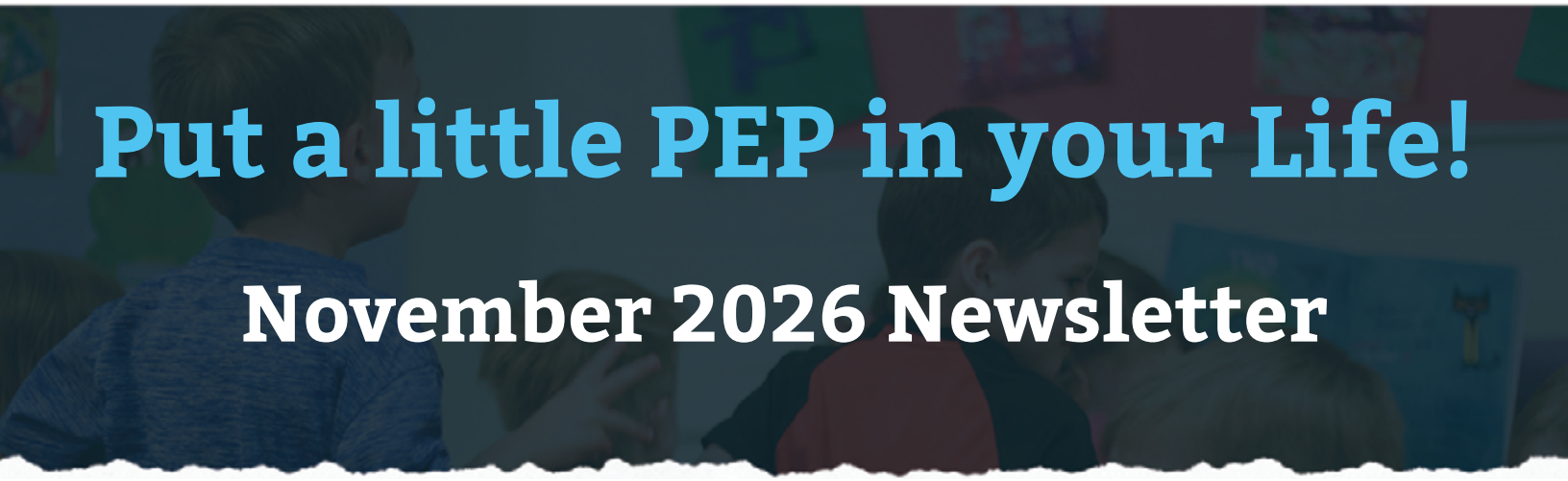


Put a little PEP in your Life!

November 2026 Newsletter

A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families,

November is the perfect time to reflect on everything we are thankful for. Pastor Bob Snyder, one of the founders of Park's Edge Preschool, once said he enjoys this time of year because it reminds him to slow down, appreciate what is around him, and take in the beauty of the season. I couldn't agree more!

Thank you to all the families that participated in our annual Trunk-or-Treat. It was a huge success! We had such fun themes and loved the creativity our staff showed! Love Bugs' theme was Cats, Beautiful Butterflies: Circus, Darling Dragonflies: Trick or Treat Pete, Busy Bees: SpongeBob, Sunshine: Floor Is Lava, Fantastic Frogs celebrated Jesus and the fall harvest, Shining Stars: candy samples from Costco, Purple Moons made us believe we were at Hogwarts, the Slithering Snakes decorated a 'Spooky Bus' that had a lot of visits, the office theme was a touchdown, and Emanuel Church's 'Fishers of People' was a swimming success! Thank you to all the parents and grandparents who were able to attend both Trunk-or-Treat and our Halloween Parade this year!

Friday, November 6, we have Picture Day from 7–11 a.m. You are welcome to bring in your child's outfit, and we will change them into it prior to pictures. There is a form to fill out located above the mailboxes. The paperwork will be in your mailbox on Monday morning, with instructions to view the pictures on the form.

PEP closes at 12 p.m. on Friday, November 6, for our Professional Half Day. Our topics include Emergency Preparedness, Fire Extinguisher Training, and conference preparation. Thank you to all our families for making afternoon arrangements so we can achieve our 25 hours of in-service training for licensing and our accreditation. There will be no p.m. transportation (including 4K p.m.). Lunch will be provided.

Have you signed up for Frazzled Family Dinner on Thursday, November 19? It is a free dinner sponsored by Emanuel Church for almost 20 years! It is the best night of the year when you do not have to cook. This year, we coordinated it with conference night so you can attend conferences and take home a meal to heat up. This year's menu is honey lime chicken enchiladas, rice, apples, and cookies. A prayer card is included in the bag, too. The sign-up sheet is at the front desk. Sign up today!

Thursday, November 19, is conference night from 5–6:30 p.m. Sign-up sheets are in your child's classroom. Childcare is provided so both parents/guardians can attend, if possible. It is a wonderful opportunity to come and talk to your child's teacher about their growth and progress using our Portage Assessment Guide. We will discuss any questions or concerns you may have. If you run out of time, you are welcome to call or come in at nap time to talk further. We hope that everyone can make it.

In celebration of Thanksgiving, PEP will be closed on Thursday, November 26, and Friday, November 27. Normal charges will be applied.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful, blessed Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,
Kristin Burr
Executive Director

Happy Birthday!

Quinn M.	11/02/2022
Delaney L.	11/06/2020
Sullivan P.	11/07/2025
Will G.	11/09/2023
Carter D.	11/11/2021
Ava H.	11/11/2021
Duncan B.	11/15/2024
Molly J.	11/16/2020
Harper J.	11/16/2024



Important Dates:

Monday, November 2nd–

No School Whitnall District

Friday, November 6th–

Picture Day - 7:00-11:00am
Sign-up sheets will be available at the front desk prior to the scheduled date.

Friday, November 6th–

Professional Half Day - Center closes at 12:00pm
Lunch will be served. No pm busing.

Thursday, November 19th–

Conference Night 5:00-6:30pm
Sign-up sheets will be available in your child's classroom.

Thursday, November 19th–

Frazzled Family Dinner
Sponsored by Emanuel Church Mission Team

Wednesday, November 25th–

No School Whitnall District
Sign up for care in your child's classroom.

Thursday, November 26th and Friday, November 27th–

PEP Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
Regular tuition charges apply.

Thursday, December 3rd–

PEP's All Center Christmas Party- 5:00-6:30pm
Sign-up sheet for Santa pictures will be available closer to the event.

Thursday, December 10th–

Jesus's Birthday Celebration (All children Christmas Program) - 4:00-5:00pm in Church Sanctuary
Cupcakes served after in Kurth Hall.

Love Bugs

Why do potatoes make good detectives?
They keep their eyes peeled!

Last month, we had lots of fall fun! We painted a small pumpkin using purple, blue, and green paint and made Frankenstein feet. We also created a pumpkin sensory bag that allowed the children to explore the unique texture of the inside of a pumpkin. It was a fun way to experience the sights and feel of the season!

This month, our little ones will get creative by making pumpkin pie art with their feet and finger painting on bubble wrap. We can't wait to see their adorable creations!

Here's what our Love bugs are working on this month!
Wyatt and Ember are well on their way to sitting up independently without support. Ember has also started exploring soft table foods!
Eliza is working on rolling over. By the end of the month, she may be rolling all over the room!
Callum is working on pushing up onto his hands and knees during tummy time as he builds the strength and coordination needed to crawl.
Chloe is practicing pulling herself up to stand and moving from a lying-down position into a sitting position.
Charlie is working on tripod sitting, using his hands for balance while strengthening his back and core muscles.
Shea is working hard on rolling over! She is also practicing sitting with support, which helps strengthen her back and core as she works toward sitting independently.
Makai is practicing standing independently for a few seconds at a time. Look at him go!

Our little Love bugs are growing by leaps and bounds! It is amazing to watch them discover new skills and reach exciting milestones. We look forward to seeing all the wonderful progress they make this month!

Have a wonderful month!
Ms. Terri, Ms. Gina and Ms. Gabi






Beautiful Butterflies

There is so much thankfulness and gratitude in the air! Our babies are so precious, and it has been so much fun watching them learn and grow. This month, we celebrate Sullivan's and Rooney's birthdays, and they will both be our Babies of the Month!

Sullivan is always smiling! He loves building with blocks, catching bubbles, and exploring sensory toys and gadgets. Rooney is always clapping, goes with the flow, and is very observant. Rooney also enjoys finding items around the classroom and putting them back in their proper places!

Art and music continue to be favorites among all the children. Painting mini pumpkins was a smash hit! The babies also enjoyed making hand print leaves and coloring together on large sheets of paper. They had so much fun catching fake leaves and excitedly saying, "Wheee!" It is wonderful to see their personalities shine as they explore new activities together.

Our little ones are growing and reaching new milestones every day! They are making more sounds, forming new words, and keeping us on our toes as they crawl, pull themselves up to stand, and begin walking. Milestones happen quickly in this classroom, and it is such a joy to watch each baby discover something new!

We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving! Remember, the little things in life are often the biggest blessings, and there is always something to be thankful for each day.

God bless,
Ms. Julie, Ms. Holli, and Ms. Paige






Darling Dragonflies

October was full of fall fun in our classroom! Our little ones loved planting magic pumpkin seeds and discovering pumpkins that grew overnight! We explored pumpkin seeds and insides, enjoyed sensory play, made Jack-o'-Lantern volcanoes, stamped with apples and leaves, and played in piles of leaves.

Through these fall-inspired art activities, the children explored colors, textures, and nature while developing fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and creativity. They experimented with different art tools and materials , practiced making independent choices, and expressed their ideas through hands-on learning.

November is bringing more fun as we explore manners through nursery rhymes, enjoy fun crafts, and discover our five senses during Thanksgiving week! We'll be tasting, smelling, exploring, and creating festive turkey crafts while learning about the world around us.

Exploring the five senses helps toddlers build curiosity, language, and thinking skills! At home, encourage your little one to explore different textures, listen to nature sounds, smell fall scents, and taste new foods together. These simple moments make learning fun!

We can't wait for another wonderful month of learning and growing with our Darling Dragonflies!

Ms. Brooke & Ms. Morgan






Busy Bees

October was scary fun learning about all things fall like pumpkins, scarecrows, apples, leaves and Halloween. Our busy bees enjoyed picking out their magic pumpkins, scooping out pumpkin seeds and apple taste testing. We loved seeing all of our friends in their spooky Halloween costumes for the Halloween parade as well as Trunk or Treat.

In November our goals for our busy bees are to learn how to put on our coats independently as well as following two step directions. We encourage parents to help their child to learn how to put on their coats and jackets themselves by practicing at home.

Reminder as the weather is getting colder please bring weather appropriate clothing for your child such as jackets, mittens and hats already labeled.

Happy fall y'all!
Emily & Jacque






Sunshine Room

Where do baby ghosts go to school?
Day-scare!

Spooky season did not disappoint! The children loved learning about all things creepy and frightening, especially when it comes to scaring their friends with a big "BOO!" This time of year is pure magic, with the leaves changing from green to red, orange, and gold. The children are learning about the natural rhythms of the world, and it's fascinating to watch their minds grow as they begin to process all the new things happening around them.

This month has been filled with nonstop fun! We've been having spooky dance parties to get all our extra sillies out. We've also been working on our social skills through many different types of play. Our favorite activity has been scaring one another, which has led to lots of giggles! We've also been practicing our manners throughout the day, making sure to say "please" when we want something and "thank you" when someone does something nice for us. Lastly, the trunk-or-treat was a big hit! It was amazing to see everyone's spectacular costumes!

Just a few friendly reminders for this month: Please make sure your child brings a blanket on Mondays and takes it home on Friday or their last day of the week. This helps prevent the spread of illness. Thank you! As the seasons change and the weather gets colder, please make sure your child has appropriate backup clothing in their cubby.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us through the app, during drop-off or pick-up, or by phone between 1 and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Thank you! The Sunshine Crew
Ms. Alexis and Ms. Nay-Nay






Fantastic Frogs

Fall arrived with gorgeous weather, and we enjoyed playing in the leaves, going on nature walks, and having pumpkin races! We loved seeing everyone dressed up in their adorable Halloween costumes for our trunk-or-treat. Thank you for joining us for our costume parade! It is always so much fun to see grandparents, aunts, and uncles come to celebrate with us. We also enjoyed planting magic pumpkin seeds, and the children were so excited to pick out their very own magic pumpkins!

October was busy and full of fun, including apple tasting! We learned about why manners matter and how God's helping hands guide us. The children practiced cleaning up after themselves, showing their growing independence. We also focused on being kind, loving, and gentle with our friends while learning the importance of sharing.

As the leaves began to fall, each child received a leaf card and went on a hunt to find their matching leaf. They were also given paper bags to collect their leaves. We used our treasures for fun art projects, including leaf crowns, squirrel tails, and leaf painting. We learned why leaves change colors and talked about the four seasons.

A big thank-you to everyone who helped make our harvest party so special! The children loved sitting at tables decorated with tablecloths, enjoying delicious snacks, and sharing treats with their friends.

In November, we look forward to exploring fairy tales and nursery rhymes, music, the five senses, giving thanks, and fantastic food! We will learn about cooking and baking, practice being thankful as we celebrate Thanksgiving, and discover how we use our five senses every day without even realizing it.

Winter is on its way! As the weather gets colder, please check your child's cubby to make sure they have weather-appropriate clothing. We are still enjoying time outdoors, so please continue to send appropriate jackets for the fall weather. Also, remember to check your child's folder during drop-off and pick-up for their latest artwork and creations!

Thank you for being part of our classroom family!

Ms. Sandra, Ms. Shanda and Ms. Sarah






Shining Stars

No way, it's already November!

We were busy to the core learning all about apples during the first week of October! We had fun making "apple pie" with apple pie-scented playdough, taste-testing different apples to decide which were our most and least favorites, and ending the week with some delicious apple nachos!

We were on our best behavior during Manners Week! We made gold medals to celebrate good deeds, practiced our table manners, and created a friendship tree. We learned that being polite helps make our classroom a happy place!

Leaf it to us to have all the fun during Leaf Week! We went on a nature hunt to find the coolest leaves and discovered so many in different shapes, colors, and sizes. We turned our leafy treasures into cute little leaf friend magnets and used the acorns from our hunt for painting, too! We also planted our magic pumpkin seeds, which magically grew into pumpkins overnight! The children were SO excited to pick out their very own pumpkins the next morning!

Speaking of pumpkins, the following week was all about these fall favorites! We talked about how and where pumpkins grow and all the different things we can do with them. We made thumbprint pumpkin patches, created pumpkin faces out of playdough, traced letters in shaving cream, and finished the week by watching Spookley the Square Pumpkin!

We had a spook-tacular time during Halloween Week! We made Jack-o'-lantern suncatchers, created witch hats and bubbling cauldrons, played in our graveyard sensory bin, and enjoyed lots of Halloween pong! Of course, we can't forget our Halloween parade! Thank you to everyone who took time out of their morning to join us. We also had a blast trick-or-treating at Complete Care. The residents always enjoy our visits and love seeing all the adorable costumes!

We are working hard on letter recognition and prewriting skills in our classroom. One of our goals is to help your child feel confident writing their name as they prepare for big school! You will find us practicing through a variety of prewriting activities, letter recognition games, and name-tracing exercises. If you would like to work on these skills with your child at home, please feel free to ask us for some of the activities we use in the classroom! We have found that consistency between home and school is very beneficial to your child's routine and learning.

We look forward to all the fun November has in store for us!
Ms. Kasey and Ms. Hannah






Purple Moons

October was a month full of wondering, "When will the weather change?", deciding what we would be for Halloween, exploring pumpkins and scarecrows, taking nature walks, and jumping into leaf piles. Oh, what an adventure!

Cooking continues to be one of our favorite things to do! From Friendship Fudge and pumpkin dip to roasted pumpkin seeds and Ms. Alex's birthday cupcakes, we are learning to mix, measure, and patiently wait for our turns.

The fall season inspired many art projects, including leaf men, scarecrows, kindness cards, hand print ghosts, and a beautiful nature collage. We also learned all about manners, pumpkins, scarecrows, Halloween, and fall.

As we look ahead to November, we can't wait for another month of learning, creating, and growing together!

Ms. Maria and Ms. Alex






Slithering Snakes

Hello! And welcome to a month that reminds us to show gratitude for that and those who make our lives rich and fulfilled. November will surely come and go in a flash, but please make sure to watch the weather in case Mother Earth decides to bless us with an early snow. As temperatures drop, gloves and hats will become a must, alongside boots and potentially snow pants. While we always have spares to accommodate any items left at school, we do not have enough for everyone, so we greatly appreciate your help!

In November, Whitnall will have off for Thanksgiving and Black Friday, so please keep an eye out for our sign-up sheet on our front table. We will be using the context of Thanksgiving to learn about the ways that we express gratitude and how we can show our thanks every day to our loved ones. Gratitude is such a rewarding feeling, and we cultivate it as much as we can in our classroom. As always, we will also encourage the children to read as much as possible and have added a bevy of new books recently donated by Ms. Savannah. After a long afternoon outside, some of our kids enjoy relaxing on the couch with a nice book as much as playing with Legos. We have also been making a concerted effort to get as much homework done with your child as their time here allows, and if your child ever needs help, we offer it gladly. While the amount of homework given is definitely less, we love getting to see your child's brain in action. We are proud of all our students and have seen very real progress in their ability to complete increasingly complex problems.

I would like to finish this by saying how grateful Ms. Nicole and I are to have the opportunity to care for your kids. They surprise us every day and teach us more about ourselves as they come into their own. We are proud to be their teachers and appreciate you trusting them with us every day!

Sincerely,
Ms. Nicole and Mr. Cody

Themes with Christian Sub Themes

11/02-11/06 Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes
Matthew 13:34- "Jesus used stories when he spoke to the people."
Parables are Jesus' way of helping us see God's truth through things we know.

11/09-11/13 Let's Sing (Music)
Isaiah 55:12 "You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands."
Psalm 96:1 "Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth."

11/16-11/20 5 Senses
1 John 3:18 "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth."
Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

11/23-11/27 Let's Give Thanks
Thankful, Grateful and Blessed
1 Thessalonians 5:18 "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
Colossians 3:15 "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

11/30-12/04 Fantastic Foods
The fruits of the Spirits
Galatians 5:22-23 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness and faith."



Happy Anniversary!



Happy 17th Anniversary to our amazing Ms. Maria!

Ms. Maria's journey at PEP began 17 years ago in the kitchen as our cook! Although she has traded her kitchen apron for a classroom role, she certainly hasn't left her love of cooking behind. These days, the Purple Moons get to enjoy that passion firsthand. Nothing says fall at PEP quite like the smell of Ms. Maria's homemade apple butter filling the entire building!

When she isn't busy cooking up something delicious, Ms. Maria brings her love of science and creativity into the classroom. You might find her leading an exciting experiment, or you might walk in to discover an epic dance party with the lights off and disco lights flashing! There is never a dull moment when Ms. Maria is around.

She also takes on the important role of morning bus driver. Ms. Maria loves greeting the children as they climb aboard and hearing all about their mornings. Field trips are another favorite, although we aren't sure who gets more excited about them—Ms. Maria or the children!

Ms. Maria has a true passion for learning, and we are incredibly proud of her for returning to school to earn her bachelor's degree in education. One of the wonderful things about her educational journey is that she continually brings new ideas and best practices back to PEP, helping our program continue to grow and thrive.

What truly makes Ms. Maria special, though, is the connection she builds with each child. She understands that every day is a fresh start and encourages children to learn through their experiences. One of her favorite reminders is, "It's okay to make mistakes; that is how you learn." Her patience, encouragement, and genuine care make a lasting difference in the lives of the children she teaches.

Outside of PEP, Ms. Maria is a proud mom to Angelina, Dominic, and Andrew. She enjoys spending time with her family, staying active, and taking motorcycle rides whenever she can. The children think it is pretty awesome that Ms. Maria has her very own motorcycle and helmet. She definitely earns some cool points for that!

Ms. Maria, thank you for the energy, dedication, and heart you bring to PEP every day. Your willingness to learn, your commitment to the children, and the relationships you build with them make you such a valuable part of our PEP family. The impact you have on the children is truly inspiring, and we are so grateful to celebrate 17 wonderful years with you!



Happy 2nd Anniversary to our one-of-a-kind Ms. Nadine, better known as Ms. Nay Nay!

If you have spent any time around our Sunshine Room, you know that Ms. Nadine brings a whole lot of personality, laughter, and love to her classroom! With her big smile, contagious energy, and unmistakable voice greeting everyone each morning, she makes sure the children know they are loved from the moment they walk through the door.

Ms. Nadine joined PEP with experience working with the wonderful, busy two-and-a-half-year-old age group at another center. It didn't take long to realize that the Sunshine Room was the perfect place for her to shine, and she has made it her home ever since! With experience in early childhood education dating back to 2016, along with her CPR and AED certifications, she brings both knowledge and enthusiasm to her role.

Our Ms. Nay Nay loves to sing, dance, be silly, and encourage the children to let their personalities shine. She believes in celebrating the big milestones and the little victories, and she is always excited to share stories about the amazing things happening in her classroom. Whether a child has mastered a new skill or done something that makes everyone laugh, Ms. Nadine is right there cheering them on. She sees each child for the unique little person they are and loves them just the way they are. Her heart of gold and endless encouragement make her a wonderful advocate for every child in her care.

When Ms. Nadine isn't busy keeping up with her lively classroom, she is spending time with her favorite guy—her son, Bellamy! He is her whole world, and the two of them love making memories together. Amusement parks are a favorite destination, especially because they both enjoy a good roller coaster ride! She is also his biggest cheerleader on the soccer field, proudly supporting him every step of the way.

And we can't forget one of Ms. Nadine's favorite ways to have fun: getting her nails done! Be sure to take a peek at her nails when you see her. She loves switching them up for different holidays and seasons, so there is always something new to admire!

Ms. Nadine, thank you for bringing your joyful spirit, caring heart, and endless enthusiasm to Park's Edge Preschool. Your love for the children and the excitement you bring to each day make the Sunshine Room a special place to be. We are so happy to have you as part of our PEP family and look forward to celebrating many more milestones with you!