

The Potter's House

Child Development Center

October
2017



From the director

Fall is here! The season's familiar chill is in the air, and the scent of burning leaves and nature's easing into cooler weather stirs so many memories. We tend to think of pumpkins and hayrides, of bonfires and roasted marshmallows, of raking leaves and jumping into the piles.

Center Events:

Harvest Parties will be held on 2 different days: Tuesday, 10/30 for our 1/2 day T/R preschoolers (Ms. Pam's & Ms. Beth's T/R classes.) On Wednesday, 10/31, all other classes will celebrate. Our 1/2 day classes will begin their parties at 11:15, and our full time class parties will begin at 9:00. Sign up sheets for party food/supplies will be posted later in the month.

*Our half day preschool program will participate in a **field trip to Barn 'n' Bunk this month!** Details and permission slips will go home soon! Field trip is rain or shine. If **possible, please help us to make this a memorable 'just us' preschool experience by planning ahead so that each preschool child attends with parent(s) or family/friend without the distraction of siblings.** Barn N Bunk is open on weekends for family outings, if you are interested! Thank you for your understanding, and please **contact the office if this is an issue. We don't want anyone to miss out on the trip!**

Night comes sooner, an extra blanket is appreciated, and snuggling with the family is the thing to do. Suddenly a thick, rich chili or a homemade soup sounds scrumptious! Whatever your thought about autumn, we pray you enjoy the season with your family. Make some memories, take some pictures, live in the moment!

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Harvest Parties...

Your child can "dress up" for the party day, but please, nothing scary or age inappropriate. This year there will be a ban on clowns as well. You can sign up to participate with yummy/healthy contributions on posters as the time draws near.

Help us raise \$\$ to provide playground shade and learning materials by selling cookie dough!

*It is scrumptious

*It is convenient—6 dozen yummy cookies, ready for all your holiday baking needs

*saves time and energy during busy holiday seasons

*freezes well over long periods of time

*makes a great gift!



*Top seller over 40 items wins \$200 tuition credit

*Second highest seller over 25 items wins \$100 tuition credit

*All children of families selling 25+ win a special pizza lunch and holiday video with Mrs. Andrews, and a gift certificate to Jump and Jack's.

Bible Theme

Farms, Farm Animals & Harvest in the Bible

10/1 Jesus Tells About a Farmer (Luke 8:4-8)

10/8 Jesus Tells About a Shepherd (Luke 15:3-7)

10/15 Ruth Gleans Wheat (Book of Ruth)

10/22 Feast of Tabernacles (Lev. 23:33-44)

10/29 Celebrating Harvest (Psalm 100)

Power Verse:

“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.” Galatians 6:9

Home Extension

Show the children a package of grass seeds. Start by asking what would happen if you planted your seeds in good soil, watered the seeds and made sure that they got enough sunlight each day. Tell them they would be correct if they said that the seed would grow. Now for the second question, “What do you think would grow from this package of seeds?” Allow for answers. “Wouldn't it be foolish to think that if I planted a watermelon seed that a pineapple would grow?” etc. What we sow or plant is what we will reap or harvest. If a farmer plants corn seed he expects to harvest corn. Just like planting seeds determines the harvest, how we live determines our outcomes as well. What type of seeds are you planting? What do you spend time doing everyday? If we can spend some time thinking about God, reading the Bible and praying, we can 'grow' a heart that pleases God. Do you play fairly and kindly with your friends? Just like the seed grows into the plant, our hearts are like that seed. How we act, who we play with, and how we live will show in what kind of a “plant” we turn out to be.

This Month's Focus...Problem Solving is a Skill!

What an exciting time we are experiencing here as we begin a new school year. During each newsletter, we will focus on some of the key aspects of our curriculum and learning activities here at the center. This month's topic revolves around the important skill of problem solving. It is a fact of life that people are faced with daily situations that require the ability to think of solutions to dilemmas. An adult may face the problem of how to afford an unexpected car repair, while an infant may face the problem of how to retrieve a toy from inside a container. The complexity of these two examples may differ a great deal, but the cognitive processes involved for both are dependent on the ability of the brain to figure out a solution.

The ability to problem solve is a vital life skill, and we invite you to partner with our staff as we provide many opportunities for children to do so. When we exercise our muscles, we build strength and agility. In much the same way, we exercise our brain when we engage in deep thinking to solve problems. Neural connections occur that build the cognitive abilities!

Many nurturing parents want to do everything in their power to protect and provide for their children. Hooray, we support that! However, we also want to encourage you to recognize opportunities to allow your child to participate in problem solving and independence. For example, not too long ago, a 2 ½ year old child was sitting at the snack table, and his napkin dropped to the floor. "Teacher, my napkin fell." The teacher could have easily rushed to his side to pick it up for him, and it was obvious that he may have been expecting her to do just that. Instead, she asked, "What can we do about that?" For a brief moment, he looked a bit startled, but after thinking, he reached down and picked up his napkin. "What do we do with snack things that fall on the floor," she asked him. He stopped to think, then stood up, and threw his napkin away by himself. I noted as I watched him that he had a small smile on his face and his teacher remarked, "I see you solved your own problem."

In order to be successful in school and life, your child will need to use the skills of problem solving every day. Look for opportunities that will extend your child's knowledge and thinking during your conversations.

*Have clearly defined boundaries and be consistent in implementing them. This will allow the child the freedom to understand where he can explore and be creative.

*Use words to guide him, and model how to do it, but allow him to struggle a bit while trying to put on his own shoes or don a pair of gloves. Let him know you believe he can do it! Provide assistance, only as needed.

*Ask thoughtful, open ended questions, as opposed to questions that demand one correct answer.

*Ask how she thinks a character in the story felt when something dramatic occurred. When she presents a dilemma, ask her how she thinks we can fix that.

*If he is upset about a disagreement with a friend, ask him what he thinks should be his next steps. Help your child to understand his own emotions, and the emotions of others, and to respect them.

*Provide guidance by asking leading questions, so that she can 'discover' her own solutions, try them out, and see if they work.

*Help your child break a problem into small chunks.

*Allow children to make mistakes and learn from them.

Learning how to think and make connections prepares your child to be independent, creative, and divergent in his thinking processes. As we work together to develop problem solving skills, we are preparing your child for success in school and life.

The Potter's House

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Partnering to develop your child's
God-given potential



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Happenings in the House

You are cordially invited to join Princeton Pike Church of God for all the many worship and outreach opportunities!

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am (children's programs available)

Wednesday Nights 7:00 pm (children's programs available)
Various classes of interest are presented -see Mrs. Andrews for a schedule of the "Elevate" classes held on Wednesdays for children and adults.

10/7 A Night for Israel. Speaker: Yehiel "Hilik" Bar, Deputy Speaker of the Knesset will be sharing at 6:00 p.m.

10/30 & 31: Final Judgement Night for 12 years and over.

10/27 5:00-8:00 Harvest Party at Princeton Pike! Theme: "Heroes" Fun maze, harvest games, costume parade, food and more. Fun and fellowship for the whole family!



10/9 final day to turn in fundraiser forms/
money from cookie dough fundraiser

10/16 & 10/17 Half Day Program field
trip to Barn N' Bunk during class time

10/30 T/R and M-R Half Day Harvest Parties

10/31 MWF & Full Time Harvest Parties

11/1 Cookie Dough Delivery 3:00

11/19,20 Half Day Program Thanksgiving meal, whichever day your child attends. (Ms. Mary—Tuesday).

11/21-23 Half Day Program closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

11/22,23 Full Time Program closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

