



Palmetto Press

December 2006

December Events

Parents' Shopping Days

Saturday, Dec. 2 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday, Dec. 9 10 am - 2 pm
Saturday, Dec. 16 10 am - 2 pm

Students will have fun, watch a holiday movie and enjoy pizza and drinks for lunch. Please note that our usual nap/rest time will be observed. The cost is \$25.00 per child and \$10.00 per sibling. Sign up in advance.

Parents' Night Out

Saturday, Dec. 9 5 pm - 9 pm
Friday, Dec. 15 6:30 - 10:30 pm

Pizza and drinks will be provided for dinner. The cost is \$25.00 per child and \$10.00 per sibling. You must sign up in advance.

Thursday, December 14 7:00 pm
"Paint the Town December"

A multicultural holiday celebration will be performed by our Pre-K, Kindergarten, First and Second Grade students at Woodruff Road Christian Church (across the street from Palmetto Prep on Bell Road).

Tuesday, December 19

Palmetto Prep Night at Stevi B's
Palmetto Prep students receive a FREE pizza buffet. Be sure your child has a Stevi B's sticker.

Thurs., Dec. 21 and Fri. Dec. 22
Palmetto Prep Primary School closed
Kindergarten - 2nd Grade will not be in attendance on these days. Holiday Camp is available. Please sign up in advance!

Monday, Dec. 25 - Monday, Jan. 1
Palmetto Prep closed
All programs (Infants through After School) are closed on these days.

Tuesday, January 2
Palmetto Prep Primary School closed
Kindergarten - 2nd Grade will not be in attendance on this day. Holiday Camp is available. Please sign up in advance!



Market Day

Order on-line by Friday, Dec. 8

Pick up on Monday, Dec. 18

With the hope of providing yet another convenience to you and your family, Palmetto Prep is going to offer a "Market Day" sale in December. This program provides an opportunity for you to select from a wide variety of frozen foods that you can order and pay for on-line, then pick up on a specified date here at Palmetto Prep. Available items include meats, side dishes, desserts, family meals, appetizers, snacks, breakfast items and more. Monthly specials include things like spiral sliced ham, holiday desserts, party appetizers and boxed candies.

In order to make this service as easy as possible for everyone, all orders must be placed and paid for (with Visa or MasterCard) on-line.

The website, www.MarketDay.com, has extensive information about each product including photos and the nutritional information for each item. Please visit the website and create an account for yourself under the school name "Palmetto Prep School."

The deadline for the first order will be 12:00 noon on Friday, December 8, 2006. The orders will be ready for pick up in our gym (in the Pre-School building) starting at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 18th.

You may notice that the Market Day materials promote this program as a fundraiser. Palmetto Prep will receive a portion of the proceeds, but this is not our main goal in offering this program. Any funds we receive will be used to purchase items that will benefit our students and teachers.

After this first sale in December, we will get your feedback on whether or not this service is desired by our families. Try it out this month and help us determine if it's a program we should continue!

Paint the Town December!

Please join us on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. at Woodruff Road Christian Church (across the street from the school on Bell Road) for a special musical celebration! Our Pre-K and Primary School students will present "Paint the Town December," a multicultural holiday celebration! All Palmetto Prep families with children of all ages are invited to attend. A reception with light refreshments will be held immediately following the 30-minute program. You do not need to R.S.V.P.....just join us as we celebrate the holiday season!

Hot & Ready Meals To Go



In addition to the frozen foods available through "Market Day," we will continue offering our hot and ready "Meals to Go" through Mizzazz Catering. Different menu items are available each Wednesday evening, but you must place your order by the Friday before. **Please note that the meals will not be available for pick up until 5:00 p.m.** The caterer simply cannot get here before then. Remember that you can sign up at the front desk or place your order on our website --- www.palmettoprep.com.

Classroom Highlights

Infants

The babies in Infant 1 enjoyed some Thanksgiving activities including making turkeys and pasting pictures of their faces on the turkey. We have also begun decorating for the winter season using snowflakes, snowmen, and other winter scenes.

Infant 2 enjoyed a month of discovery! We explored textures of different kinds. The children loved playing with marshmallows which allowed them to discover how they feel and taste. They also enjoyed painting snowflakes to get ready for the winter season.

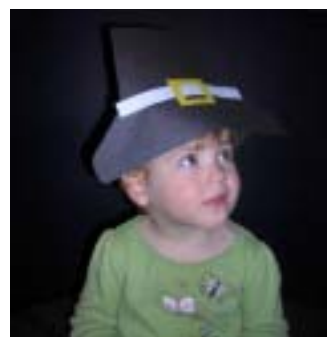
Infant 3 has been enjoying a variety of art activities including apple stamping and sponge painting. We had a blast working on our motor skills, too! We explored our linking chains, worked on eating with spoons, and tossed balls in the gym. Our Fall unit was wrapped up by dancing like little "turkeys" and feeling different types of leaves.



had fun with projects relating to the weather. They especially enjoyed having group time outdoors to talk about fall. We even took Mr. Potato Head outside to dress him for the cold weather!

The Pre-Preppers in the back wrapped up our unit on "Day of Thanks" by throwing a party! Everyone brought in a side dish and finger foods and the children and parents had tons of fun. We also made placemats and napkin holders for our parents. To practice our good manners, we used kind words like "thank you" and "please."

Our children have also studied owls, stars and leaves. They enjoyed creating their own owl using brown paper lunch bags, feathers, and big googly eyes. You can view our flock of owls nesting in our tree! The children also made Cheerio



Toddlers

What an adventurous month for our terrific toddlers! The children's vocabulary and communication skills are really blossoming! They are putting their toys away without assistance, and some of them are drinking from cups without lids. The children have also learned a song for walking down the hall to the theatre and gymnasium. If you hear your child singing "Marching, Marching 1, 2, 3," you'll know that this is our transition song.

During November we read books and learned new songs pertaining to Thanksgiving, turkeys and feasting. Our favorite song was "I'm A Little Indian On the Go." The children worked hard as a team to paint the Mayflower which is displayed on our back wall. They also painted native vests and made pilgrim and Indian hats. The Toddlers developed their fine motor skills while making pasta necklaces, coloring turkeys and making placemats. At the end of the month we sent home a bald turkey to be dressed by the parent and child. These turned out beautifully! To bring this fun filled month to a close, we had a Thanksgiving feast where all the families had a great time getting to know each other.



Pre-Preppers

The Pre-Preppers in the front have been learning about colors, feelings, fall weather, and Thanksgiving. Some of their favorite activities included making "feeling masks", mixing paints to make the color purple, playing with purple play dough, making a purple collage, singing songs about colors, making turkeys with paper bags and paper plates, making feather headdresses, and having a Thanksgiving party. The Pre-Preppers also



bracelets to reinforce the letter O and cut stars out of clay. For our unit on leaves, we made water color leaves out of coffee filters. The children also had fun making their "arm" tree. We painted their arms brown and their fingers orange, yellow and red. Then, we pressed their arm and hands onto paper. The trees are adorable!

Preppers

PREPPERS MOST WANTED!!!! Be on the look out for the roughest, toughest, and sliciest of them all...the Preppers in the front! During the month of November, we explored the Wild, Wild West. We learned all about cowboys including what they wore, where they slept, and what they ate (beanie weenies). We made our very own tie-



dyed bandanas along with western vests. We also learned about Native Americans and their role in Thanksgiving. Instead of having a traditional Thanksgiving fest, we had a Harvest Hoe Down!

The friends in Prepper back really enjoyed their lesson on pets! The children had been showing an interest in dogs, so we spent a couple of weeks learning all about them. First we talked

about their parts and what they are used for. The children enjoyed pretending to be dogs using props we had in our room. The highlights of this lesson were visits from dog friends Maddox and Rummy. The children loved watching the tricks Rummy could perform and they got to be silly with the playful puppy Maddox. Our friends are still enjoying talking about dogs!



Pre-K

The Pre-K students in the front have been focusing on patterns and lines of symmetry in their math lessons. We have been looking for patterns in our school, classroom and even outside. We painted pictures and made mirror images to learn about symmetry. In science, we talked about why some objects float in water and others sink to the bottom. In phonics, we have been working on vowel sounds

and finding vowels in words. Wally the Word Worm is really growing as we learn several new words each week. We read one SRA book each week, and talk about the characters, plot, setting, and main idea of the story. In celebration of Thanksgiving we had a huge feast with the other Pre-K class. We dressed like Indians and they were the Pilgrims. We talked about the true meaning of Thanksgiving and what we are each thankful for.

The month of November was full of turkeys, Indians and Pilgrims for the students in the Pre-K class in the back! We read stories about the first Thanksgiving, and the students did a fantastic job of painting turkeys and writing in their "I Am Thankful" booklets. We finished off the month of November by celebrating Thanksgiving with a large feast. Our class dressed as Pilgrims and joined the other Pre-K students who were dressed as Indians. The children had a blast and the food was delicious! In addition to learning about Thanksgiving, the children focused on learning the letters R, N, M, K and the numbers 8, 9, and 10. The class is also doing an excellent job recognizing their word wall words.



Kindergarten

The students in Kindergarten recently completed a unit on Pilgrims and Indians. We learned about the history of the Pilgrims and Indians by reading The Pilgrims' First Thanksgiving. We learned that the first Thanksgiving lasted three whole days, we discovered where the Pilgrims came from, what the name of their boat was, and how many days it took to get to Plymouth Rock. We also studied the crossing of the Mayflower by looking at maps. At the end of our map lesson we



were able to name the body of water that the Mayflower sailed on, read the directions of north, south, east, and west and look at the distance between the continents of Europe and North America. We also made Pilgrim and Indian hats and placemats, colored Thanksgiving pictures, and wrote a journal entry on what we are thankful for. We also had a big Thanksgiving feast! We made mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie, stuffing, turkey, and gravy. We learned what the word "cooperation" means and how important it was for the Pilgrims and Indians to work together to survive. We were also able to incorporate some math into our unit by calculating how many years ago the Pilgrims came over and by measuring all of the ingredients for our feast.

First Grade

During November the First Graders learned about the many ways of voting. These include a show of hands, a voice vote, a roll call vote, an absentee ballot and a secret ballot. We discussed and practiced how each kind of vote is taken. The students learned why it is important to have private or confidential voting as well as fair and accurate counting. The First Graders also created charts on how voting laws have changed over time. To get into the spirit of Election Day, the First Graders had their own Voting Day and cast their ballots on student-generated issues. Come by and see our Voting Day results!



Second Grade

The second graders are polishing their writing skills! We began by writing personal narratives. Students wrote about special experiences that they have had. They completed all five steps of the writing process which includes pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. We completed this experience with a publishing party where students enjoyed light refreshments and shared their writing! The published pieces are displayed outside of our classroom! We are now exploring the elements of an entertaining story. Students will again use the steps of the writing process to write their own fictional tales.



Music

The music students have been learning all about the music alphabet, the solfège scale, and how these pitches are used to create different melodies! The Pre-Preppers and Preppers did a wonderful job remembering the order of the solfège scale pitches. They know that there are seven syllables and that the "do" syllable repeats. They can tell you the correct order is: do, re, mi, fa, so, la, ti, do! These classes also had fun playing a

matching game that used flash cards of the solfège syllables.

The Pre-K and Primary students learned the solfège scale, as well. In addition to learning the scale syllables, they also learned the music alphabet. They know that the music alphabet only contains the letters a, b, c, d, e, f, and g. Now we know that the scale notes and syllables are the base of what we need to create many beautiful melodies! Our favorite song to sing this month was "Do, Re, Mi" from "The Sound of Music"! We enjoyed watching the part of the movie where the Von Trapp children learn to sing the solfège scale using a simple, catchy melody!

Art

The Pre-School students have enjoyed making Fall themed projects. We used Fall colors to make collages, handprint designs, paintings and turkeys! The Pre-K students painted their own turkeys and the younger children made a turkey collage. The Pre-K and Kindergarten students learned about the Mona Lisa by Leonardo DaVinci. Each child then painted their own version of this famous painting. The Kindergartners enjoyed adding a background to their paintings. The First and Second Grade students learned about impasto painting. This is a technique often used by Vincent Van Gogh in which very thick paint is used. We thickened our paint with paper towels and flour and then painted just like Van Gogh may have done. Each art student in Pre-Preppers through Primary School also created a Christmas ornament for a tree at the Festival of Trees at the Greenville Hyatt! Each child made their own ornament with their picture inside.



Foreign Language

"Mono, monkey! Pato, duck!" November brought strange noises and our favorite song to the Spanish classroom as we completed a unit on animales. Students learned to recognize and answer questions about animals, such as where they live and what sounds they make. We talked about animales de la granja (farm animals), animales de la casa (pets), and animales del zoológico (zoo animals). The students enjoyed playing with the animal toys, and especially liked working on our "Donde Viven los Animales" (Where the Animals Live) puzzle. We read a number of special books about animals, and spent time working on a book of our own, "Mi Libro de Animales".

Do you know how long a Canadian Goose is? Well, our French students do! We guessed how long a goose was and found that they are anywhere from 21 to 44 inches long. This month the 2nd graders and After Schoolers also painted Canadian flags and wrote several sentences on what they have learned about Canada. Our focus this month was on the "materials" that we find around us. They found things that were clean and dirty...they especially liked looking for the dirty. They drew pictures of wood, plastic, liquid, paper, metal, and cloth and then practiced sounding out and writing the words in French. They also made some amazing giant letter collages.

After School

On Wednesday, November 22nd we had a blast skating on our "Holiday Camp" field trip! In After School 1 & 2 we have been writing about Thanksgiving and what it means to us.

In After School 3 & 4, we wrote and discussed things we were grateful for during this season of Thanksgiving. Our teams have been working extra hard to earn lots of stars for our big prize at the end of the month. We have been focusing on our writing skills in our journals everyday.

Don't forget to ask your child about the question of the day. We have been trying to earn stars for correctly answering the question each day.