



Early Childhood Research Center

ECRC Newsletter

Fall 2016 • November

Dear Families,

As we close out October, we are thankful for all of the fun opportunities that we had this month. The children were thrilled to have a visit from the Buffalo Museum of Science on Wheels, as they loved feeling and creating dinosaur bones. We also had our annual Halloween parade, where the students got to wear their favorite costumes! Take a look at the photos below to see all of the fun and smiles.

Digging for Dinosaurs



Halloween Parade

ECRC Curriculum

With many students interested in community helpers, such as firefighters and construction workers, we begin November with an exploration of the many members of the community and how they contribute and help our neighborhood. We will also discover how important and special our families are as we approach a holiday of family togetherness, Thanksgiving. Some of the books that we are reading are:

- Froggy Goes to the Doctor by Jonathan London
- Alphabet Under Construction by Denise Fleming
- Career Day by Lizzy Rockwell
- Thanks for Thanksgiving by Julie Markes

If you have any questions about our curriculum, please do not hesitate to ask us! ☺

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from our Assistant Director

Final Fall Tuition Due Date

- Monday, November 14th

Like the Early Childhood Research Center (ECRC) Facebook Page!

Our Facebook page includes with daily happenings at the center, photos of the children, resources for parents, and activities to do at home with your child. Please don't forget to follow our page. Thanks!

- Corinne Eggleston

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Picture Day**
Monday, November 7th and Tuesday, November 8th. More detailed information to follow by e-mail.
- **ECRC Closed for Fall Recess/Thanksgiving**
We are closed Wednesday, November 23rd through Friday November 25th.



University at Buffalo

Graduate School of Education



ECRC Preschool I

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Our Favorite Activity

We had so much fun “bobbing” for apples in our sensory bin this week! To put a twist on this nostalgic fall activity, our students used tongs to strengthen the muscles in their hands by practicing to pick up the apples. Below, check out Nour, Elli, and Griffin effectively manipulating the tongs to pick up the apples.

- Miss Cai, Miss Alice & Miss Paige

Happy Birthday to...

Linneae -- November 13th
Nour -- November 29th



Linneae and Nina work with a student intern to make ooblek, allowing them to explore different states of matter.

Try this at Home

Establishing a routine is important for young children. Routines help children know what to expect and build confidence during transitions. We use music in our classrooms to help establish a routine. Try this song at home when encouraging your child to clean up:

“Clean up, clean up,
everybody everywhere,
Clean up, clean up,
everybody do your share.”



Anthony, Elli and Evan observe the changes in their environment by going on a leaf hunt!



Logan loves to manipulate the play dough by both pushing and rolling.





Our Favorite Activity

Our friends are very important to us! As our social skills develop, we are beginning to initiate play, collaborate, and extend play with our peers. Our favorite activity this month was working together with our friends to identify, discuss, and create a fall scene with paint. As you can see, this small group activity allowed students to share ideas with one another and make compromises as they moved forward with their final idea. Check out Hazuki, Daniel, Julie, Isabella, Rachel, and Olivia painting together!

- Miss Norline & Mr. Stanley

Happy Birthday to...

Sandy – November 9th



Rachel uses scissors to cut tape and create a mummy!



Miss Norline and Elijah love making Halloween monsters with play dough and googly eyes.

Arya and Danny work together to build a see-saw.



As Visual Arts comes to an end, Hazuki, Maddigan, Isabella, and Olivia are proud to show off their final paintings with a title!



Try this at Home

Our students have been loving the sensory experience of playing in shaving cream. Shaving cream is easy to play with at home! Put some on a table, cookie tray, or even in the bathroom and encourage your child to draw or write in it. If your child doesn't like to get messy, give them a q-tip to write with instead.



ECRC PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity

Pumpkins, pumpkins everywhere in our classroom! We loved exploring the pumpkins, both inside and outside. To encourage the students to make observations of the outside of the pumpkin, we had fun washing them, providing a sensory experience as they identified the parts of the pumpkin. Once cleaned, we hammered nails into the pumpkin and painted them!

- Miss Seung Jung & Miss Ashley



We love yoga. Here, Akhilles practices handstands with Miss Jody and Evan balances on blue blocks in an obstacle course.



Nolan draws pictures with chalk representing his observations of the fall changes.



Gerry, Hazel and Rose get the pumpkins clean.



Gerry and Akhilles guess what fall items are in the feely box!

Isabella explores the colors and types of apples through painting.



Try this at Home

Sorting and classifying are important concepts for young children's early math and science learning. Encourage your child to sort items at home, whether it is legos or blocks, based on different properties such as color, type, or shape.



Our Favorite Activity

We have become scientists in the Pre-K classroom. Recently, we have been exploring the concept of sink vs. float, as we make predictions and set up experiments to test our predictions. Below, check out how much fun our students have as they figure out that their predictions were right!

We also have been learning how to make observations both verbally and through a drawing. We use our science journals to make these observations, where the students are encouraged to work with us to identify and label their drawings. Here is an example of our science journals: Olivia's observations of a pumpkin!

- Miss Keely, Miss Corinne, Miss Wei & Mr. Dan

Happy Birthday to...

Miss Keely – November 2nd
Sandy – November 9th
Nola – November 25th



Olivia writes a letter to "Farmer Steele" as we retell the story Click, Clack, Moo.



Steele and Sophia jump to paint the bark of our classroom fall tree.



Nola uses a marker to create a face on the pumpkin.



Try this at Home

Shape Hunt

There are shapes all around us; we just have to look. Encourage your child to find and identify shapes when on a walk or at the store. This activity will encourage your child to think about the properties of each shape that they find!



Xavier and Hazuki learn about circles, as they find and trace circles in our classroom.