



# Palmetto Press

October 2006

## October Events

### Monday, October 9

#### Palmetto Prep Closed for Staff Development Training

All programs (Infants through After School) are closed.

### Saturday, October 14

#### Parents' Night Out 5:00 - 9:00 pm

\$25 for one child; \$10 per sibling.

Please pay with cash when you drop off your child(ren). Sign up at the front desk. Please note that if you sign up but don't show up, you will be billed for 1/2 of the amount due.

### Tuesday, October 17

#### 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.



### Saturday, Oct. 28

#### Trick or Treat

10:00 am - 12 noon

at Palmetto Prep!

Children ages Infant

through 5 years old are invited to wear their costumes and join us for Halloween games, prizes, attractions and refreshments. The public is invited to attend, so feel free to invite your friends and neighbors! **Please note that children MUST be accompanied by their parent.**

This event is designed as an opportunity for people in the community to visit our school and learn more about Palmetto Prep while their children enjoy some Halloween fun! Of course, our currently enrolled students are strongly encouraged to attend, as well!

Please note that Palmetto Prep teachers (including Primary School and After School) may have additional Halloween activities for their classes on Tuesday, October 31st. They will keep you posted on their plans!



Palmetto Prep has the opportunity to purchase group tickets at a discounted rate for the upcoming "Disney on Ice Presents Princess Wishes" at the Bi-Lo Center. The performance will be held on Sat., December 16 at 11:00 a.m.

This show presents the timeless tale of seven inspiring princesses including Ariel, Cinderella, Snow White, Belle, Jasmine, Aurora and Mulan. Tinker Bell

also makes a special guest appearance to sprinkle her magic and charm.

Tickets cost \$18.00 per person, and everyone 12 months old and up needs a ticket. Sign up at Palmetto Prep's front desk or call us at 675-1002 to reserve your tickets.

We will bill your account. **The deadline is Tuesday, October 10th.**

## New "Meals To Go" Program Starting Soon!

In response to parents' request for a more convenient and truly "hot and ready" meals-to-go program, we are delighted to announce that Mizzazz Catering will be providing a new service for us beginning in October. We will begin by offering one menu option per week, with a plan to expand to two meals per week. A sign up sheet will be available on the front desk in the Pre-School building and meals may be ordered on our website, as well. Watch for the new menu selections and be sure to keep giving us your feedback!

## Wonder Walk

We are pleased to announce that, for the third year in a row, Palmetto Prep students will participate in the March of Dimes' Wonder Walk at the Greenville Zoo. This event will be held on Tuesday, October 10th. Palmetto Prep is serving as a "King of the Tundra" sponsor, but we are also going to give our students the opportunity to contribute to this worthwhile cause. If you'd like to participate, please feel free to help your child deposit dimes in the container that will be available in the front lobby from October 1 - 9. Thanks for your support!



## We Need A Mascot!

We are having a contest and all parents, students and teachers are encouraged to submit their ideas for a Palmetto Prep mascot! A committee of parents, teachers and primary school students will be assembled to select the winning entries.

Entry forms are available in the lobbies of both buildings and entries must be submitted by **Friday, October 13th**. The first person who submits the winning entry will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate to the place of their choice. You can submit a name and a "concept" for the mascot, and/or an actual drawing depicting your mascot. Unlimited entries may be submitted! If you have any questions, please call Ron Peterman at 675-1002 or e-mail him at [rpeterman@palmettoprep.com](mailto:rpeterman@palmettoprep.com).

# Classroom Highlights

## Infants

The babies in Infant 1 enjoyed a sensory activity using their feet! Their foot prints and photos were used to decorate acorns on the fall tree in their classroom. They also stimulated their eyes and ears with colorful, sound-making toys and had fun giggling at their reflections in the mirror.



Our friends in Infant 2 have started creating a pumpkin patch for the fall season. They've been developing their gross motor skills by playing in the gym and on the climber in their room. The babies have also had fun discovering all the hidden sights and sounds on the new octopus in their room.

"Old MacDonald had a farm...." and the children in Infant 3 visited many of his animals this month. We had a blast decorating horse faces, painting pretty piggies and putting them in the mud, and placing spots on cows' faces. Singing songs and dancing to the "Chicken Dance" filled our days with fun. We also read stories about baby farm animals. The children truly enjoyed learning about new animals, the sounds they make, and how they move about.

textures, taste and smell various foods, listen for high and low sounds, and search for different toys using their eyes. In celebration of Grandparent's Day, we invited grandparents to come share books with our class. The children really enjoyed these special readers! Our class is currently studying feelings. The children are having fun expressing the many different feelings we have.



## Toddlers

Hee! Haw! The children in the Toddler Room have been having "fun on the farm." We started the month off with several sensory art projects. The children sponged painted a barn, made coffee-scented horses, and used corn cobs for painting. We read various books about animals on the farm. Later in the month, we planted lima beans. The children watered the beans and placed them in the sun for observation. The Toddlers also did some cooking this month. They made cornbread and animal-shaped

ham sandwiches. This was a yummy experience! To close out the month, we dressed up as little farmers. The children looked adorable!

## Pre-Preppers

The Pre-Prepper front classes have been learning about the colors orange and yellow, self-help skills, friendship and families. Some of their favorite activities included making yellow suns, playing with the skill doll, playing dress-up, setting the table for lunch, washing dishes in the water table, making a friendship collage, helping friends make necklaces, making shadows with our bodies, and making picture frames. The Pre-Preppers also enjoyed using jazz music to inspire their creativity as they worked on their art projects.

Pre-Preppers in the back have been learning about themselves and their friends. The children had the opportunity to share family photos and favorite foods, colors and toys with the class. We also studied our five senses. The children had the opportunity to touch different



## Preppers

The Preppers in the front have been learning about their five senses. Instead of using our hands to paint, we used our noses. We also took the rough touch of sand paper, made it into a gingerbread man, and then rubbed cinnamon sticks all over to make it smell good. The children also learned what it takes to be a good friend, like sharing and saying "please" and "thank you". This month we were also introduced to two more letter friends...Beautiful Buttons Mr. B and Cotton Candy Mr. C!





The Preppers in the back have been learning about themselves and their families. The children talked about all of their favorite things including their favorite type of cookie. We then enjoyed making several different kinds of cookies! The Preppers also discussed the different sizes and shapes of people and had fun measuring and weighing each other. We also talked about the many different kinds of homes we live in. The Preppers worked hard at building their very own home for our class. They

helped cut out windows and doors and used a drill to attach the walls. They then added a roof and then painted the house. It's now on display in the hallway outside our classroom.

## Pre-K

Journal writing has really taken off in the Pre-K class in the front! We have been focusing on weather and how it makes us feel each day. We have also been working hard to learn our site words and vowels. The students practiced picking the vowels out of different words and using site words to make sentences. In math we have been learning about size comparisons, shapes, and different types of graphs. We graphed our birthdays from oldest to youngest



and, after reading a book called Caps For Sale, we graphed the caps by color. Each week we read a new SRA book and predicted what would happen next as we talked about the characters, plot, and setting.



The Pre-K in the back has had a wonderful time studying the weather! We learned all about clouds, rain, snow, and hurricanes. We even made our own rain books. Weather has also been carried into our math curriculum by graphing the weather each day. The children have been practicing tallying objects and graphing them. Our lesson was concluded with a classroom project of tallying and graphing the favorite foods of the entire class.

## Kindergarten

The Kindergarten students have been learning about the structure of a sentence. We have been discussing capitalization and punctuation marks and are getting really good at knowing where quotation marks are needed in a sentence. We have also been reading a new big book every week. Last week we read a story called The Jigaree. We had a lot of fun sequencing the events in the story and learning some new high frequency words. The students have been learning how to write and count to 30, sort items by three different attributes, and make patterns using our pattern blocks.



## First Grade

First grade has had a super time learning about balance and motion by constructing toys and observing what influences their motion. We are currently involved in our "Proud to be an American" unit. We are studying the different American symbols that show the value and principles of American democracy. In addition, this month we started our year long community service visits to the Bellaire community.



## Second Grade

The second grade students are brushing up on their map skills! Students are learning the cardinal directions, developing an understanding of maps and their uses, and learning to read a variety of maps. Students are learning to locate places on maps and globes using directional clues. We are also viewing maps of the world, the United States, South Carolina and Greenville to acquire a better understanding of the relationship between their continent, country, state, county and city.

## Music

The music students have had a great time learning about the four main families of instruments: strings, brass, woodwinds, and percussion. Everyone enjoyed hearing what all of the instruments sound like. We also took time to look at various pictures of each instrument. Everyone did a wonderful job practicing identifying each instrument by sound and sight. Finally, all of the students took time to make instrument books that included each family of instruments. All of the books turned out beautifully!



The Pre-Prepper and Prepper students also enjoyed finding pitched and unpitched instruments in the music room. We learned that xylophones, boomwhackers, and bells fall in the pitched instrument category. Drums, maracas, and rhythm sticks are all unpitched instruments. We had a great time playing these instruments and listening for their unique sounds.

The Pre-K and Primary students are learning new concepts out of the Making Music books. We have been studying steady beat versus rhythm, body percussion and piano/forte (soft/loud) dynamics. The students are really enjoying all of the fun activities our new books have to offer!



## Art

We have been celebrating fall in the Art Studio! The Pre-Preppers and Preppers made some fabulous fall trees by folding paper in half and rubbing fall-colored blobs of paint together. These are on display outside of the computer lab.

The Pre-K students enjoyed learning about Edgar Degas. Degas is famous for his depictions of ballet dancers. The students loved cutting out their own dancers and creating designs like Degas. The Pre-K students also make butterflies using leaves for the wings.

In Kindergarten, the children learned about lines. We talked about the different types of lines and how artists use lines to create images. We drew leaves, taking time to add all of the lines inside the leaf. The Kindergartners also began a project based on the artwork of Andy Warhol. The First and Second Graders also studied lines and began a series of projects based on color. We did a simple origami project and began a project on Henri Matisse.

## Foreign Language

In Spanish we have been learning all about la comida (food!). We learned basic words like "papa" (potato), "pollo" (chicken), and "manzana" (apple). We have done numerous projects to help us understand the words. We made "estrellas" (stars) with painted manzanas, stamped shapes with papas, had matching races and food scavenger hunts, and made an apple tree for the hallway with a "manzana" for each friend. In addition to learning food words, the Pre-K students also learned a number of words relating to table manners, such as "de nada" (you're welcome) and "da me, por favor" (please pass me...). They also learned "me gusta" and "no me

gusta" (I like/ I don't like), and had a great time finding food in magazines and gluing them to a "Me gusta" and "No me gusta" chart. As always, we reviewed our colors, numbers, shapes and weather. Parents, remember that a pronunciation guide of all the words your child is learning in Spanish is available at the front desk each month.

Reading French? Yes, our Second Graders have learned to read their first book in French. It was a very proud moment for them! They each made their own book, colored it, learned all of the vocabulary words, and discovered many new pronunciation rules. After all of their hard work, each child read to a class of their peers. The After Schoolers were especially proud and understood how hard their friends had been working. They all clapped and cheered after listening to their friends read their books!

## After School

In After School 1 & 2, we have been playing in centers and enjoying computer time. Ms. Wingard or Ms. Norris read a new book to us every day. In September we worked on an alphabet book to color and read. We also write and draw in our journals. We write about things like what makes a good friend, and ways we can be a good friend.



In After school 3 & 4, we just started to read a new chapter book entitled The Janitor's Boy. We made wind socks that looked like the Canadian Flag and can't wait to see how they look up in our room. We do ask if parents have specific instructions about homework to please let your After School teacher know. Always feel free to call or e-mail us with questions or comments.