

# THE HELEN G. MUIR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



“Love is the rule in our school!”

November 2008

November is just around the corner and Thanksgiving festivities in the classes are under way! Our hallways are adorned with colorful pictures of leaves, apples and pumpkins! It certainly feels like fall here!

This month we celebrate what we are thankful for and how we can share what we have with others in need. We will again this year collect food to provide Thanksgiving dinner for families who need our help. The children have been so wonderful bringing in food every year! What a blessing we have in them! More information will be coming home soon about this.

Important dates to remember in November –

November 7                      Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Preschool Closed – C. Care Open for  
full-time students.

November 27 & 28    Thanksgiving – Center Closed

Fall colors are everywhere outdoors. Take a moment to enjoy God’s beautiful artistry with your child!



Norma Topping  
Director



## TERRIFIC TWO AND ½’S

In the fall the Terrific Two & ½’s are busy with lots of fun! As fall brings many changes, our class has undergone a few as well. We welcomed a new friend in our class: Welcome Alyssa! We said good bye to Miss Ena who will be missed and hello and welcome to Mrs. Chandra Washington-Palmer.

Our class has been enjoying the slightly cooler weather and all the changes it brings. We’ve investigated the insides of a pumpkin, made *pumpkin pie play dough*, painted a lot of things orange (it’s the color of the month), and had tons of fun when we visited the Pumpkin Patch at Dean & Don’s Farm Market. Thank you to all of the parents who provided transportation and accompanied us on this adventure!

Our class explored Halloween with footprint ghosts, handprint bats and sparkly spider webs, culminating with a Halloween party!!

The children learned that “SPOOKY” can be fun and not scary when you are 2 ½!

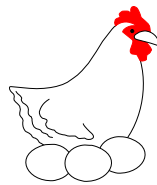
Mrs. Debbie Wheelless  
Mrs. Ena Puljic  
Mrs. Chandra Washington-Palmer

## THRILLING THREE’S

Like Halloween witches October just flew by! Pumpkins, black cats, ghosts and spider webs adorned our hallways. We had a wonderful time at Dean & Don’s Pumpkin Patch. Thanks to all of our parents for driving. Now with the price of gas being so high, it was an especially generous gesture. The girls and boys voted the hay ride was a hands down favorite. It sure was a bumpy ride.

During circle we are still learning to sit quietly, listen and follow directions. It’s still hard for some of the children, but we are making progress. Another thing that we are working hard at is developing our fine motor skills. Lacing, beading, and cutting are part of every day. Painting at our new easel is also very popular. I think we have a few budding “Picasos”.

Our Halloween party was a “smashing” success. Again, thanks to our parents! Instead of “Trick or Treating”, our class gave out treats to everyone at school. Learning that sometimes it is better to give than to receive! Of course they received plenty of treats too!



November will be equally busy learning about the pilgrims and Indians and the friendship they developed that first Thanksgiving.

Mrs. Michele Aravich  
Mrs. Ashley Wright

Wythe Presbyterian Church, Hampton



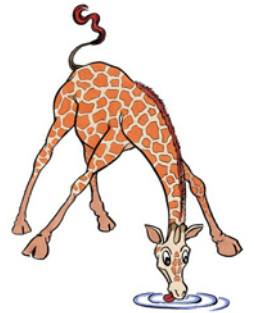
## THE FANTASTIC FOURS

The leaves are changing colors, and the air is crisp. Fall is finally here. October had been a great month, and the children have been very busy learning so many different things. Our alphabet and numbers have continued this month, ending with the letter "F" and the number 6. We learned about Christopher Columbus and his adventure. Be sure to ask your child the shape of the earth.

In addition to our letters and numbers, Doors to Discovery has taken us on a transportation event. We have talked about cars, trucks, signs, roads and maps. The children have enjoyed being able to participate in the hands-on activities that go along with this unit. Next month we will be going on an adventure with Tabby Tiger as she talks about food and nutrition.

Al, Ty, and Keisha have come to our classroom to talk with us about feelings, brainstorming, being different is okay, and solving problems. We have learned some new songs to go with these topics so if you hear some new tunes coming from your child be sure to ask them what they are singing.

Finally, October wouldn't be the same without our annual trip to Dean & Don's Pumpkin Patch. A "BIG THANK YOU" to all of the parents who offered to drive on the trip! We are sorry that not all of the parents were able to go this time, but we will have other opportunities. The children and the adults had a terrific time. October 31<sup>st</sup> will be our Halloween party. No costumes please, but tee-shirts with Halloween themes are always welcome.




November will bring more letters and numbers. Thanksgiving will be discussed and celebrated with more crafts and songs to close out our fall season.

Thank you for sharing your children with us and have a safe and happy Halloween.

Mrs. Susan Minter

Mrs. Kate Radermacher

Let's Read it Together!



How many children are there?

Do they all dress the same way?

What are they doing?

Do you think they are going to eat together?

Thanksgiving Meal

