

# Westminster Family Connection



November 2023



The scarecrow's smile and message "Give Thanks" say it best. We give thanks for the opportunity to teach and guide your children and I wish you could see how they make us smile! As Director, I am personally so grateful for the teachers and helpers who so cheerfully and lovingly make Westminster the warm and nurturing place it is.

## **Thanksgiving**

This is a special time of year to reflect on how thankful we are for what we have. In the spirit of giving and sharing, each class will be creating their own fresh fruit salad the Monday or Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Each child will be asked to bring one cut up piece of fruit in a baggie; at snack time each child will add their fruit to a big bowl for all to enjoy. The act of bringing something from home and adding it to the communal bowl becomes a hands-on learning experience in sharing and giving. Stay tuned for more information from your child's teacher.

## **Early Drop Off and Extended Day Availability**

Early drop off is available at 8:30am every morning for \$6. Early arrivals have extra time in the playroom each morning to play.

Lunch and Learn 11:30am-2:30pm for 3's - there are openings on Tuesdays and Thursdays with Mrs. Vass. If your child does not attend school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, he/she may join us at 11:30am. Children bring their own peanut and nut free lunch, eat together, learn, and play together, act out stories, sing, play outside whenever possible and do a project with Mrs. Vass. Please reach out if you'd like your child to join us for \$35/day.

4's Enrichment 11:30pm - 2:30pm - there is limited availability on Thursdays and sporadic availability on the other days for \$35/day. Please reach out if you are interested.

### **Westminster Swag!**

For the first time ever, we will be adding sweatpants and women's round neck t-shirts to the Westminster Fashion Collection! Please consider showing your school spirit with t-shirts, sweatshirts, sweatpants, and car magnets from Westminster! Your support of this annual fundraiser is greatly appreciated! Flyers will go home with your child next week. Please note the deadline for ordering is Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>. Need gift ideas for current students, former students, and family? Orders will arrive in time for the holidays!

### **Operation Christmas Child**

We have joined Westminster Presbyterian Church in supporting Operation Christmas Child with a goal of filling 100 boxes. Please pick up a box at the entrance - the informational pamphlet is inside! This is a great activity to do as a family. When we shopped to fill boxes - my daughter picked out things for a girl, my son for a boy - my children were surprised to hear that not everyone has socks, crayons, toys, or a stuffed animal, or toothbrush! Return boxes here no later than November 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Flu Vaccine**

The State of New Jersey mandates that all children enrolled in pre-school receive a flu vaccine by December 31<sup>st</sup>. The office must receive documentation of the vaccine before the winter break (December 22) for your child to return to school in the new year, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. If your child will not be receiving the vaccine for any reason, please provide the office with documentation.

### **What to Wear?**

We try to play outside as much as possible. If the temperature is above 32 degrees, chances are we will be outside. Please dress your child accordingly with a warm jacket, mittens, and a hat if it is cold outside. We understand some students do not like hats, etc. and we will do our best to keep them comfortable, yet warm at the same time!

### **Upcoming Dates of Note**

November 7<sup>th</sup> Tuesday - School closed Election Day

November 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Thursday, Friday - School closed Teacher's Convention

November 16<sup>th</sup> - Last day to order for our fundraiser!

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, Thursday, Friday - School Closed for Thanksgiving

December 1<sup>st</sup> - Final tuition payment is due

December 22<sup>nd</sup> - School closed for the winter break

Flu vaccine documentation due

January 2<sup>nd</sup> - School reopens