie Jensen

(vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.com) if you have any questions about your volunteer hours or would like to volunteer for one of these opportunities.

PARENT EDUCATION

Please join us for a Parent Education talk on Parent Education on **Monday, November 14th** 6:15-7:15pm Lynne Corley with FCPS Child Find Program will be sharing the Child Find process, share what Early Childhood special education services look like and sharing resources for children and families

About ChildFind:

Our Early Childhood Identification and Services (ECID&S) program identifies children with potential special education needs and educates the community about child development and the importance of early intervention.

FUNDRAISING

Monday, November 7th is a Fairfax County holiday so there is no school. The Firenza Pizza in Fairfax (10160 Fairfax Blvd.) has graciously offered to host a lunchtime fundraiser for PNS. Order pizza anytime between 11 and 4:00 on the 7th, and mention PNS, and we will get a portion of the sales. The restaurant is located near Stafford park, so make plans to grab pizza and meet classmates at the playground if the weather is good.

We are still accepting Holiday Shop forms. If you need one, e-mail Liz Claeys or check the PNS website. A sign-up for Holiday Shop volunteers will be posted in mid-November.

Barnes and Noble Day is less than a month away! Mark **Saturday, November 19th** on your calendar and get some early holiday shopping done. PNS will get a portion of all sales where you mention us at the register (including at the Starbucks!). We will soon send out a schedule with teacher storytimes and other activities.

Also, if you can't join us or have friends or relatives who are out of town, purchases can be made on the B & N website. Our bookfair code is **11823671**. More information will be sent out about how to use that when the date is closer. We could really use some volunteers to do face painting for Barnes and Noble Day! The store gives us a book and paint to use, and it is always very popular among the kids. Contact Liz or Carisa if you can help out.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for reading the PNS newsletter. If there is anything you would like to have published in the December Newsletter please submit it by November 20th. If you have any suggestions or things you would like to see in the newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Carroll
newsletter@providencenurseryschool.com

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Peter and Heather Streckfus-Green for putting together the class placemats and setting up the Shutterfly sites.

Thanks to Maja Phung-Strollo and Jennifer Wiskochil for arranging our Wednesday enrichment activities.

Thanks to Liz Claeys and Carisa Pineda for organizing our fall fundraisers.

Thank you to Bridget Benov and to Feld Entertainment for the Disney On Ice ticket donation.

Thank you to all our teachers for leading the parent education brunches and to the parents who subbed during brunches: Elizabeth Carroll, Jennifer Mack, Kristie McCauley, Julie Liljegren, Alexis Jenkins, Meg Krug, and Laura Heim.

Thank you to the Class Reps for coordinating the class brunches and to the parents who attended and brought refreshments.

Thank you to Zeina Frayha and Tarek Saad for keeping us on top of fire safety by coordinating our monthly drills and making sure our first-aid kits are well-stocked.

Thank you to our field trip organizers: Cori & Greg Parker (3s), Emily Sherron (3/4s), and Jennifer Otto (4s) for setting up the first few field trips of the year.

Thank you to all who attended our October clean-up and maintenance day, keeping our school clean and safe for our kids: Rebecca McCormick, Sarah Millward, Peter Streckfus-Green, Ravi Kamath, Julie Liljegren, Meg Krug, Zeina Frayha, Tim Gillotte, Kelly Ngo, and Vinh Phung. Thank you to Charles Havasy and PJ Pitera for leading the maintenance and cleaning efforts.

Thank you to all who participated in our Disney on Ice fundraiser. Thank you to Bridget Benov and Feld Entertainment for the donation of the Disney on Ice tickets.

Thank you to Yukiko and John Chase and Krystal Heatley for making the colorful batches of playdoh our children have been enjoying each week.

Thank you to Elizabeth Carroll for always doing such an amazing job with our monthly newsletters!

A special thank you to our incredible teaching staff for all they do for our children each day: Ryan Bianchetti, Jane Millward, Susan Patton, Jessie Auten, Phyllis Bruyette, Emmy Cade, Kelly Volciak, Karen Wallace, Laura Braceland and Allison Hagner.

Most importantly, thank you to ALL of our PNS parents. It is the hard work and dedication of our parents that make our school so special!

NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	M	T	W	Th	F	Sat
		1 Tuition Due	2	3 <i>School Pictures 2s, & 3/4s Men Make Dinner Day</i>	4 <i>School Pictures CDO, 3s, & 4s</i>	5
6 <i>Saxophone Day</i>	7 NO SCHOOL	8 NO SCHOOL	9	10	11  Veterans Day	12
13	14 <i>Parent Teacher Conferences- CDO Board Meeting 7:30pm</i>	15 <i>Parent Teacher Conferences- 2s</i>	16	17 <i>Great American Smoke-out</i>	18	19 Barnes and Noble Fundraiser!
20	21	22 <i>Thanksgiving Luncheon- 3/4s&4s</i>	23	24 NO SCHOOL <i>Thanksgiving</i>	25 NO SCHOOL	26
27	28 <i>French Toast Day</i>	29	30	31		