November 2026 Newsletter

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR

The holidays are one of our favorite time of the year at NSCC but OMG our plate is more than full this holiday season. On top of all our fun and learning we also started using the Playground app which we are loving but know it will take some time to get fully transitioned AND we will be having our 3-year ExceleRate IL observation at the end of November. More information will be shared with you about our observation closer to time, but please know if you see smoke coming from the office Ginny and I are truly OK 😊

NSCC is closed Thursday and Friday 11/26 & 11/27. December closures: 12/25-1/1/2027. We will close at 1:00p on Christmas Eve

October Recap: We had a lot of fun with Halloween activities, dressing up for the holiday and enjoying yummy snacks with friends. Thank you to all who helped make the party special for our little ones! Also, in October our staff worked extra hard preparing for our classroom observations, adjusting to the changes for the food program and transitioning to the Playground app. THANK GOODNESS FOR Ms. Ginny – she has been working her tale off to help with all the changes plus the normal routines done for NSCC.

Thanksgiving Lunch: Be on the lookout for our invite to our annual Thanksgiving Lunch on Thursday, Nov. 19th at 11am. Ms. Rhonda creates a wonderful lunch for us all to enjoy with pie at the end for dessert!

Child and Adult Care Food Program: We are in our 3rd week of adjusting to our Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) menus and regulations. After we have completed a month of documentation, our program will be audited to hopefully be approved and eligible for reimbursements. Fingers crossed we will get approved!

Holiday Celebration at NSCC: This holiday season we will be hosting a Santa visit on Thursday, December 10th at NSCC where we will take pictures of our students with our amazing Santa and classrooms will celebrate the season in their own special ways. Each classroom will have a Christmas party on Friday, December 18th in the afternoon.

Playground Update: Our First Annual Turkey Trot is in 2 weeks and we are SO excited. Our event is November 14th at New Salem State Park. Other ways you can help would be providing a case of water, donate a turkey or pie as a fun prize, donating money for a post snack for the runners and helping on the course the day of the race. Please let Ms. Ginny know if you can help!

Did You Know: ExceleRate Illinois is the state's Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS) for early learning and development programs. It helps parents evaluate and choose safe, high-quality childcare and preschool options. NSCC has been part of our state quality program since 2012 and are very proud to still be providing high quality care to our community!

Parent Advisory Board: Our 4th quarter meeting is Tuesday November 17th at 6pm here at NSCC. We would love to have some new parents participate to help our program continue to improve.

Shout out to NSCC Staff: Happy Birthday to Ms. Hailey, Ms. Jennifer, Ms. Rhonda and Ms. Jenny this month – we hope you all have a special birthday. Also, a shout out to Ms. Hailey as she celebrates her 3rd work anniversary at the end of the month. Thank you for all of your hard work!

Scholastic Book Orders: We got some paper order forms that we will share, but you are also welcome to order from Scholastic using our online option to place orders and also explore the wide selection of books that Scholastic has to offer. https://orders.scholastic.com/L7H3Y

If you have not, please like our Facebook page. We are trying to use it more frequently to share information with families such as the importance of center play related to our curriculum and community events and parent resources. https://www.facebook.com/NSCC2INC/
Each classroom has their own Facebook group page as well that we hope each family enjoys!

We have a question of the month in each newsletter (found at the end of the newsletter). If you think you know the answer, please write it down on a piece of paper and put it in the tuition mailbox. Out of the correct answers, we'll select one winner who will receive a $5.00 tuition credit!

October question of the month:

Do leaves change color in the fall? Yes or No and explain your answer – Yes because they loss Chlorophyll as the weather changes in the Fall. No correct answer was shared this month for the $5 tuition credit. Be sure to answer this month's question for your chance to win!

Have a Nice November! ~ Ms. Tracie and Ms. Ginny

FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Busy Bees Classroom



We had fun in October learning about pumpkins, Halloween colors, and silly spooky things. We played with mini pumpkins, read Halloween books like Haunted House, and found lots of Halloween colors in our classroom. In November we will be learning about leaves, turkeys, and Thanksgiving fun. Happy Birthday to Ms. Jennifer on the 3rd and Ms. Jenny on the 14th. Our Thanksgiving lunch will be at 11:00am on the 19th where we invite families to come and eat with the kids. We will be closed Thursday and Friday the 26th & 27th for Thanksgiving.

Ayden is the oldest in our classroom now and is taking a few steps but enjoys hopping on his knees to get around and Roman is now walking everywhere! Hadley is waving HI and BYE and Charlotte is pulling up on furniture. Josephine loves eating baby food and Wesley is working on sitting up. Zaryah and Odessa love being talked to and sitting in the chair to take in all the daycare action. A friendly reminder to keep a jacket and extra clothes here for your child as we will be spending as much time outside, even if the ground is a little wet.

Happy Thanksgiving! Ms. Jenny & Ms. Jennifer

Monkey Classroom



When will the fall weather start and stay? We had a lot of good outside play in October, find birds and many bugs! Bugs seem to be popular and excite our toddler

friends! Last month our classroom goals were: Language - Labeling body parts such as our heads, shoulders, legs, and our faces; Social/emotional - Sharing/taking turns. We are doing great at labeling our body parts and using this language several times a day! We will continue working on sharing and taking turns. This month we are adding a new language goal: labelling common objects we want such as a drink, cup, eat, etc.

In October we talked about all things Halloween such as; witches/spiders, bats/ghosts, pumpkins, and Halloween celebrations. A new month means more to learn! We will be talking about acorns/leaves, thanksgiving foods, cornucopias, and Thanksgiving. Until January, we will only have a few messy plays as we will be so busy with other fun things. Be sure to look at the November calendar we sent home to see those fun days and which days we have messy play. Our Halloween party was so much fun! Thank you for those who could join us to eat snack & who were able to bring something to share. November 19th will be our Thanksgiving lunch! We hope to see our toddler families during this nice time together. NSCC will be closed November 26th & 27th for Thanksgiving!

Other classroom reminders: Please send your child with a labeled water bottle each day, pack an extra set of weather-appropriate clothes including a jacket as it is getting chillier out in the morning, we encourage families to come into our classroom and check out what we are learning on our parent boards and the art on our wall, be sure to check our classroom calendar for our different dress up days this month.

Happy Thanksgiving! 🦃 🍁 🍽️ Ms. Zoe & Ms. Sherry

Dragonflies Classroom



October has been such a busy yet fun filled month! Starting the month, we had three new friends join us, David, Bodie and Sutton join us from the toddler room. We also had a lot of fun playing our spooky games and doing Halloween crafts. The kids loved learning about ghosts, spiders, bats, and of course pumpkins! In October we focused on learning about purple and the shape square, we also spent a lot of time working hard on using good table manners and using nice hands. We will continue to work on this as we head into November.

In November we will be saying goodbye to Aven and Aiden as they transition into their new classroom, and we will be welcoming Kerby and Cooper in our room! This month we will be working on the color brown and the shape rectangle. We will also be learning more about fall leaves and acorns, as well as family and Thanksgiving. With the weather getting colder we do ask you to check cubbies and make sure your child has extra clothes in their cubby. Since it's getting colder, we will be working with the kids a lot on how to put on their jackets by themselves and helping them gain that independence! We will also continue to work on using our utensils at the table and practicing good table manners. Happy Birthday to Sutton this month!

Have a nice month ~ Ms. Julie and Ms. Caleigh

Jaguar Classroom



Hello, Fall! November is full of fun and learning for our Jaguars! We'll be learning all about pets, thankfulness, and what it means to give thanks. We'll be sending home a turkey-disguising project. We encourage all families to participate and return their projects so the children can share and admire their creations with their friends! Happy Birthday to Henry on the 8th! We're excited to welcome Aven and Aiden from the Dragonfly classroom this month! We're also working individually with each child to assess their progress and identify academic goals for the end of the year that will roll over into the new year.

We will be having our annual Thanksgiving lunch on November 19th! Ms. Rhonda will be making a traditional Thanksgiving meal for all our classrooms and any visitors that would like to

join us. Please make sure to RSVP to the invite coming soon. We are sad to say good-bye to Ms. Gretchen and we wish her well but are also excited to welcome Ms. Christa into our classroom full-time.

We're looking forward to a fabulous fall November filled with lots of learning, fun, and thankfulness! Ms. Lauren and Ms. Gretchen

Cheetah Classroom



Happy November! This month, we will learn about different kinds of pets, how to care for them, what they eat, and the ways they bring happiness to our lives! We will also be learning about the color brown, the shape trapezoid, and the letters J, K, & L. Be on the lookout for our November Family Project. Get creative with your little one! Our family project is to disguise a turkey, so it won't get caught for Thanksgiving dinner! Work together as a family to create fun and unique disguise. Please return your completed project asap so we can enjoy them this entire month.

This month is also all about giving thanks! We will be talking about giving thanks and what we are thankful for! At home, ask your child questions such as, 'What are you thankful for?, "Who are you thankful for?" and "What makes you happy?'. These conversations are a great way to help your child understand gratitude and appreciate the special people and things in their lives!

Thanksgiving Lunch will be held on Thursday, November 19th at 11:00am. We hope to see you there! Reminder: As the weather gets colder, please send weather appropriate clothing and label all personal belongings.

Little hands, big hearts, and so many things to be thankful for. Happy thanksgiving from the Cheetah Room! Ms. Hailey & Ms. Kaci

Kangaroo Classroom



October was full of fall fun! We had so much fun celebrating all our friends' birthdays and had such a great time at our Halloween party! We started the month learning about trees before we moved on to our new topic, Pets. We also worked on the letter T, and I. We had fun learning all the words that start with those letters as well as identifying the sounds of the letters. We enjoyed making lots of fun Halloween crafts and treats with our feelings. We made fall Chex mix and pumpkin pie in a cup, which gave us a chance to practice measuring, following directions, taking turns, and learning about ingredients while cooking together. We have loved all the fun memories we made this month and are excited for more!

In the month of November, we are excited to continue the fall fun! We are going to continue to make our fun fall desserts, as well as learn about two new letters P, N. We will learn about all the words that start with those letters as well as identifying the sounds of the letters. We will continue to learn all things about pets, so if you have not already, please send in a photo of your pet, so we can share with our class! We will be celebrating Jackson's birthday on the 22nd. And we will also be having a Thanksgiving lunch on the 19th; we can't wait to welcome our families into the classroom for a special time together. Please remember family projects (disguise a turkey) will be due November 6th. Happy Birthday to Jackson this month!

Have a thankful month ~ Ms. Madi and Ms. Briley

November Question of the Month:

What is the world record fastest time for carving a turkey?

All correct answers will go into the $5.00 tuition discount drawing.