

PROVIDENCE NURSERY SCHOOL  
9019 LITTLE RIVER TURNPIKE  
FAIRFAX, VA 20031  
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# THE PROVIDENCE PAGES

*A Letter from Jennifer...*



## Mark your Calendar

**November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**  
FCPS Holiday  
NO SCHOOL

**Thursday November 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
Picture Day for 2s, 3/4s

**Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
Picture Day for CDO, 3s, & 4s

**Monday November 13<sup>th</sup>**  
Parent Education Presentation  
6:30pm  
November Board Meeting  
7:30pm

**November 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>**  
CDO and 2s  
Parent Teacher Conferences

**Saturday November 18<sup>th</sup>**  
Barnes and Noble Fundraiser  
Schedule TBD

**Tuesday November 21<sup>st</sup>**  
Thanksgiving Luncheon 3/4s & 4s

**November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
NO SCHOOL

**Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>**  
PNS Holiday Shop  
10am-1pm

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send submissions to  
melissasahern@gmail.com  
by November  
20<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. 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 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm with a parent ed presentation right before, beginning at 6:30. 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking ahead to December, we have the PNS Holiday Shop on December 9<sup>th</sup>. 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 Carisa Pineda or John & Sarah Millward 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 I am very thankful for our school community and especially for the time I get to spend with your wonderful children!

In the first two weeks of November, the CDO and Twos classes will focus on Food. Fruits and vegetables come in all sorts of colors, shapes, sizes, and textures, so we'll be food scientists and take a closer look at some of them, inside and out. We will also read, sing, chant, and act about cooking.

Since the theme of food will be school-wide, the teachers will give the Big Room a makeover: for the week of the 6<sup>th</sup>, it will become a restaurant, with menus, chef costumes and servingware. The following week, it will become a grocery store, with shopping carts, cash registers, and shelves full of food. I am looking forward to all of the pretend play these popular set-ups inspire!

All of this talk of food leads right up to the main event... the week of the 20<sup>th</sup> is, of course, Thanksgiving week!

We'll learn about being thankful and practice saying "thank you," enjoy Thanksgiving themed art, dress-ups and stories, and then head off to spend the holiday with our families.

Our final theme in November is well suited to the season: Washing Hands. It's the time of year when cold and flu germs are hanging around, and the perfect time to hone our hygiene skills. We'll read about washing and bath time, learn a song about hand-washing, and get a little silly practicing the right way to cover a sneeze!

The November calendar is full of school events and holidays. We also have our first Parent-Teacher conferences scheduled on the 13<sup>th</sup> (CDO) and 14<sup>th</sup> (Twos), 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. Stayed tuned to my weekly emails for details about upcoming events.

Thank you, parents, for all that you do!

Ms. Auten



## PICTURE DAY!

**School Picture Day is coming soon!**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** - 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 Theresa Gunlicks at [gunlicks@hotmail.com](mailto:gunlicks@hotmail.com). The 2's and 3/4's classes will be photographed on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and CDO, 3's, and 4's will be photographed on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Remind your preschooler to smile big! :)

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 introduce the idea of doing things for others as well as expressing gratitude. At this age, your three year old wants to be helpful. Take advantage of the many opportunities in the next few months to let your child pitch in and assist you. Remember to use descriptive praise when he/she helps. "You're helpful, kind, responsible, independent, etc." are all ways to build up your child's internal sense of value.

The week of November 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be focusing on **Food and Table Manners**. We'll make connections to our favorite foods and meals, practice setting the table and play in the PNS Restaurant set up. Art projects will include kitchen gadget prints as well as making placemats to bring home. The following week, we'll be continuing our discussion of **Food and Healthy Choices**. We'll start to distinguish between healthy foods and "sometimes" foods and spend time talking about fruits, vegetables, soup (where all the parts of a healthy plate can come together) and desserts. Our class will be making Stone Soup. An email request for ingredients will come out the first week of November. The short week of November 20<sup>th</sup> introduces the idea of being **Thankful**. We will brainstorm ideas of things for which we are thankful, create fun Thankful Turkey Headbands and even make thank you notes for members of our families. The last week of November is all about **Our Senses**. We'll explore sight, sound, touch, taste and smell. We'll be Tasting a Rainbow as well as creating a Class Senses Mural

full of sight, texture and smell created to the sounds of Music.

Important upcoming dates to remember:

**November 3** Picture Day, **November 6** No School, **November 24** No School.

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



Thankful...that's how I feel right now. I am thankful that your children are healthy, and happy, and ready to share the wonderful month of November (or YESvember as we usually call it in our class!) with me. This month at PNS is filled with learning about the first Thanksgiving and the importance of sharing with others. Our weeks will be crammed full of fun as we talk about Food (10/30), Manners (11/6), Thanksgiving (11/13), The Feast (11/20), and Music (11/27). My Monday group 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 21<sup>st</sup> and we will be celebrating with the Fours' class. Both classes will be doing some of the food preparation and cooking in addition to the feasting. I promise there will something for everyone to eat at our feast! 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 can help, that would be terrific! Lunch Bunch will be Fun Bunch that day...no lunch will be necessary!

Important dates for November: No school on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (Fairfax Co. Public School holidays) and November 23<sup>rd</sup> (Thanksgiving).

School pictures for the 3/4s will be taken on Thursday, 11/2...have your kids bring their best smiles that day. And our BIG Barnes and Noble fundraiser will takes place on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup> from 10-2. Make sure it's on your calendar...it's a fun event!

Please remember to change seasons with the clothes in my "emergency basket"...and to label all those hats and mittens that we will need when we go outside to the playground in the cold weather. 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" also!

I am having a great time with your kids! This group is really "working" on working together during open center time...the imaginative and cooperative play is so much fun to watch! I am so impressed with the building that is always going on in the room! I bet there will be several architects from this group when they "grow up." There are always conversations evolving in all corners of the classroom...from puzzles to blocks to the sensory table. We have come a long way just since September! And I hope you are enjoying your co-op days as much as I enjoy having you with me!

Happy Turkey Day to all!

Jane



Now that autumn is here to stay, and the stores have taken down their Halloween decorations, it's time to think about colder weather and winter holidays. Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and my family hosts this feast. In addition to the 'usual' food and football, we have some other Wallace traditions that I will share with the class (hint – you might find something new on your holiday table).

We'll begin November by talking about Bats and Owls, and words that begin with the letter "T". The following week, we'll learn all about Manners, and the letter "S". Next is a theme we all love - Food. There will be a grocery store in the Big Room, where the children can buy and sell to one another. The letter of the week will be "M".

The next week will be Thanksgiving - with talk of turkeys and feasting. We will discuss the many things we are thankful for, and will enjoy a Thanksgiving luncheon with Mrs Millward's class on Tuesday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Please note: due to space limitations, this luncheon is just for the children.

We will end the month with a discussion on Hibernation, when we'll talk about what happens to plants and animals as they prepare for shorter days and colder weather. "A" will be the letter of the week.

Important dates to remember: Friday, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Picture Day. Monday & Tuesday, Nov 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> No School (FCPS Teacher Work days). Saturday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> Barnes & Noble Fundraiser. Thursday & Friday, Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> No School (Thanksgiving). Wednesday, Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Holiday Tunes for Tots Field Trip.

Please remember to update your child's spare clothes for cooler weather, and don't forget hats and mittens for outdoor activities. Please label your child's belongings, as many children shop at the same stores 😊.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped me this year! I'm truly grateful for your support and appreciate all that you do to make PNS such a wonderful school!

Mrs Wallace



## CLASS PHOTO SITES

We are pleased to see so many of you are uploading photos to Bloomz. 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 Bloomz photos; 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. From November 13 through December 8, 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 Bloomz 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 PNS Bloomz 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.

## MAINTENANCE

Part of the role of the Maintenance Committee is to fix broken things, but another part of the Maintenance Committee is to upgrade the school to provide a "safe, orderly, comfortable, clean and cheerful environment" (from my job description)!. As such, if you have some ideas on how to improve the school, please let me know, and especially the new people: you all still can see the "chipped paint" in the school.

Charles Havasy (Zoe's Dad)  
 PNS Maintenance Chair  
[chavasy@aol.com](mailto:chavasy@aol.com)

## 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 the first week of November with a summary of your logged hours, so be sure you are letting them know when you are earning volunteer time and parent education hours.

Here are some ideas to help you get those hours in before winter break!

- Attend the Board Meeting on Monday, November 13 at 7:30 p.m. for one volunteer hour.
- Help out with our Picture Days, November 2 and 3. Contact Photo Coordinator Theresa Gunlicks for more information.
- Volunteers are needed to help with our Barnes and Noble Fund Raiser on November 18. Contact Carisa Pineda or Sarah Millward for more information. Sign-up for volunteer on Bloomz.
- Volunteers will be needed to help with Holiday Shop on December 8 (evening) and December 9. Contact Carisa Pineda or Sarah Millward for more information. Look for a sign-up on Bloomz.

Contact Stephanie Jensen via Bloomz if you have any questions about your volunteer hours or would like to volunteer for one of these opportunities.

## PARENT EDUCATION

Monday, November 13th immediately prior to the board meeting: "How to Talk so Kids Will Listen" with Francine Ronis, Licensed Professional Counselor, Parent Coach/Consultant, Mindfulness Trainer. Perfect opportunity to get your parent ed requirements and attend the monthly board meeting. To kill more birds with one stone sign up to bring some yummy snacks.

Thursday, December 14th, 9:30 AM: Presentation on Child Find with Ruth Klimpl, Early Childhood Resource Teacher at FCPS Dunn Loring parent resource center. Get your questions answered about resources available to you through FCPSs. How do you get your child screened? How do I know if my child needs to be screened?

## ENRICHMENT

Enrichment activities are currently being planned, so keep an eye on your email for further details.

## FUNDRAISING

Barnes and Noble Day is less than a month away! Mark Saturday, **November 18th** 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, on-line purchases can be made on [www.barnesandnoble.com](http://www.barnesandnoble.com). Our bookfair code is **12094470**. 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 Carisa or Sarah if you can help out.

THANK YOU to all the families who participated in making our Elevation Burger night a SUCCESS! Together we raised \$145 for the school. Stay tuned for more information regarding our next restaurant night.

## ENROLLMENT

We still have openings for a 3 year old and a 4 year old for the 2017-2018 school year. Please contact Kristie McCauley

([membership@providencenurseryschool.com](mailto:membership@providencenurseryschool.com)) for more information.

## LUNCH BUNCH

It is important to get teacher approval before planning to drop your child in for lunch bunch. You can charge lunch bunch drop-ins to your school account and pay monthly. Please contact Jonathan Liljegren (Treasurer) regarding billing questions and Kristie McCauley (VP of Enrollment) if you are interested in monthly enrollment.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup>. If you have any suggestions or things you would like to see in the newsletter don't hesitate to let me know.

Thank you,  
Melissa Ahern  
[melissasahern@gmail.com](mailto:melissasahern@gmail.com)

## THANK YOU!

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 teachers for the great presentations and discussions at the class brunches last week. Thanks to our class reps and parents for coordinating and providing the refreshments at the brunches. Thanks to the parents who subbed during brunches: Maja Stollo, Meg Krug, Kendrick Hsu, Theresa Gunlicks, Stacy Jessup, and Sara Levy.

Thanks to Theresa Gunlicks for working on the class placemats and getting us ready for picture days.

Thanks to Carisa Pineda and John and Sarah Millward for organizing our fall fundraisers.

Thanks to Karen Wallace, Emmy Cade, Phyllis Bruyette, Laura Braceland and Jane Millward (along with all of the staff) for working so hard to continue teaching and supporting the 4s class.

# NOVEMBER 2017

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