

Jacob's Ladder Cooperative Christian Preschool
7316 Nolensville Road
Nolensville, TN 37135
615-776-7362
October 15, 2011

Dear Families,



Director's Ditty: *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'* (Mark 12:30-31) The teachers have moved on from the beautiful story of God's creation, and it has been a joy to

watch the children learn that God made each of us too. We have touched upon caring for creation by talking about recycling. Children will be encouraged to bring in one recycling item a week, **on Thursdays**, to put in the bins at the bottom of the stairs. We are now ready to help them learn about taking care of each other as we continue using the Bucket Filler rewards.

Jacob's Ladder subscribes to an early childhood education group that publishes excerpts of articles pertinent to preschool teachers. We are passing along this very interesting article about childhood friendships, which goes along well with our Bucket Filler curriculum. As we see the children showing caring friendship towards their classmates, we both verbally and physically acknowledge their good deed, calling attention to how they are filling each other's hearts!



Why Friendship Matters

October 4, 2011

First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do.
-Epictetus

"The favorite childhood memories of many adults involve friends — in a sense, friendship is what childhood is all about," writes Eileen Kennedy-Moore in [Work & Family Life](#) (October 2011). She continues to describe the importance of helping children develop friendships...

"Friendships are not only a source of fun, they help kids grow in meaningful ways. They create a sense of belonging through shared interests: 'my friends and I like this kind of music...' or 'we play soccer.' Friendships can provide acceptance and help children feel good about themselves: 'Michelle is my friend and she wants to play with me.' Having friends also makes it easier for kids to tolerate stress, rebuffs, or aggravation. And friendship encourages children to go beyond their own self-interest. Caring about a friend, or just wanting to play with that friend, can temper selfish urges and open the way for negotiation, compromise, and even generosity.



Fall Festival:

Each year Jacob’s Ladder invites the children to dress in a costume as we celebrate fall. The date of this year’s Festival is Thursday, October 27.

Costumes must be **NON THREATENING, SAFE, AND EASY FOR CHILDREN TO HANDLE WHEN USING THE RESTROOM.** Children

will be on the playground for their normal play time, so safety is a key requirement. At 10:45, children will be served a “festival of orange foods,” which includes grilled cheese sandwiches, carrots, orange slices, Cheetos, orange sherbet, and orange juice. At 11:15, children will parade around **the inside** of the playground. Parents and siblings are welcome to stand around **the outside** of the fence to watch the parade and take pictures. Dismissal will be at the normal time. We want the morning to be fun, but please note that this can be a time of high stress for little ones. It is a day of excitement, a change in routine, and it can be that a child may become over stimulated or overly tired. No child will be forced to wear his/her costume or participate in the parade. In the event of rain, the children will parade around the fellowship hall.

There were many volunteers to help with this day, but we can only use a few of them. The list is printed in Parent Helper below. If you have any question, or if your child has an allergy to cheese, please let your teacher know. The following class assignments have been made for supplies for our Fall Festival. Your teacher will advise you about specific quantities.

Jacob’s Ladder will provide the cheese, butter, and carrots

Ms. Aimee’s class is responsible for mandarin oranges

Ms. Marcia’s class is responsible for orange juice

Ms. Stacy’s class is responsible for orange sherbet

Ms. Barbara’s class is responsible for Cheetos

Ms. Sue’s class is responsible for bread



School Notes:

Please remember that our dismissal time is 11:44. Our program is limited to 8:45-11:44 based on our certificate of exemption issued by the state. We will begin charging the late fee of \$5.00 per child per each 5 minutes as defined in our Parent Handbook.



Take Down Service:

We offer take down service at dismissal time to those parents, grandparents, or care givers who have difficulty negotiating multiple children up and down the back stairs. If the sibling of one of our students is ill, we request that you ask for take down rather than bring a child who is ill into the building. Our hallway is quite congested during dismissal, and this courtesy will help us provide the healthiest environment possible.

Parking Lot Speed Caution:

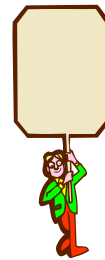
Because of the number of parents, children, and church members using the church parking lot, we ask that you drive **NO FASTER THAN YOU CAN WALK** when driving through the parking area and exits!

Tee-Shirt Order Deadline is Thursday, October 20th.

Restaurant Days with 10% discount for Jacob’s Ladder families and staff are:

Jet’s Pizza on Nolensville RD Tuesdays and Thursdays AND

Oscar’s in Nolensville on Wednesdays





Parent Helpers

We had a very large group of moms who signed up to help with various special days, including our Fall Festival, Bread Baking, Thanksgiving Feast, and Birthday Party for Jesus. We hope you understand if we have chosen you for just one of these days, so as to share the experience of “party time” with as many moms as possible. Please contact Terri or Tonia if there is a problem.

- October 19 Corrie Blair
- October 20 Tonia Smith & Thelma M
- October 24 Nancy Stillwell/Duckett
- October 25 Emily Osbourn
- October 26 Heather Bell
- October 27 Nakea Bryant
- Fall Kelly Ramos
- Festival Melissa Miller
- Greeshma
- Jennifer Dunn
- Melissa Rossi
- October 31 Nancy Stillwell/Duckett

- November 1 Madhu
- November 2 Corrie Blair
- November 3 Greeshma
- November 7 Valerie Mauro
- November 8 Andrea Barnes
- November 9 Kelley Hudson
- November 10 Heather Huneryager
- November 14 Kiley Ingalls
- November 15 Heather Bell
- Bread Lauren Paschal
- Baking Sunshine Bourque
- November 16 Laura Newman
- Tonia Smith (?)
- Norma Miller
- Jessica Anderson
- Candy Wence
- Andrea Barnes
- November 17 Tonia Smith
- November 28 Heidi Petak
- November 29 Sunshine Bourque
- November 30 Carrie Tracey



A Pumpkin Prayer By: Liz Curtis Higgs

(As you cut off the top)

Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you.

(As you remove the insides)

Remove the things from my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrongs I do and help me forgive others.

(As you carve in the eyes)

Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me.

(As you carve in the nose)

I'm sorry for the times I've turned my nose at the good food you provide.

(As you carve in the mouth)

Let everything I say please You.

(As you put in and light a candle)

Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do. Amen