



THE HELEN G. MUIR CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

“Love is the rule in our school!”

December 2008

The children had fun learning about Thanksgiving during November! Thank you parents for helping your child bring in food for the dinners we provide for families who need our help. Four local families were able to enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving meal because of your generosity. What a joy it is when we are able to share with others what we have been so blessed with!

Each of our classes recently received new “pets”! Thank you to Emily Stewart and her Mom for purchasing tadpoles and their habitats for the children to learn about and watch grow in to frogs! The children are absolutely fascinated by them! What a fun idea you had, Mrs. Stewart! Thank you for sharing such a neat project!

December will bring busy days of practicing songs for our annual Christmas program that will be held on Friday, December 19th at 9:30AM. Our singing bees are looking forward to performing for their parents! Thank you to everyone who contributed food for our reception. A big thank you to Hannah Gray’s Mom, Ann Edgar, for organizing our festive celebration!!

Important dates to remember in December –

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| December 19 | Christmas Program 9:30AM
Preschool closes for Winter break at the conclusion of the program.
Child care will remain open for full time students. |
| Dec 22 – Jan 2 | Preschool closed for Winter break.
Child care will be closed 12/22 – 26 and reopen on Mon, 12/29 through 12/31 for full time students only. |
| Jan 1 – 2 | Center closed for New Years |



Have a blessed Christmas and New Year!

Norma Topping – Director

TERRIFIC TWO AND ½S

Leaves and acorns everywhere, oh, what a crunchy, colorful sight! Our class is enjoying the cooler weather that comes with the changing season and learning to recognize all the colors of fall. Please remember to dress your child for the weather as it gets cooler. We play outside every day!

The children are changing as fast as the weather with more “potty stars” emerging weekly. Their listening skills and attention spans are also growing as rapidly as they are.

We are all thankful to be able to spend this time together and wish you a Happy Turkey Day!

Mrs. Debbie Wheelless

Mrs. Chandra Washington-Parker



THRILLING THREES

*There once was a turkey named Gus,
In November he'd make a big fuss,
He'd scream and he'd cry,
His feathers would fly,
And he'd say, "My motto,
Thanksgiving or bust!"*

We're happy to report that Gus made it through another November. We decided to invite him to our Thanksgiving feast instead of “having him” for our Thanksgiving feast!

Well, just like Gus's feathers, November sure flew by! The month brought us lots of new songs, finger plays, rhymes and games. While we had fun singing and rhyming, and playing together we also learned some new skills and

THRILLING THREES Continued

reinforced some old ones. The game "Gobble, Gobble" helped us with our counting skills while the "My Turkey" rhyme reinforced both our number and color skills. Last but not least the "mixed -up owl" poem introduced the children to phonological awareness!

But of course the most important thing we did in November was to learn about the very first Thanksgiving Day. We read about the pilgrims who left their homes in England on a ship called the Mayflower. We read about the Native Americans who taught them how to fish and hunt and farm and build new houses so they could survive in their new home. We chose Native American names and played two Native American games; Jump the Snake and Stick-in-the-hoop. We danced to the beat with Native American rattles we made and learned some Native American symbols and sign language.



The most important lesson we learned was that on Thanksgiving Day there is much to be thankful for.

Mrs. Michele Aravich
Mrs. Ashley Wright

ALL DAY FOURS

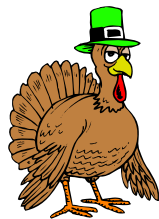
November has arrived and with it came a new class. Our second four year old class began November 10, 1998 with 5 students and a promise of more to come. While waiting for our class to be complete, our 5 students were adjusting to new schedule, new classroom, new nap room, new friends, and our new assistant teacher, Mrs. Secrist, who we all like very much.

Thanksgiving has been our theme this month as we think of all we have to be thankful for. We made feathers for our Thankfulness Turkey, decorated our halls with scarecrows, fall leaves, and Indian corn. We finished our celebration with a Thanksgiving feast. A big

ALL DAY FOURS Continued

We have continued our study with Tabby Tiger's Diner. We learned what foods are good for us to eat, made chef's hats, and found that we do not all like the same foods.

As our class continues to grow, I would like to thank our students for making our transition time such a big success! We look forward to what the year has in store for us.



Mrs. Secrist and I hope everyone has a blessed Thanksgiving spent with family and friends.

Happy Turkey Day!
Mrs. Susan Minter
Mrs. Heather Secrist

THE FANTASTIC FOURS

Our class has many things to be thankful for this month! I need to say I'm thankful for the wonderful children in my class and their very supportive parents, the many blessings God has given me in life and most recently for my new assistant, Mrs. Nicole Kelly. Mrs. Kelly is a wonderful new addition to the class and our school.

November has taken our class on a new adventure with Tabby Tiger in Tabby Tiger's Treats. We have continued our alphabet and numbers while learning about eating away from home and good foods. The children are quickly improving their motor skills and social development. Each child has been working very hard as we move along in school.

Thank you to all our parents for all you did for our Halloween celebration and for sharing items for our thanksgiving baskets for our adopted families.

December will be a very busy month with a new adventure with Tabby Tiger. We are preparing for our annual Christmas program so keep your ears open and I am sure that you will hear some beautiful Christmas songs.

Mrs. Kate Radermacher
Mrs. Nicole Kelly

