



**CLASSROOM NEWS**

The Panda class continues to engage in all types of activities in the room, from exploring colored rice in the sensory table to playing with cars on taped roads in our circle area. New friendships continue to be made as the children recognize their peers at school. Discussing the Panda plan has been a major topic of conversation in our classroom.

We have been enjoying our theme of farm, first concentrating on animals and then moving to vegetables harvested on a farm. We then moved to apple and pumpkin harvesting. Next week we will begin talking about shapes. Shapes are a concept that may require periodic review throughout the year. Finding shapes throughout the day will reinforce the learning that has already taken place and will help them remember these rarely used words. “Look at your piece of pizza, it’s a triangle!” “When you walk through that door, you will be walking through a rectangle.” and “What shape are your crackers?” are just some examples of how to reinforce shapes.

Some of our favorite activities included making and playing with silly putty, buying and selling apples in our country store, feeding and dressing the babies in dramatic play, and painting with potatoes.

**THANK YOU!**

Our “Back to School Night” was a great success with parents getting to meet the teachers, getting to know one another and learning a little more about our classroom. We would like to thank Ashley Zylich and Karyn Jones for providing the evening refreshments.

Thank you to Erica DiRoberto for making orange playdough for October!

**THE WONDERS OF DOUGH!!**

The Panda Class loves doughs of all types!!! Whether it is play dough or silly putty, doughs are a very effective way to support children’s learning; as they “squish, mold, roll, and cut,” the children benefit socially, creatively and physically.

**Language skills** and **vocabulary** develop as the children use their imaginations and share their ideas. **Cooperative play** occurs as they combine ideas and build together.

**Math and science** skills emerge as the children observe their own and others’ creations, comparing sizes and shapes.

As the children “**pound, squeeze, push and pull**” the dough, they are strengthening **muscles** and **improving dexterity** for **writing and drawing skills**.

**PLAYGROUND CLOTHING**

Although we may still have “teases” of warmer weather, it seems the cooler weather has finally arrived! Please dress your child appropriately for outside play each day. Even if the high temp is in the 70’s, at our playground time (10:15) it can be quite cool.

This is also a good time to check your child’s extra clothes bag to update clothing for the cooler weather.

**OUR FAVORITE**

Songs: “Way Up High In The Apple Tree”  
“I Planted A Seed”  
“Old Macdonald”

Yoga Poses: “pig” (happy baby)  
“seed” (sleeping baby)  
“tree”

Books: Ten Apples Up On Top  
Mrs. Wishy Washy  
Pick A Perfect Pumpkin