



Busy Bees October 2018 Newsletter



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Happy fall from the staff at Busy Bees. It is hard to believe that it is already October. It is a pleasure to see our returning students and our new students are settling in to the school routine! We are enjoying exploring the fall using our five senses. We have tasted and charted our favorite color apples, seen the signs of fall, made noisy shakers, and we will continue to explore the senses through October.

OCTOBER THEMES

Exploring Fall Through the Senses
Nocturnal Animals
Halloween



A PLACE TO VISIT

<https://davisfarmland.com/>

Davis Farmland is a bit of a hike but is a fantastic day trip for young families. It is a discovery farm for families with children 12 and younger, featuring over 100 breeds- including North America's largest sanctuary of endangered farm animals. There is also pretend and nature-based play, a water spray park (closed for the season), hay and pony rides, delicious food, apple and pumpkin picking (just on weekends) and more! They are open Thursday- Sunday and ALWAYS check the website to make sure they are open before heading out.

TAKE HOME BAGS:

You may have noticed in hallway on a small bookshelf, that we have some plastic back packs full of themed activities for the children/families to take home and enjoy. There are several backpacks, and each has a theme. You may take one home at a time, and simply sign the clipboard found in the cubbies above them. Kindly return it within a week. If anything is missing or damaged please let me know. We also have a bin full of books. You can pick one out and put in the book bag provided to take home. We hope you take advantage of them! Most of the books and items in the backpacks were earned using our Scholastic order bonus points from previous book orders.

BUSY BEES CLASS LISTS

Attached to this newsletter, please find class friendship lists for each of our programs. Please check this information concerning your child and let me know if corrections are needed. Thanks!

SNOW POLICY (Note this is updated and may be worded different in your parent handbook)
Our policy is when East Longmeadow schools are cancelled due to snow, we are cancelled. IF EAST LONGMEADOW SCHOOLS ARE DELAYED, WE WILL DELAY ONE HOUR AND OPEN OUR DOORS AT 9:45. Your child may stay for extended lunch at **no additional cost** in the event of a

delay. You may pick up at the regular time (11:45) or pack a NUT FREE lunch and pick up at 12:45 at no charge.

EXTENDED LUNCH PROGRAM

Extended lunch has begun. This is an optional program and available every day from 11:45-12:45. It is great fun listening to the stories told at the lunch table! It's a fun time for all! If you would like your child to stay and have lunch with us, please pack a nut free lunch, put \$8 in your child's lunch box and let the staff member who is taking attendance know he/she is staying. Please put the lunches in a purple bucket outside of the classrooms. Thank you for packing nut free lunches! If you use a peanut butter replacement such as sun butter, please label it the first few times, so we know it is not peanut butter. We hope to have a good turnout, however if we do not get a steady group, then we will have to consider offering it fewer days. Thank you!

BUSY BEES HELPER OF THE DAY

The overnight bag containing a family album and a children's book will go home with the "helper of the day". If you've not already done so, please use this to add pictures and information about your family! Please return the bag the following school day. Please send in your family picture page so we can complete our album. Thank you! **(in order to fit the book please make it 8.5 x 11 paper!)**

IN-HOUSE FIELD TRIP ACTIVITY FEE

Our annual In-House Field Trip Activity Fee is now due. This activity fee (\$ 50.00) covers all of our In-House programs for the school year.

IN HOUSE FIELD TRIP: October 10th and 11th Forest Park Zoo on the Go

The staff from the Forest Park Zoo will bring live animals to Busy Bees. We will learn about the animals adaptations, habitats, behavior, diets and status in the wild. We will observe and even get a chance to touch some of the animals.

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **Please tag (ID) your child's outer clothing and lunch boxes** to make it easier for children and staff to identify belongings. You will find permanent markers above the cubbies so you can write names in your belongings at drop off. Thank you!
- Pick up is between 11:30 and 11:45. **Please make sure that you pick your children up by 11:45.** Children get worried when they are not picked up on time. If your child is joining us for extended lunch, please pick-up by 12:45. **Thank you!**
- **No lunch bunch on Thursday, October 18th.** We will have a staff meeting that day.
- Comfortable clothes and comfortable shoes/sneakers are safe wear for your children at Busy Bees. We love to get dirty, work with paint, sit in the sandbox, spread glue all over our papers and roll on the floor and ground! Please remove drawstrings from clothing.
- Please park on the side of the parking lot closest to the school. This way we will not have children crossing the parking lot as cars are coming and going.
- We will be closed October 8th for Columbus Day.
- No Jewelry please. Stud earrings are fine, but other jewelry can get lost, broken, and often gets taken on and off during the day. This makes it hard to keep track of. Thank you!

TRY THIS AT HOME (I put this in the newsletter every year because I love both these activities!)

Fun with a pumpkin! (This one needs close supervision but can be fun) Give your child a pumpkin, golf tees, and a small hammer. Let him/her “nail” the golf tees into the pumpkin. (This one does not require close supervision) It starts with a pumpkin, washable markers, and a cloth. Let them draw on the pumpkin, wipe it, and draw over and over again!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

We will begin scholastic book orders this month. **Orders are due Tuesday, October 9th**. We ask that you **place all orders on line**. You can order anytime, right up until the online order due date. Browse through the flyers, but you also can order from over 500 additional titles and online-only specials if you are interested.

First, register at www.scholastic.com/bookclubs. Then enter class activation code: HBMN4 and then you can browse the titles and place your order with your credit card. Your order will come to Busy Bees and your credit card payment will go directly to Scholastic’s secure server. There is no need to send money to school. Your book orders earn free books, and supplies for our school!

HALLOWEEN PARTY: October 30th and 31st

We will be celebrating Halloween with some fun games and special party snacks. If you would like to sign up to bring a treat, please do so on the parent board. We also will be playing some Halloween games in the morning and would love to have up to 5 parents stay to help oversee the games in the gym. We ask that you stay at drop off and stay for at least an hour. We also ask that children not bring costumes to school. It has been our observation that although Halloween can be exciting and fun, costumes sometimes create anxiety and fear. We encourage you to send them in black and orange or Halloween themed shirts! Thank you.

PARENT TEA

The parent teas will be held on October 2nd for the T TH class and on October 12th for the MWF class. This is a nice time for the adults to meet each other while enjoying some tasty treats that you all provide. Sign-ups to bring treats can be done by signing up on the board at school. This will be held in the church hall, immediately following drop off. We hope you can at least pop in for a little bit after drop off. Just to clarify, the students will not attend. It is for the parents, care givers, and younger siblings.

BIRTHDAYS

We love to celebrate birthdays at Busy Bees, although we like to keep it simple. The birthday child will get a birthday sticker and/or a crown and we sing at snack for the birthday boy or girl. Please do not bring in goodie bags to hand out. (We don’t want to put pressure on anyone and need to be careful with allergies.) If you would like to bring a healthy snack to share, please see Marna. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Marna

St. Paul Lutheran Church is having its annual Fall Festival Saturday, October 20th from 9am to 3pm. Featuring talented local crafters, baked goods, food court, family fun in the pumpkin patch. Please come and support this wonderful event!

Please mark you calendar for PJ Days on Nov. 1st and 2nd. Bring a favorite stuffed animal to cuddle with. We have a fun day planned for all!

