

Put a little PEP in your Life!

October 2024 Newsletter

A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families:

'Back to school' at Park's Edge Preschool was filled with excitement this year at PEP's Annual Open House held from 5 to 7pm on Thursday, September 5th. Thank you to Pastor Josh Simon for participating in PEP's Open House Meet & Greet. Families were also able to tour the classrooms and meet all the dedicated PEP staff. Pizza was served in Kurth Hall. Everyone is ready for a busy and productive school year of fun and learning!

A huge thank you to all the families for your support during the window project. We are thrilled to have all new windows throughout the upstairs classrooms. The classroom was painted on Saturday, September 28. We were excited to 'unveil' the new space Monday, September 30 with all new carpets to complete the space. New window treatments were ordered, and they should be installed in the coming weeks.

Welcome back to Ms. Haley, who will return to work on Wednesday, October 2nd after maternity leave. We look forward to having her back and getting to know Cole.

Pastor Josh is a welcome addition to PEP's Literacy Program. Once a month Pastor Josh Simon is spending time in our preschool classrooms reading to the children. Theme related books are specially chosen by the teachers for him to read. Thank you, Pastor Josh!

We are excited to announce that Park's Edge Preschool was awarded accreditation by the National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs. As an Accredited center, we are recognized as an early

care and education program that exemplifies excellence in the care of young children. Park's Edge Preschool ensures a high-quality program for children that is conducive to their individual growth and development, provides professional training opportunities for staff, and demonstrates that the center exceeds minimum state and licensing requirements for childcare programs. The accreditation process included a Self-Study in which administrators, staff, and parents evaluated the program in accordance with Accreditation Standards. Thank you to everyone who was instrumental in the process.

Mark your calendars for Friday, October 11th for Picture Day. The background will be Christmas themed, and pictures will be mailed in time for the holidays. The photographers will be here from 7-11am. You can bring your child's clothes to school, and we will change them prior to the pictures, if you would like. Please see the front desk for paperwork to fill out prior to the date.

A Family Friendly 'Trunk or Treat' is scheduled for all ages and will be held in Emanuel Church/Park's Edge Preschool's back parking lot on Thursday, October 24th from 5:30-7p.m. The staff from each classroom will decorate one of their cars with a special theme and pass out candy to the children parading from car to car in Halloween costumes. Some of the themes from last year were Baby Shark, Black Cat, and Frankenstein, to name a few trunk themes. I cannot wait to see what themes will be chosen this year. We encourage parents to dress up and join in on the fun as well! Please R.S.V.P. at PEP's front desk or call (414)427-9561.

'Trick or Treat' at the Hales Corners Care Center for the Shining Stars and Slithering Snakes Group ages 4 and up. The children will dress in costume and trick or treat at the

residential care facility in our community on Friday, October 25th at 10:30am. The residents love seeing the children in their costumes, and the children have fun parading around and waving to all the residents. This is a great experience for all ages.

Halloween brings many surprises and traditions to Park's Edge Preschool! Wednesday, October 30th PEP's magical pumpkin patch will be right here in our own backfield. On Wednesday afternoon the children will "plant" their pumpkin seeds in the back field. Overnight the pumpkins will magically grow in the back field for all children to come and pick out their very own pumpkin. I cannot wait to see the children's excitement on Thursday, October 31st when they go to the backfield to see how quickly their magical pumpkins grew.

Thursday, October 31st children are 'dressing-up' as their favorite character for an all-center costume parade. The parade time is 10:00 am rain or shine in Emanuel Church's beautiful sanctuary. Staff and children are looking forward to this spooktacular event!! Halloween goodies will be passed out in celebration of a safe and Happy Halloween for all ages!!

Mark your calendars now for the annual 'Frazzled Family Dinner' sponsored by the 'Mission Committee' of Emanuel Church scheduled for Wednesday, November 20th watch for details! Food is Love and we love you!!

Sincerely,
Kristin Burr
Interim Director



Happy Birthday!

Harper J.	10/02/2020
Liliana C.	10/03/2021
Norah F.	10/04/2019
Ezra S.	10/07/2021
Logan E.	10/09/2023
Cameron S.	10/20/2022
Rori P.	10/22/2018
Kehlani W.	10/30/2016
Kaia A.	10/31/2020
Emmett A.	10/31/2023



Important Dates:

Thursday, October 10th-

No 4K Whitnall District

Friday, October 11th-

No School Whitnall District

Friday, October 11th-

Picture Day! 7:00am-11:00am - Holiday Theme

Monday, October 14th-

No School Whitnall District

Tuesday, October 15th-

Sprinkle 'Magic Pumpkin Seeds' in the Back Field

Wednesday, October 16th-

Pick a Pumpkin from the 'Magic Patch'- Ages 2 and Up

Thursday, October 24th-

Center Wide Trunk or Treat!

5:30pm-7:00pm

Friday, October 25th-

Hales Corners Care Center Field Trip

10:30am - Stars and Snakes - Costumes encouraged

Friday, October 25th-

No School Whitnall District

Thursday, October 31st-

Center Wide Halloween Costume Parade

10:00am - Parents and Grandparents Welcome

Saturday, November 2nd-

Silent Auction at Emanuel Church

6:00-9:00pm - \$10 Entry Fee Per Person

Friday, November 8th-

Park's Edge Professional Half Day.

Center Closes at 12:00pm - Lunch Will be Served.

No pm 4k and Afternoon Pickup

Wednesday, November 20th-

Frazzled Family Dinner!

Thursday, November 21st-

Parent Teacher Conferences 5:30pm-7:00pm.

Love Bugs

Who do monsters buy their cookies from?

Ghoul scouts

The month of September flew by. We got to have another month of summer due to the unexpected heat, the babies loved going outside for a couple extra walks. In September, we explored our sense of touch. We splashed in water, and we used sponges to play. The babies had a blast splashing and getting wet!

Welcome Levi, Cole, and their families to our class!

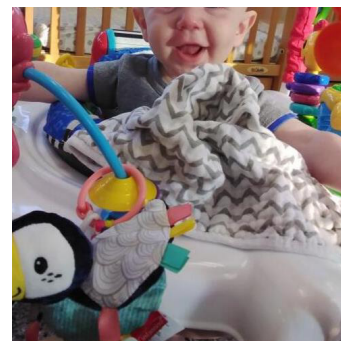
Our babies, as always, are working hard at hitting their milestones. Each day they impress us with new skills. Colette is very good at figuring out how to get toys when they are out of reach. She has also been scooting backwards while on her stomach, and she always has a smile for her friends.

Adalynn is smiling at friends and adjusting well to the classroom. She is very chatty and has a lot of stories to tell. Malakai can push up using his arms when on his stomach. He is also moving his body different ways to roll over. He likes sitting in the jumper and watching light up toys! Our child of the month will be George! George is moving everywhere AND is pulling himself up using the shelves. He also loves to play with his friends and share toys.

We couldn't be prouder of our babies. We can't wait to see what all of our friends are dressed as at Trunk or Treat this month. We know everyone will be too cute to handle.

Have a great October!

Ms.Terri and Ms.Brooke



Beautiful Butterflies

Welcome Harvest, Autumn and Fall! A fresh new season for us to embrace. A time for letting go to make room for new things to grow.

All the babies are growing so fast. We are noticing more talking and interacting amongst the children. We are also seeing more positive playing with each other. It's fun to witness teamwork and collaboration with the kids.

October will be a month of using our creative imaginations. A favorite activity will be painting mini pumpkins. We also can't wait to see the children dressed up for Halloween. We hope to see you all at Trunk or Treat!

Some other fun activities that we will and have been doing will be building with blocks stacking three or more high, moving cars around, catching bubbles and wanting us to read books to them over and over again. We love interacting with our babies.

Our Parent Engagement activity will be to share with us your favorite fall time family tradition.

Happy October

Ms. Julie & Ms. Holli



Darling Dragonflies

“Magic is really very simple, all you’ve got to do is want something and then let yourself have it.” - Aggie Cromwell from Halloweentown 1998

In September our Dragonflies eagerly delved into the fascinating realm of how apples grow and enjoyed an apple taste test. We daydreamed about riding a school bus and the adventures of school life for when we become bigger kids, explored different careers, including the vital role of firefighters and the importance of fire safety which during fire safety week some local firefighters were happy to show us their trucks and fire fighting gear.

In October, we are exploring the season of autumn and all the exciting activities it brings between the leaves changing colors, outdoor activities such as jumping in leaves to pumpkins. We will also be learning about different occupations that grown-ups may be. Which brings the question of: What do I want to be when I grow up? Our class will also discover what creatures roam in the night along with familiar animals: pets! **We encourage parents to bring a picture of their child with their family pet or with a favorite stuffed animal if you do not have a pet at home. **

We are looking forward to Trunk or treating and the Costume parade! We can't wait to see what all of our friends will dress up as!

Reminder for parents: As the weather is starting to cool down, please bring a light jacket and weather appropriate extra clothing for your child.

Ms. Haley J, Ms. Jacque, and Ms. Linda



Busy Bees

September was a busy, buzzy month for our little Bees. Our classrooms had an amazing makeover, with brand new windows, paint and rugs! Thank you for letting us improve our environment!

We had so much fun this month trying different kinds of apples. The apples we tried out were Granny Smith, Red Delicious, and Gala. Everyone did a good job of trying at least one bite of the apples!

We also got to learn about fire safety last month and got a visit from the fire department. The children did a great job watching the fire fighters put on all their gear without being too afraid! Most of our friends got to walk through the ambulance too!

We also tackled one of our biggest goals last month and that was using an open cup. We've had some spills, but we've greatly improved, October is our favorite time of year! We will be learning about occupations, pets, leaves, and animals that come out at night. To finish up the month, Let's get spooktacular; we will be playing with pretend spiders and spider webs! We will also be painting with leaves this month, if you would like to bring in some cool fall leaves you see on a walk or at home, for us to hang on our new family tree or paint with this month we would appreciate that!

We will have our annual trunk or treat on October 24th, we hope you can all attend to see our amazing trunk theme, and to see everyone's costumes! I hope everyone has an awesome start to fall!

Ms. Emily and Ms. Jacinda and Ms. Haley J.



Sunshine Room

Hello Sunshine Families! We are so excited to finally welcome fall and can't wait to see what's in store for us. But first, let's take a look back at September. We were very excited to welcome back our very own Ms. Mariah and Ms. Kasey, as well as meet and get to know Ms. Shanda to our lovely Sunshine room. Don't be shy, say hi!

September was filled with all sorts of fun and joy. We welcomed many new friends into our room for the start of the school year. We have been working very hard on understanding and following our class routine, as well as working on our table manners. We are all learning how to be continuously kind, loving, and gentle with our friends and teachers everyday. We enjoyed learning so many new transition and group time songs during 'Back To School' week. Some of these songs are 'Show Me How You...' to the tune of 'The Wheels on the Bus', 'Little Bunny Foo Foo', and 'Icky Sticky Bubble Gum'. Ask your kiddo what their favorite flavor of pretend bubble gum is to chew during group time! During 'Fire Safety and Prevention', we got to meet some of our local firefighters, we even got to take a peek inside a real ambulance and firetruck! We then rolled into 'Apples, Apples, Everywhere' week, where we got to taste some super yummy apples, we even had a little caramel to dip them in as a fun surprise treat. We then got right into 'Fun Fairy Tales', where we got to read all sorts of interesting fairy tales. We loved 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Coming up for October, we can't wait to learn about all sorts of fun occupations and jobs. What do we want to be when we grow up? We will then crawl into 'Paw-fect Pets' week, we are excited to learn about everyone's fuzzy (or scaly) friends! We will then 'leaf' into fall, where we will discover why trees change color, and why the air is cooler. We will then crawl into 'Nocturnal Animals' week, what animals love to stay up at night? And to finish off the great month of October, we will of course be celebrating Halloween. Don't forget to join us for our one and only Trunk-or-Treat!

Please make sure to look through your child's cubby and bring in weather appropriate clothing (pants, long sleeves, sweaters...).

We have been having so much fun in our Sunshine room so far this fall, and we are looking forward to what is to come.

-Ms. Mariah, Ms. Kasey, Ms. Shanda, and the Sunshine Kiddos



Fantastic Frogs

"Happy October! As we look forward to the excitement of Halloween, with events like Trunk or Treat and the Costume Parade on the horizon, let's look back at our busy September.

During Back to School week, we met new friends in the classroom. We learned our friends' names and practiced recognizing all the letters in our own names.

The highlight of our month was our visit from the firefighters. They showed us that even with all their gear on, it was still a friendly face underneath, and they gave us a tour of their fire engine and ambulance. We also learned about stop, drop, and roll.

As part of Apple week, we had an apple tasting with the different flavors brought in by our parents. Sour Granny Smith apples were very popular! Finally, we learned about Fairy Tales. Some of us got to hear about The Three Little Pigs for the first time, and brought that story into some imaginative play, both outside and with felt cutouts during centers.

Coming up in October, we'll be learning about occupations, pets, Fall changes, and nocturnal animals. During Occupation week, we'll be learning the importance of working together as a team, and play some instruments outside to see what it is like to be a musician. For those of you who have a pet at home, we ask that you bring in a picture for your child to share with the class during pet week!

As the seasons change, we encourage you to make sure your child has all they need for the cooler weather, including for the spare clothing bins in their cubbies.

Thank you, Ms. Sandra and Mr. Ben



Shining Stars

While summer has turned into fall, September brought many changes and fun activities!

Our 4K kids are getting into a comfortable routine with half days at the “big school.” They enjoy coming back and telling us all about their day! Our month has been filled with back to school, fire safety, and a basket full of apples (from Ms. Melinda’s apple tree). The kids were very excited as the fire fighters came with a real fire truck and ambulance. We were able to experience how a fire fighter prepares for a fire by watching fireman Ian put all his gear on. We loved walking into the fire truck and ambulance and seeing all the necessary equipment and tools needed to help save lives.

We also learned how to safely peel and cut apples to make homemade applesauce. It made the room smell delicious and tasted great too! We also had fun making Rice Krispie treats for all our September birthday friends. We ended the month enjoying many classic fairy tales and creating our own new ones. Keep an eye out for your child’s original fairy tale book they created with their own imaginations!

As the new school year is in full swing, we ask that everyone has extra weather appropriate clothes. This time of the year can be tricky as summer turns into fall. So please have a sweatshirt along with a long pair of pants to keep for the week in their cubbies. If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Maria or Ms. Melinda. You can always talk to us in person, on the app, or call during our nap time between 1-3.

Thank You, Ms. Maria, Ms. Melinda and Ms. Alexis



Slithering Snakes

How do you know if a vampire is sick? He’s coffin

Welcome to a wonderful month full of scares and sweets, changes and growth. We have officially made it through our first month of school, and we could not be more proud of how easily the children have settled into their new grades.

September was our chance to get to know all of our new students, as well as learn our existing children’s attitudes about their new grades. We love hearing about all the wonderful things they’ve been discovering at school, and thoroughly enjoy being able to bolster their education with our daily riddles and brain teasers, as well as the art projects and class games we play.

As we slowly transition from summer to fall, please make sure that your child is properly equipped with a coat or hat, to stave off the coming chill, as well as proper shoes to trek through any possible mud or wet leaves that come with the season.

October is looking to be a fantastic month, and a perfect opportunity to explore the changes of fall. We will be focusing on our weekly themes, such as fall leaves and Halloween, but will also be focusing on noticing and cataloging the changes in the natural world around us. Mr. Cody loves to hike and explore nature, and hopes to bring some of that passion into the classroom. We will also be having a variety of events this month, including our Halloween costume Parade, a field trip to the Hales Corners Senior Community, and last but not least Trunk or Treat! Trunk or Treat is easily our favorite event of the year, as it truly offers us a glimpse into the things and interests that define your family, as well as some of your child’s favorite shows or books.

We appreciate you taking the time to read this, and can’t wait for another amazing month!

Sincerely, Ms. Nicole, and Mr. Cody



Themes with Christian Sub Themes

10/7-10/11: Paw-fect Pets!

Job 35:11 “Who teaches us more than he teaches the beasts of the earth and makes us wiser than the birds in the sky?”

10/14-10/18: ‘Leafing’ Into a Great Fall!

Falling in love with Jesus- Song “Jesus loves the little children”

10/21-10/25: Nocturnal Animals

Genesis1:30 “And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground- everything that has the breath of life in it-I give every green plant for food, and it was so.”

10/28-11/01: Let’s Get Spooktacular!

2 Timothy 1:7 “For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.”

Happy Anniversary!



Happy 22-year Anniversary to our beloved Ms. Sandra!

Ms. Sandra started her career at PEP in the Sunshine Room. She has worked with the two and a half to three-year-olds ever since. She loves the excitement and curiosity of that age group.

Ms. Sandra has an Associate’s Degree in Early Childhood Education. She also has an Associate of Art’s Degree in Practical Theology.

Everyday Ms. Sandra creates magic in her room. She is always making adorable crafts and her famous headbands that transform the children into Dr.’s or Firefighters or the cutest elephant that you would ever see.

Nature is very important to Ms. Sandra. Weather permitting, her class is outdoors as much as possible. You will often find her bringing a cart of toys to the outdoor sanctuary so her class can enjoy their group time in nature.

By far, Ms. Sandra’s greatest contribution to Park’s Edge is her love and knowledge of Jesus. She spreads God’s love to her children every day. She loves sharing bible stories and praying with, and over the children. She is building a beautiful foundation of faith for every child that is lucky enough to pass through her room.

Sandra has been blessed with 5 wonderful children and 4 beautiful grandchildren. She often talks about her “grandbabies” and just how thankful she is for everyone in her life.

We cannot thank Ms. Sandra enough for her commitment to Park’s Edge Preschool and her commitment to teaching and loving all our children

Happy 2-year anniversary to the wonderful Ms. Holli!

Ms. Holli started at Park’s Edge in our Beautiful Butterflies classroom and has remained there ever since. She loves her babies and wouldn’t want to be in any other place.

Ms. Holli has studied early childhood education at WCTC. She is also CPR and AED certified.

Ms. Holli fills the classroom with warmth and laughter. She talks with the babies nonstop and loves a good song at lunch time. She can often be found snuggling and rocking a child at nap time. She loves sitting and reading with the children as well. Ms. Holli teaches the children independence while also making sure they feel nurtured and loved. We can often hear her cheering the children on as they take their first steps or hit any milestone for that matter. She is the classrooms biggest cheerleader!

Ms. Holli has two children of her own, Charli and Finnegan. Her little girl Charli just started Kindergarten, and little Finnegan is still here at the center. She beams with pride when talking about her children, they are the center of her world.

We are so thankful to have Ms. Holli here at PEP. Her love and commitment to our littlest babies is so appreciated.

