



# Stepping Stones News

Stepping Stones Preschool Newsletter ~ October 2011

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**A**s we begin our second month at school, have you remembered:  
to put your child's name on all lunch boxes, coats and jackets?  
to bring your family picture to your child's classroom?  
to ask your child about school and listen?

Embrace the season of fall with your children by walking in the leaves, tasting pumpkin seeds, enjoying warm cider and thanking God for all the colors of fall.

Each month a new Conscious Discipline skill will be added to help better prepare our children. We begin with "Safe Places" in each room. The first skill is Composure - "Being the person you want others to become." For our teachers, this means to remain calm to teach children how to behave by example. The teacher is to remind the children that her job is to keep them safe and their job is to help keep it that way. Breathing techniques will be taught for children to use in the Safe Place. The Safe Place is a space in the room with a soft pillow, squishy toys and family pictures. A place to regain your composure. Safe Places are located in all classrooms, my office, gym, outdoor play area, drama room and music room. We will also begin our days the Brain Smart way with connecting and uniting songs.

*Miss Diane*

*Bible Story  
Fishing for People  
Matthew 4:18-22*

As Jesus began His ministry, he called some of his disciples to leave their fishing nets and to fish for people.

So as we begin a new year together, we want our children to know that Jesus is also calling them, no matter how small to follow Him.

By using a clip and telling a story, cutting a net and a wreath of hearts for visual image; I will show the children that God loves each one of them and they, too, can help catch people with God's love.

**Theme:**  
"Be A Star - Step  
into Fall"

**Color:**  
Orange

**Shape:**  
Triangle

**Letters:**  
H, T, I, U

**Number:**  
3

**Oct. 5 - 7**  
Individual pic-  
tures taken

**Oct. 12 - 14**  
Orange Days  
Bible Story

**Oct. 21**  
NO SCHOOL

**Oct. 27**  
Halloween Parties  
All Classes

**Oct. 28**  
Halloween party  
Yellow/Red Rooms

**Oct. 31**  
Halloween Parties  
All Classes

## Conscious Discipline

The way we will work on this skill is by building the School Family. We will start using greeting aprons and ask the children how they want to be greeted when they arrive in their classrooms. We are all unique, not special. Effective praise relies on describing, not judging. Children need encouragement, especially when they have made “poor” choices. We will contribute to the welfare of others to build self-worth. The power of unity reminds us we are all in this journey together. A positive school climate will support the learning of all children. The power of unity teaches us that what we offer to others, we experience within ourselves. Teaching children to care for others allows them to care for themselves. Encouragement is basically a dose of hope. Children need hope to feel safe. Acceptance is the cornerstone of unconditional love.

Thank you....to everyone who donated \$1.00 for pumpkins, or brought candy or pop for the Fall Family Fun Night.

to Bresette Price Chopper and family for food donations also. And to all the staff for their time and talents. We hope everyone had a great time.

## Photography

Individual pictures will be taken during the week of October 5-7. Mr. Roy will be our photographer.

Birthday Donations: This year if you would like to give your class a gift on your birthday, come by the office or ask your teacher for ideas.

## Handwriting Without Tears

Our PreK classes have started their new curriculum. This curriculum uses a multi-sensory approach to teach fine motor skills, pencil grip and letter formation. A variety of tools are used each day to help develop these skills. We use play-dough, chalk, magnetic boards and several other items. The children are really liking this new approach!

## Halloween Parties & Parades

We ask that there are **No** witches, ghosts or scary costumes. Masks are optional - will only be worn during our parade. **No** guns, swords or weapons. Each class will have a sign up sheet by their room (Pink, Rainbow & Brown) or on the Blue Counter for items for their class party.

**Read Very Carefully** to find your child's classroom day for party and time for parade. After dropping off your child to their classroom, you may walk over to the church side gym for the parade.

Thursday, Oct. 27

9:15 a.m. Parade - All Classes

12:45 p.m. Parade - Green Room

Friday, Oct. 28

9:15 a.m. Parade - Red and Yellow Classes

Imagination Day children do not wear costumes.

Monday, Oct. 31

9:15 a.m. Parade - All Classes

