

Westminster Family Connection



October 2023



Apples! Classes have been investigating apples, tasting apples, water-coloring apples from life, collaging apple shapes and learning all about how apples grow and what is inside them. If you make anything with apples at home, take a picture your child can share with the class!

Playground Update

The caterpillar is winning friends as a climber and hiding place ;) And we have received some donations towards the Little Tykes Commercial Treehouse Climber! THANK YOU! Several people have asked how short we are from our goal - we are currently \$1,350 away from the purchase price of \$3,882 (the price went up quite a bit over the summer!). Donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

Halloween

We ask that students not wear costumes to school for Halloween. Experience has shown us that costumes in school can be difficult on the stairs and in the bathroom. However, please bring in a picture of your child in costume. We will display these in the main hall for all to see. Last year the students loved seeing themselves and their friends in their fun costumes!

Picture Days - October 17th and 18th

Bill Marvin from Positive Image Photography in New Providence will be taking individual and class pictures Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th outside on our patio, weather permitting. Mrs. Machin's 2.5 class will have pictures taken Tuesday October 17th. Mrs. Bocian's 3's and Mrs. Ripps's 4's will have pictures taken Wednesday October 18th. Mr. Bill, as he is known to us, has a wonderful sense of play and captures smiles from the students resulting in priceless pictures year after year. He will send out a link after the pictures are taken so you can log on and view the pictures and order directly. You may also contact him for re-takes if you'd like, or additional pictures of your family. We will try to take sibling pictures for those with siblings at school this year.

Flu Vaccine

Doctors often recommend receiving the flu vaccination in October as flu activity in our area usually begins in October. The State of New Jersey mandates that all children 6-59 months receive a flu vaccine by December 31st. Please submit documentation of your child's

vaccination; students without flu vaccine documentation are not allowed back after winter break until documentation is received.

Colds and COVID

Westminster's 2023-2024 COVID Policy was emailed out this week. If you would like a hard copy, please let the office know and a copy will be put in your child's backpack. A friendly reminder - the common cold and COVID share symptoms. If your child is experiencing any symptoms such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea, you may consider obtaining a COVID test.

Change of Clothes

Although we've been experiencing a return of warm temperatures, we know colder weather is on its way. The clothes you brought in September for your child to change into (if needed) may not be warm enough now! Please bring in pants and long-sleeved shirts to replace those t-shirts and shorts. We play outside as often as possible - we want your child to be comfortable!

Conferences

We hold Parent/Teacher conferences in January. We do this to give your child time to adjust to his/her new classroom and classmates, and our teachers more time to get to know and observe your child. If you have any questions or concerns about your child currently, please reach out to your child's teacher.

Westminster Swag!

Show that Westminster pride! An email about our annual Tee Shirt, Sweatshirt and Car Magnet fundraiser will be going out in the next few weeks. Locally-owned Tee Bag has provided us for years with the distinctive blue WNS-logo apparel and magnets. We're excited to offer you the opportunity to show your school spirit!

Looking Ahead

Monday October 9th - School Closed for Indigenous People's/Columbus Day

Tuesday October 17th - School Photos, Mrs. Machin's, and Mrs. Ripps' classes

Wednesday October 18th - School Photos, Mrs. Bocian's and Mrs. Diaz's classes

Tuesday November 7th - School closed for Election Day

Thursday November 9th - School Closed, Teacher Convention

Friday November 10th - School Closed, Teacher Convention

Wednesday November 22nd - Thanksgiving Break

Thursday November 23rd - Thanksgiving Break

Friday November 24th - Thanksgiving Break