

OCTOBER 2017 NEWS

Building Blocks Learning Center

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WE'RE FALLING INTO THE FUN!

Our school is in full swing and the students are adjusting comfortably to new friends and new routines. We hope they are excitedly sharing stories of their school adventures with you at home. During this month, all classes will be going on fun Fall field trips to experience all that nature has to offer during this colorful season!

GIANT SCHOOL REWARDS...REMINDER

Giant A+ Rewards

Building Blocks participates in Giant A+ Program. If you shop at Giant, you can help us by simply registering your Giant Bonus card on-line by going to giantfoodstores.com/aplus. If you have already registered your card with your older child's elementary school, you can also register for Building Blocks and your rewards will be split between the schools. Bonus rewards for gas, turkeys, etc. will not be affected by registering for our school. Our school ID# is **24569**. This is a super-easy way to help our school purchase supplies and necessary items. Thanks for taking the time to do this; it is a great way to help!

FACEBOOK...

Please take a look at BBLC's Facebook page! I include fun pictures of our school activities and classroom happenings. What a great way to get a glimpse into your child's day at school and to share with your family and friends! Don't forget to "like" us!

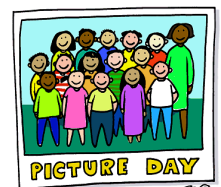


DONATION ITEM OF THE MONTH--PAPER NAPKINS

Thank you so very much for the generous boxes of tissues so many families donated in September...we appreciate each and every box! Congratulations to Kaitlyn H. in PreK as she is the lucky winner of September's drawing! During the month of October, we will be collecting **packs of plain paper napkins** (not decorative or party)...each child who donates is entered into our monthly drawing. Children are served snack each day on these napkins. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

PICTURE DAY!

Our school portraits will be taken on October 12/13 by PhotoJenic Moments. **There are no pre-payment envelopes.** Pictures will be available for viewing and ordering on-line. Look for consent forms from the photographer in folders next week. Please sign and return these ASAP. There is absolutely no obligation to purchase photos, but our photographer cannot photograph your child (individually or in the class photo) without a signed consent. Children should come to school on Picture Day wearing their best smiles! Photo galleries are emailed to families about three to four weeks after Picture Day, at which point you can choose to purchase or not.



HALLOWEEN...



Halloween will be celebrated with variations of parades of costumes, classroom presentations, and sing-a-longs. Specific details about costumes, times, and activities will go home separately. Halloween snack will be served to children before our guests arrive. Families are invited to join each class for the special "un-spooky" happenings towards the end of the morning. PLEASE make note of the time parents are to join each class, as not all classes will have activities at the same time. This staggering of times is scheduled to allow families with multiple students to view each child's special events. Please leave yourself enough time to safely find a parking space and arrive on time--***parking will be tight***. These are very short, but very fun activities. Notices will come home soon in folders.

Please help your child make a safe choice regarding Halloween costumes. Keep costumes simple and comfortable. No weapons or play weapons. Be sure to name-label all costume parts. Please keep in mind that children may be active in their costumes and may also need the bathroom. It is easiest for us if costumes can be slipped over regular clothes.

FAMILY PUMPKINS...

In following with our school tradition, families are again asked to decorate pumpkins for our colorful display around the school. Your family pumpkin is to be decorated at home. **PLEASE, NO CUT OUTS.** Enjoy this creative activity with your little ones and bring the decorated pumpkins to school on October 24-25 so we'll have time to enjoy them before Halloween. Look for information sheets to come home soon in folders.



GREEN ID CARDS...

Every family received two green ID cards at orientation. These cards are to be used when entering the building through the main doors on Mechanics Street for any reason--pick up early for an appointment, drop off a forgotten item, coming in for a birthday, etc. The cards identify you as part of the Building Blocks family. **There have been several instances already this year of our families not having these cards to display to the church office staff. In these cases, church staff has had to disrupt their work to escort folks to the school. Please respect the safety and security procedures of our building, and be sure to have your green ID card ready for display.**



LABELS...PLEASE!

With the fall comes the arrival of warmer coats and jackets. Please, please name-label these articles. I can't stress enough how similar lots of these coats look! We do have labeled coat hooks in each home classroom, but children may attend different classrooms for Lunch Bunch, Fun Frolics, Tales-n-Treasures, etc. with different staff members.

DRIVEWAY LOOPHOLES...

Thanks to all who are following the rules for our driveway loop. However, there are a few points that need review:

Cars should never enter the driveway from Church Street (this includes drop-off and pick-up). They must first go into the parking lot and get in the line (even if it appears that there is no line--cars may be in the process of driving up). **Please share this info with grandparents, babysitters, and all who transport your child.** We have lots of reports of folks not following this procedure. And again, the first car at arrival must wait in the parking lot until **9:00** to enter driveway. Please, no early birds!



Cars should enter the parking lot from Selner, along the aisle nearest the apartments. Some cars are driving up the closer aisles and attempting to enter the already-existing car line at the top of the lot. Please refrain from doing this, as folks following the rules have been patiently waiting.

Lastly, staff has observed extremely unsafe car behavior regarding our Kindergarten buses. It is state law that a car must not travel in front of or behind a school bus while its flashers are on. Please don't try to squeeze into the driveway loop behind a school bus. It takes less than a minute for our students to safely disembark. Your patience is appreciated.

NEXT SCHOOL YEAR...

I am beginning to think of next year's enrollment numbers... **If you have a younger child at home, and plan to enroll him/her at BBLC for September 2018, please send me a quick email with your child's name and intended class (Step 1/Step 2).** Our in-house students and siblings receive "priority enrollment" during the month of December. Any remaining seats will be made available to new families beginning January 1.

Thanks for sharing your little ones with us!
-Michele

UPCOMING DATES...

October 4, 11, 18, 25--Fun Frolics for those pre-registered
October 3 -- Lunch Bunch begins for Step One-- Cost is \$5 -- Join us!
October 9--Charming Champions for those pre-registered
October 13 -- Scholastic book order due
October 12/13-- Picture Days
October 24-25 -- Family Decorated Pumpkins Due
October 30/31 -- Halloween Festivities
October 31--No Lunch Bunch--Happy Halloween!

