

## GIRAFFE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

### *THANK YOU TO:*

Heidi E. and Caroline H. for making our playdough. Cameron for the yummy birthday cookies. Kate T.R. for reading to us on Halloween. Katy M. for working her storytelling magic at our first outdoor playground campfire.

During the month of October, we immersed ourselves in a curriculum that brought us many delights of the season. During circle time, the children enjoyed tasting and graphing their favorite apple by color. They learned facts about squirrels, acted out the song "Old MacDonald had a Farm" with puppets and, recited a poem about the parts of an apple. They also discovered different ways to explain their emotions using "The Zones of Regulation" colors of green, blue, yellow and red. We opened a bakery in the dramatic play area, serving up apple pie, cookies and cake. We tried several new games including *Snail's Pace Race*, *The Sneaky Snacky Squirrel*, *Feed Fuzzy*, and the *Hi Ho Cherry Oh* game too. The children also had many opportunities to explore real items from nature throughout the month. They painted with pine branches, made rubbings on paper with crayons on items collected from outside. We used balls, acorns, and eggs to roll down ramps, and baked pumpkin muffins for snack. We even spent some time building with apples, tubes and cups. Everyone enjoyed the time spent at the Pumpkin Patch on the front lawn. We used our pumpkins for hammering, collecting the seeds, and for making volcanos in. We traced pumpkin shapes in our journals. We made our first classroom community bulletin board together which was a Pumpkin Patch. The children drew lines with rulers and cut the lines with scissors to make the grass and fences for their Jack O' Lanterns to sit on. Twinkling glitter stars were added to complete the scene.

### **Outdoor Classroom News**

Once a week we have "Campfire" time on the playground. We gather around a pretend campfire, which the children helped build, sit on large logs and blocks, toast pretend marshmallows and, sing songs, tell stories and talk about the natural world.

### **SONGS AND BOOKS, WE SHARED**

**Apple Trouble** by R. Scannell

**Ten Apples Up on Top** by T. LeSieg

**Red Panda's Candy Apples** by R. Paul

**It's Pumpkin Time** by Z. Hall

**One** by K. Otoshi

**In My Heart** by J. Witek

**"Way Up High in the Apple Tree" song**

**Parents are always welcome to come in to read, share a special talent, bake or craft with us. Let us know when you would like to take a turn.**

### **Important Weather Information**

The Giraffe class intends to go outside everyday weather permitting. Please ensure your child has proper outdoor clothing at school, including a hat, mittens or gloves, cold weather shoes or boots. You are welcome to leave the items in your child's cubby. Make sure all the items are labeled please!! Your children have been learning to "flip" their coats on and putting the zipper "train" on the "track" to close them up.