



Children's Corner

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sat, 11/5

Workday at Children's Corner,
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Sun, 11/6

Daylight saving time ends -
don't forget to set your clocks
back!

Tue, 11/8

Board Meeting, 7:15 - 9:15,
Children's Corner, Room C.

Wed, 11/16

Intergenerational Thanksgiving
Celebration, 12:00 – 12:30 p.m.
at the Hillview Multi-Purpose
Room. Families Invited!

Thur., & Fri, 11/24 & 11/25

Thanksgiving Day Holiday,
School Closed

Mon, 11/28

December tuition due

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Children's Corner is looking for a used HP LaserJet printer

If you or know someone who has one and would like to donate it, please let the Office know.

Family Dinner Nights

Our Pizza My Heart Fundraiser Last Week With A 30% (The Highest Rebate Of All Of Our Restaurants) Rebate Earned Children's Corner Over \$140. Thank You For Supporting Our Fundraisers.

Next Family Dinner Night: Pasta Market will donate 20% of sales from this event to our school

How... Present **YOUR FLYER** at your time of purchase
Valid on Take Out and Dine In

When... **Wednesday November 9, 2011**
11:00 AM – 9:00 PM

Where.... **The Pasta Market**
4546 El Camino Real, Los Altos, CA 94022
or Call your order in @ 650-949-1235

This holiday season, get your photo cards, gifts, and calendars through TinyPrints

When you shop this link:

<http://www.tinyprints.com/storefront/ChildrensCorner>

We will receive a 13% rebate on your purchase.

Thanks for supporting Children's Corner.

A Few Spaces Still Available for a Leah Rich Photo Shoot

Saturday November 5th and Sunday November 6th-Get your family photo shoot done with Leah Rich!

\$40 Mini Photo Shoot includes:

(1) 8x10 print or (1) digital image

Additional prints, products and images are available for purchase (wallets: \$5, 5x7: \$12, 8x10: \$14, digital images: \$20)

\$20 deposit required to reserve a 15 MINUTE shoot

25% of profits will be donated to Children's Corner

WANT MORE PICTURES? Sign up for 2 consecutive time slots for \$80. Pay a \$40 deposit to the office and you'll get (2) 8 X 10's or 2 Digital Images!

Questions: Contact Leah Rich at leah@rich-memories.com or www.rich-memories.com

Room 5

We hope you have all had a chance to meet Teacher Ferry as we welcome her to our morning program as our new permanent teacher. Thank you to the parents who met with Teacher Jan for our get acquainted conferences; we schedule those and conferences in May, but if you want to schedule a conference for any reason at any other time during the year please don't hesitate to ask.

In celebration of Halloween we carved pumpkins, played with black playdough, made spider webs and Halloween cookie cutter prints at our art table, and some of the children wore costumes to our special Halloween snacks. We have also enjoyed playing with flax seed, in dry form to feel the silky texture and wet to feel the rather gelatinous texture. The children in the late afternoon have been enjoying exploring beats with music they

are performing on bongo drums, the xylophone and sand blocks, as well as dancing to music with scarves. During November we will continue to talk about fall, make nature collages and paint with leaves and pinecones at our art table. Our tubs at the sensory table will be filled with leaves, acorns and other natural wonders.

Along with the cooler weather is the start of the rainy season. We do go out and play if the rain is light and there are puddles to jump in, so we encourage the wearing of rain coats and boots to school. Please remember to mark all clothing and boots or shoes. Please provide a spoon and/or fork in your child's lunch box, we have spare plastic ones for those days when they are forgotten but we cannot provide children with cutlery to eat with on a daily basis.

The Intergenerational Thanksgiving Celebration is on Wednesday, November 16th, 12:00-12:30. We do not typically attend as a group, but we do encourage you all to attend with your child. The children from rooms C and 6 sing together and enjoy some treats. It is a wonderful way to meet other parents and connect with our community. Grandparents and other family members are welcome.

Teachers Ferry, Jan, Jessica, Josette, & Julie

ROOM 5 WISH LIST:

HP 110 Ink

4X6 photo paper

Fresh fruit

Room 6

We have enjoyed the leaves of the season. We are watching them change color and fall down to the ground. Children love to gather them and carry them around. They become part of the imaginative play. The pumpkins provided us with science, dramatic play and math activities. We were able to observe and

classify. We used them in the dramatic play area and both indoors and outside. Children were carrying them and sorting, counting and building too. We looked at the inside of small ones and large ones. We carved them and roasted the seeds. They even got to look inside with magnifying glasses. There was lots of important information and wonderful conversation.

We will be gathering more of nature's gifts as we walk around outside. We will use these gifts for art, dramatic play, science and math. It is important for children to connect to nature and the world around them. It is another part of development that we must take time to nurture.

We are having our Intergenerational Thanksgiving Celebration this month. We have been practicing songs to sing for our families. Please look for the flyers in the office and classroom for date and time.

This month we are talking about families and helping others. This time of the year people reflect on what they are grateful for but we try to do this all year long. Understanding each other is what children are working on at this age and learning to be an important member of a community of people. This is a skill they will use for the rest of their lives.

Please check the expiration dates on your child's food. We have found many expired yogurts and juices lately. The State of California prohibits us from letting your child eat or drink them at school. We are required to save them for the day and show them to you. You may then decide to throw them away or take them home. Thanks for your help on this.

You are always welcome to come and spend some time in the classroom. You may do a project with the children, read stories, do a cooking project or share a tradition. These are just a few ideas. Please talk to a teacher if you are interested. The children love when their family member comes and their friends love it too.

Thank you for all of your support. We appreciate your help in making your child's school experience a positive one.

Teachers Christina, Laura, Maria, Megan, & Michelle

ROOM 6 WISH LIST:
8 1/2 X 11 white paper
Photo paper (4X6)
Whole fresh fruit

Room C – Fabulous 4's & 5's

We want to thank our families for participating in our Get Acquainted Conferences. We really enjoyed meeting with you. Learning more about your child and family helps us provide individualized care and learning experiences for your child. Conferences will be scheduled again in February and we are always available to discuss your questions or concerns.

During October we talked with the children about the importance of taking good care of your health. We practiced hand washing to get rid of germs and covering our coughs to prevent germs from spreading. We did an experiment with cinnamon powder representing the germs on our hands. We observed that soap helped the germs slide off our hands and we also observed that we needed to take enough time washing our hands to remove all the imaginary germs. Another experiment we did involved observing what grew on bread slices after we touched them with dirty hands and coughed on them in a Ziploc bag. We will continue our emphasis on good health habits throughout the year. We encourage healthy eating, lots of exercise, and developing good health and safety habits. We need and appreciate your support by making sure children wash hands when they enter the classroom and keeping them home when they are sick. Even when they do their best, children at this age

have a hard time keeping their noses adequately wiped (even with our help), and covering their coughs and sneezes. We know that they still want to come to school, but please keep them home for everyone's health and well being.

Thanks to Tarun and Shailen's moms, the children enjoyed celebrating Diwali. They created a special art project, shared information about their holiday traditions and brought a holiday treat for snack. We appreciate them sharing their knowledge and family traditions with the children and encourage others to let us know if they would be willing to share an interest or tradition with the children.

We hope you will be able to attend our Intergenerational Thanksgiving Celebration. This is a special celebration that we have each year. Our families and community center neighbors, especially the Los Altos Senior Center, are invited to hear the children sing and enjoy some special treats. This event will be on Wednesday, November 16th from 12:00 - 12:30. We look forward to seeing you there

Teachers Christina, Ian, Jessica, Joyce, Kymn, Maria, and Stephanie

ROOM C WISH LIST:

Colored pencils

Stickers for Birthday Crowns (no commercial characters please, ex: Disney-Star Wars)

Balls

Tacky glue

Room C - Spanish & English Class

The children have really taken an interest in discovering the various animals in the sensory table; the teachers combine the animals in

interesting settings: like water and sand, cocoa mulch, and even recycled paper! The children have also been finding different mediums in art that they can build into 3-D constructions. On one day there were strips of paper in shapes that could stand up from the paper, and on another day there were Popsicle sticks, puzzle pieces, and foam pieces that children were building as their "houses".

In the Spanish program we learned about my family, all about my body, and the sizes big, medium, and small. We have been introduced to the letters D, E, and F as well as starting to recognize the colors morado (purple), anaranjado (orange), blanco (white), negro (black), gris (grey), and cafe (brown). To learn the days of the week, we have begun to practice a song called Dias de la Semana (Days of the Week). We finished the month talking about the Dia de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and the children made a paper skeleton. Next month we will continue to practice our songs, as well as learn shapes, vegetables, colors, and the letters G, H, I, and J.

This month in English class we have been enjoying our small circle times. We have been learning about the animals that coincide with the Zoo-phonics. The children find that the non-fiction books that we are reading are fascinating, and often share their own knowledge about the animals. It is amazing how much children know about the animals! For example, something interesting that we learned is that the fins on a fish help the fish move forward, backward, and turn around. Next month we will be focusing on learning the days of the week, as well as talking about shapes and numbers.

In the month of November we will introduce our first famous painter, the children will learn where he was from and some of the methods he used for his paintings.

Teachers Christina, Maria, & Stephanie

SPANISH & ENGLISH WISH LIST:

Fresh fruit

Empty paper egg cartons

Small glue sticks

Room C - Young Explorers

Our ten-week travels of foreign lands have finally come to an end. We had so much fun exploring the art, music, food, language, celebrations, people, animals, and lands of five different countries. The last leg of our journey took us through beautiful Scotland and exotic Japan.

Scotland introduced us to traditional foods, the Loch Ness monster, bagpipes, and kilts. Teacher Ian, a descendant of a clan from the highlands, donned a kilt with his family colors. For snack, we ate oatmeal with a little brown sugar and prepared a delicious potato scone. The children cut and mashed potatoes and added a little salt and flour to make dough. The dough was formed into patties and quickly browned on each side. A simple and tasty snack! One of the children's favorite books was an interesting story about a little girl, oatmeal, and the Loch Ness monster titled, *The Luck of the Loch Ness Monster: a tale of picky eating*. Inspired by Celtic tunes and Scottish bagpipes and drums playing in the background, the children designed a pop art piece with clippings from magazines, a simple mobile, and a six foot tall stabile. We learned about the animals of Scotland including sheep, cows, Clydesdale horses, and the mythical Loch Ness monster. Small plastic replicas were available to play with at the sensory table with dry oatmeal, cotton balls, and water during the two weeks.

Our excursion to Japan provided an opportunity for Teacher Joyce to share her family background and culture. Her mother was born and raised in

Japan. Teacher Joyce's mother came to class and played the koto, a thirteen stringed instrument. Japan is known for many celebrations and our art activities reflected these special events. Taiko drum, koto, and shakuhachi music provided a backdrop during art and snack. We created beautiful water colored fans, rectangular Edo kaku dako kites, and Boy's Day fish wind socks, Koi nobori. A science/art project was making fish prints, Gyotaku, with real fish. The kids were intrigued by the close encounter. A favorite Japanese treat is the fruit sandwich made with fresh bananas, strawberries, melon, and kiwi mixed with whipped cream and spread on crust-free white bread. The children had a great time slicing and dicing fruit, and hand blending the whipped cream. Sushi was not as enticing, but still delicious for some. The children made their own seasoned rice balls with seaweed and the sweeter inari-sushi. The sensory table provided activities with dried rice, cooked rice, water, and fish using measuring utensils, rice paddles, and chopsticks.

November brings a new escapade as "Stories Come to Life." The class will embark on another ten-week adventure exploring classic stories and newer popular books that will be read and retold through felt stories, puppets, drama, and art. The first week, we will launch into Corduroy books. Please have your child bring their favorite stuffed animal to class on Thursday, November 17. The following weeks, familiar monkey rhymes and books will be highlighted.

Teachers Ian, Joyce, Kymn & Maria

YOUNG EXPLORERS WISH LIST:

Buttons all shapes and sizes for art and sensory table

White paper lunch bags

Large coffee filters

Clark House - Young Fives

What a month we are having! We have gone to our first of 4 scheduled plays at the Sunnyvale Performing Arts Center. We saw *The Emperor's New Clothes* with all the first graders from a Los Altos school. Boy, did we feel big! We really enjoyed ourselves and are looking forward to the next play, *Madeline's Christmas*. When the play was over we got our pictures taken with the cast!

We are learning lots of new songs and know about 15 so far. Now we are trying to learn ALL the words to *Over the River* (Grandma's House) to sing at our Thanksgiving celebration with our parents. All month we have been reading Halloween stories, decorating our school, and talking about our costumes. Teacher Pam says "we're getting our spook on". We are so excited! We are learning all about arachnids (spiders to you) and look daily for their webs. We have found about 10. Each is unique but all are beautiful. We even saw a spider waiting for food in his web.

We are trying lots of vegetables and are using the tomatoes from our friend Sebastian and the ones we grew to make sauce for our vegetables and pastas. It makes us hungry just thinking about it! We are also learning about pumpkins and how they grow. Then we are baking pumpkin seeds for snack, drying the seeds to eat, and making pumpkin muffins and a PIE with whip cream. Yeah! Yeah! Yeah!

On October 19th we begin collecting cans for the Second Harvest Food Bank and Boy Scouts. We have one month to collect 100 cans of usable food for the Thanksgiving distribution. Think we can do it? Teachers Pam and Eugenia say "SURE!" If you would like to help us, just drop your cans by school any time before 2pm. We'll say THANK YOU and sing you a song.

We know our letters A-G phonetic sounds and we are blending those sounds together into

words. Soon we will be reading! Our artists this month are Vincent van Gogh and Pablo Picasso. We are learning about their lives and how they saw the same things differently. We are painting our views of what they saw. We all love van Gogh's *Starry, Starry Night* and have learned that he actually painted 3 pictures by that name! He sure liked to paint the same thing over and over. He painted his own portrait 37 times using a mirror to see his face. He also painted many people in his everyday life. He sure liked faces and flowers! Next we will study a student of the sculptor, Rodin. Our sculptor's name is Brancusi and Teacher Pam says that his sculptures look nothing like his teacher's. He must be looking with "his eye". Not Rodin's. We will see the sculptures at Stanford University's collection in the Rodin garden and choose with our own eye our favorites-artists do see things differently.

We have so much fun and are doing so much each week—drop by, bring us a can, or just have fun drawing with our sidewalk chalk. We have a big patio where we draw daily.

Until next month- the Clark House Kids and Teachers Eugenia, Gini, Pam, and Stephanie

YOUNG FIVES WISH LIST:

Kleenex

Paper towels

Glitter

Old Christmas cards

Fresh fruits and vegetables

Chocolate mix for hot chocolate
