

Providence Nursery School  
9019 Little River Turnpike  
Fairfax, VA 20031  
www.providencenurseryschool.com

# The Providence Pages

*A Letter from Jennifer...*



## Mark your Calendar

### November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>

FCPS Holiday  
NO SCHOOL

### Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup>

Cleaning and Maintenance Day  
8:30am-11:30am

### Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>

November Board Meeting  
7:30pm

### November 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>

CDO and 2s  
Parent Teacher Conferences

### November 13<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

3s Parent Teacher Conferences

### Thursday November 14<sup>th</sup>

Picture Day for 2s, 3/4s, & 4s

### Friday November 15<sup>th</sup>

Picture Day for CDO & 3s

### Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup>

Barnes and Noble Fundraiser

### Tuesday November 26<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Luncheon 3/4s & 4s

### November 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, & 29<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Holiday  
NO SCHOOL

### Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup>

PNS Holiday Shop  
9am-12pm

The *Providence Pages* is published for Providence Nursery School, Inc. Please send submissions to [melissasahern@gmail.com](mailto:melissasahern@gmail.com) by November 20<sup>th</sup> for December's issue.



Happy Fall! This is my favorite time of year – cool weather, beautiful leaves, a warm fire in the fireplace and so many holiday events to look forward to! This school year is moving right along and my daughter continues to have so much fun learning with her 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 14th and 15th. 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 4th and 5th 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 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.

We have one of our biggest fundraisers of the year on Saturday, November 23rd at Barnes and Noble. Bring the kids out for a morning of fun which will include storytimes, sing-alongs and more. Finally, school is closed on November 27th, 28th and 29th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking ahead to December, we have the PNS Holiday Shop on December 14<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 Sara Levy or Emily Gillotte if you can give some of your time, any amount would be appreciated. There will also be a sign up genius for this event.

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

Autumn is in full swing, and the CDO and Twos classes will be starting out the month of November learning about the **Fall Season**. We'll use leaves, pinecones, and acorns to experience fall at Circle Time, Art, and in Music, too! We'll read about busy squirrels, and go outside to make our own observations about the weather and other signs of fall. It's also time for sweaters and jackets to come out; at preschool, we'll learn a *magic trick* for putting on our own outerwear! Please be sure to label all those extra layers with your child's name on the inside tag, so we can match them up with their owners and make sure everything comes home again.

**Good Health** is the theme of the week beginning on the 11th. It's the time of year when germs always seem to be 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, use toy medical instruments to pretend about doctors and dentists, and get a little silly practicing the right way to cover a sneeze!

The 18<sup>th</sup> brings us to an always-popular topic: **Land Transportation**. There are so many cool toys, puzzles, and books about everything on wheels... it's going to be a busy week! We'll sing about trains and other vehicles, and pretend to be drivers and engineers.

The week of the 25<sup>th</sup> is, of course, **Thanksgiving** week. We'll end the month preparing for the holiday by reading about being thankful and practicing saying "thank you." There will be Thanksgiving themed art and dress-ups.

In this month of Thanksgiving, I am thankful for many things, including my happy mornings with the amazing children, parents, and staff in our PNS community. Happy Thanksgiving, and thank you, PNS families, for all that you do!

Ms. Auten

## **Picture Day!!** **School Picture Day is coming soon!**

November 14th and 15th - Picture Day at Providence Nursery School. Your child will be provided with a Picture Order Information Sheet. This year, the company will provide same-day proofs, and you can order using that form. If you have questions, please contact Maliha Ahmad at [maliha\\_L@yahoo.com](mailto:maliha_L@yahoo.com). The 2s, 3/4s and the 4s classes will be photographed on Thursday, November 14th and CDO and 3s will be photographed on Friday, November 15th. Remind your preschooler to smile big! :)

In our house, November feels like a month that revolves around food, family and feasts. 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, three year olds want to be helpful. Take advantage of the many opportunities in the next few months to let them pitch in and assist you. Remember to use descriptive praise when they help. "You're helpful, kind, responsible, independent, etc." are all ways to build up your child's internal sense of value.

During the short week of November 4<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 restaurant set up is great for encouraging the associate and even the beginnings of cooperative play. *If you have a free morning, you are welcome to join us on Wednesday as a customer at our café!* We'll talk science of physical properties when we make and bake cookies, comparing the liquid with the solid ingredients. Of course, we'll get a chance to taste them too!

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. Bartholomew will be visited by a "Very Hungry Caterpillar," a story with which most children are familiar, which will allow us to spend lots of time sequencing and retelling the story. Our big project this week will be making Stone Soup, a beautiful story of cooperation and an excellent opportunity to try some new foods. An email request for ingredients will come out the first week of November. One of most popular Big Room setups is also this week, the Grocery Store will be open for business.

The week of November 18<sup>th</sup> will be an immersive experience for my friends as we talk about **Our Five Senses**. We'll explore sight, sound, touch, taste and smell. Tasting a Rainbow is another fun opportunity to try new foods. Look for my Weekly Wrap Up this week to talk about the mindful step by step way we encourage and support children trying new foods, which is often a scary proposition at this age. Art is always a great way to use multiple modalities. Keep an eye (and nose) out for our Class Senses Mural full of sight, texture and smell created to the sounds of Music, our drawings with cinnamon sticks on sandpaper and our textured, scented finger paintings!

Our **one day of school** on November 25<sup>th</sup> will be spent talking about the idea of being **Thankful**. We will brainstorm ideas of things for which we are thankful and create fun Thankful Turkey Headbands. We'll dance the Turkey Pokey and practice our listening skills as we add colored feathers to the turkey's tail.

Important upcoming dates to remember: **November 4** No School, **November 13 & 20** Parent Teacher Conferences, **November 15** Picture Day, **Nov 27 & Nov 29** 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 Manners (11/4), Food (11/11), Thanksgiving Story (11/18), and The Feast (11/25). My Monday group will be looking at the letters M, T, and A during the month.

Our traditional Providence Thanksgiving feast will take place on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</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 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> (Fairfax Co. Public School holidays) and November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> (Thanksgiving). School pictures for the 3/4s will be taken on Thursday, 11/14...have your kids bring their best smiles that day. And our BIG Barnes and Noble fundraiser will takes place on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</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



Time flies when you're having fun, and we are certainly having fun in the 4s class. It's hard to believe we are already in our third month of school. November is the time for focusing on all my favorite things: family, friends, and food!

The week of November 5<sup>th</sup> will be all about family. We'll find out how many people make up our families and the types of activities we like to do together.

Our theme for the following week will be food and nutrition. We will begin to learn what makes a balanced diet, which foods are healthy choices, and which can be included in moderation. We will be doing some cooking in the classroom this week. Stay tuned to my coming attractions for details.

In preparation for Thanksgiving, our theme for the week of November 19<sup>th</sup> will be thinking of others. We will brainstorm ways we can be thoughtful and

helpful. This leads us to the week of Thanksgiving and the traditional PNS feast on Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be feasting in the Big Room with the 3/4s. Both classes will be doing the food preparations. I will be sending out a request for donations as it gets closer. Thanks in advance for your support!

Please remember we have no school on November 5<sup>th</sup> due to a FCPS holiday. We are closed as well November 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving. School pictures for our class will be on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Also, mark your calendars for the annual PNS fundraiser at Barnes & Noble on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

It's going to be a busy month! Of course, I will take time to think about all the things I am thankful for this year, and spending my mornings with your kids is at the top of my list. Thank you for sharing them with me. Happy Thanksgiving!

Ms. Kelly



## Enrollment

We still have a few openings for the 2019-2020 school year. Please spread the word to your friends, family, Mom groups, and play groups.

## Class Photo Sites

We are pleased to see so many of you are uploading photos to 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 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. 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.

## Dress Up Request

As you clean out your dress-up closet or check out sales for Halloween costumes, please keep PNS in mind! Our Dramatic Play center could always use more dress-up items, especially animal- or vocation-related. Please no masks or weapons. Donations can be left in Peyton Lockhart's cubby (3/4s).

## 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 have a fire safety puppet show on November 20 at 11:30 am in the Big Room. 2s and CDO students are welcome to attend with a supervising adult.

## Fundraising

\*Barnes and Noble Fundraiser is coming up on Saturday, November 23 from 10-2 at the Fair Lakes Barnes and Noble.

\*Holiday Shop forms were due the last week of October. If you haven't turned yours in, please do so as soon as possible! We will need a lot of volunteer help with Holiday Shop, so look out for a sign-up genius coming soon.

\*New fundraiser with [www.minted.com](http://www.minted.com). Use code FUNDRAISEPROVIDENCENS to receive 15% off cards and gifts and 15% will be donated to PNS.

\*Did you know that when you shop for the holidays at [smile.amazon.com/ch/54-0854202](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-0854202), AmazonSmile donates to Providence Nursery School?

## 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 Kathy by the second week of November with a summary of your logged hours, so be sure you are letting her 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!

- Lunch Bunch Coverage 11/6 (3 Parents Needed) and 12/4. Sign-up available on Sign-Up Genius
- Attend the Board Meeting on Monday, November 11th at 7:30 p.m. for one volunteer hour.
- Volunteers are needed for Picture Day on November 14th and 15th. Sign-ups available on Sign-Up Genius.
- Sign up on Sign-Up Genius if you are attending the November Clean-Up Day on Saturday, November 9th from 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. All families are required to attend one Clean-Up Day per child enrolled. You will receive volunteer hours if you help out at an additional Clean- Up Day.
- Volunteers are needed to help with our Barnes and Noble Fund Raiser on November 23rd. Look for a sign-up on Sign-up Genius soon!
- Volunteers will be needed to help with Holiday Shop on December 13th (evening) and December 14th. Contact Emily Gillotte or Sara Levy for more information. Look for a sign-up on Sign-up Genius soon!
- Volunteers are needed for coverage for parent conferences. Sign-ups are available on Sign-Up Genius.

Please contact Kathy Brooks via [vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.org](mailto:vpadmin@providencenurseryschool.org) if you have any questions about your volunteer hours or would like to volunteer for one of these opportunities.

## Thank You!

Thank you to Maliha Ahmed for putting together the class placemats and setting up the Shutterfly sites. Thanks to Kate Stein for arranging our Wednesday enrichment activities. Thanks to Sara Levy and Emily Gillotte for organizing our fall fundraisers. Thank you to all our teachers for leading the parent education brunches and to the parents who subbed during brunches. Thank you to the class reps for coordinating the class brunches and to the parents who attended and brought refreshments. Thank you to those who helped with the library inventory: Alex Hume, Melissa Ahern, Jennifer Harmon-von Bredow, and Brett Knabe.

## 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)



# November 2019

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