

The Bear Facts For November

2011

Dear Moms and Dads,

November is here! This month approaching. Thanksgiving is give thanks for all our these thoughts in various we will spend a few minutes



questions!!! We will also think of others less fortunate as we fill our "Helping Hands" box. Please encourage your child to bring in a contribution of non-perishable foods throughout the week of **11/10 through 11/18**. Our "Helping Hands" donations will be given to our church's food bank, to help families in need within our community.

reminds us of the holidays quickly on our minds and in our hearts as we blessings. Your children will reflect on activities during the month. Each day with our "Thankful Feathers". Ask

We will also use our "hands and hearts" to help a special **daddy and his troops in Afghanistan** know we are remembering their sacrifices during the holiday season. **Soleie's daddy, CDR CO Tristan Rizzi**, along with his troops, will not be home to enjoy the holidays with their families. So we will be creating a "memory" to send them from his daughter's VPK class! Attached is a list of ideas from Soleie's mommy, Teresa. We will begin collecting **Thursday 11/3 and continue until Thursday 11/10**. **The deadline to mail is 11/12**. Your children will also use their **hands** to create special decorations to brighten the troop's quarters! Also attached is a sheet of green paper. Please trace **your child's hands** on the paper (2), cut out and return tomorrow. We will put our **hands** together to form a Christmas tree! Thank you so "beary" much for encouraging your little ones to remember those who fight to keep us all safe!!!

A "beary special" thank you with "bear hugs" is sent to Kathy Sandlin, Andi Fuller, Teresa Rizzi, and Whitney LeCain for planning our terrific Halloween Party! I know your little ones came home with not only treats from the day, but lots of fun to talk about! Thank you all for sharing your gifts of creativity, enthusiasm, time, and love, with us! Many happy memories were made!!!

Thank you all for helping **Wish Bear** make so many wishes come true! We hope you have enjoyed seeing the benefits of your generosity! So many of our daily activities have occurred all because of your thoughtfulness!

During November we will explore "Thanksgiving", Pilgrims", "Indians", "Gg", "Hh", "Ii", "Shapes", "Senses", and "#4". **Our Thanksgiving Feast will be Friday 11/18!** Please check the **Parent's Corner** to find a separate list of needs for this special day, as well as November snacks. We'd love for you to share in our feast as we join Mrs. Jones', and Mrs. Heim's classes in the Fellowship Hall!

Our next **Field Trip** is planned for the **Public Library, Monday 11/7!** We will take a tour of the library and see **"The Rainbow Fish"** puppet show performed by the Junior League of St.Petersburg! Check the special sign-up if you would like to drive! Please have your child here in his/her **RDS t-shirt** and **labeled car seat**. We will leave at **9:30 A.M.**

*****Your child will need to bring in a clean, solid-colored, standard-sized pillowcase by Tuesday 11/8, for a special project! You may want to split 1 pkg. of standard pillowcases with another child. *****

*****Please have your child bring in 1 large, raw, Idaho baking potato, for a special craft during our feast. We'll need it by Thursday 11/17. *****



During the month we will continue exercising those fine motor muscles with lacing and cutting skills! We are



seeing **progress** and **big smiles of pride!** We love to hear **"I did it!"** Another skill to be encouraged is holding the crayon with control to improve tracing, writing, and coloring skills. Draw straight, curved, and zig-zag lines. Begin at the **top** and **write down**, working **left to right**. Be **patient** and **encouraging** during **brief, supervised**, work times. It takes **experience** and **time** for little muscles to develop, as well as attention spans to mature. Remember---**YOU** are also helping to develop **"self-confidence"** in your little one!!!

Check your child's backpack/folder **each day** for special notes, activities, etc. A **VPK assessment** will be sent home at the **end of this month**; giving you a brief insight into the skills your little one works toward accomplishing each day. A more in depth progress report will come home in late January, just before Parent/Teacher Conferences. If you have any questions, please never hesitate to call!

We have so much appreciation for what you do to help make our classroom thrive! You each give so much in various ways! During this busy time of year, the attached poem might be a reminder of your many blessings and that each day is a gift from God. We give thanks for your children and the opportunity you have given us to be a part of their early school experience---and yours!

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday and make memories to treasure!!!

Love and Bear Hugs!

1-2-3

Brenda and Shelley

