

## **Parkside Post**

November 2024





# Play, play, play!

"The impulse to play comes from a natural desire to understand the world." -NAEYC

One of our favorite things at Parkside is being able to give children the opportunity for unstructured, open-ended play all day long. When children play they are not only having fun, but they are learning in ways that we, as adults, can't teach them. There are lots of materials in our indoor and outdoor classrooms that you will find that children use to play with as they wish. From art supplies to blocks to even an untraditional playground - we aim to provide children with as many opportunities as possible for play where they can create the scene with their own imaginations.

To keep play engaging and meaningful there are also a number of things that you won't find in our classrooms (here are a few):

- Screens. In a world where phones, tablets and TV's seem to be taking over, we like to keep it simple. Being in a screen-free facility gives our kiddos ample opportunities for quality interactions with their teachers and peers, develop their language through natural conversation and stimulate their minds with meaningful activities.
- Battery-operated toys. The best part of play is *how* a child plays. When they pick up a toy we want them to be the creator of their play including the noises that go along with it. A dinosaur's rawr sounds different depending on the child holding it, but if it has a pre-programmed rawr then it sounds the same everytime the button is pushed.
- Swings & bouncers, etc. We don't use any sort of containers for babies. We want them to be able to use their bodies and move on their own accord to develop their strength for meeting milestones. We simply lay babies on the floor to play and meet them at their level when engaging with them.

# **Happy Birthday!**

We love birthdays!
For privacy,
birthdays are hidden
when posted online.



### \*Dates to Remember\*

Nov 1 - Fall Fest 4:30-6pm

Nov 8 - Mrs Alejandra's 3-Year Work-aversary

Nov 8 - Early Out CLOSE at 5pm

Nov 9 - Parents' Night Out 3-7pm

Nov 16 - Mrs Ashley's 3-Year Work-aversary

Nov 22 - Miss Stephanie's 3-Year Work-aversary

Nov 27 - Food with Families at 3-3:30pm

Nov 28-29 - CLOSED for Thanksgiving



#### Insider's Scoop



What are we doing at Parkside?



Happy November, Parkside family!

This month you'll notice that each of the three older classrooms are growing mushrooms! A Chef Cameo came up with the wonderful idea of growing mushrooms. She found an incredible company, South Texas Mushrooms, to supply the mushrooms for the project. The process is very simple: we cut out a hole in the box, cut into the bag of the spores, and water it five times daily! The children seem to absolutely love it and we should have mushrooms in as little as two weeks. We are excited for this process and Miss Cameo plans to cook the mushrooms for a lunch when they're ready. Being able to grow and eat our own food is such an incredible experience to give the children! My personal hope is that this love of nature will continue to grow and they will one day grow their own gardens full of delicious food! "

We are continuing rotating care for the animals to be sure each child has an opportunity to care for the different animals as part of the Farm Program! Even if it has been over a month since they've fed one animal group, they still remember the process and can guide and lead their teachers through it. Everyone especially loves discovering how many eggs the girlies have laid each day, if any! • "

<3 Kaylee































We have another international dish this month! This month we will be trying a Columbian meal, and instead of just one dish the whole meal will be Columbian recipes! October's dish, Misir Wot, was a big hit last month so it will also be on the menu for November. We are also excited to invite our families in for a delicious Thanksgiving snack this year! I'll be making some cranberry muffins and warm apple cider to share. Hope to see you there!

-Chef Cameo