



Windmill Creek Academy Gazette

Volume 10

Issue 2

October 2017

Letter from the Director

The beginning of the new 2017-18 school year has kept Windmill Creek Academy buzzing with activity, laughter and learning! September was an exciting month – perhaps a little too exciting with the coming and eventual going of Hurricane Irma! Thank you to all students, parents and teachers as we all struggled to cope with the anticipated arrival, onslaught and departure of this massive storm! All said it was an incredible reminder of how fortunate we are to have weathered the storm safely and to do so with good humor and grateful hearts!

During September, the students learned about “Fall,” “Emotions,” “Inventors and Inventions,” and “Community Helpers.” A tremendous thank you goes to our Giraffe student parents that participated in our “Career Day” presentation! The students were so excited to hear about your careers and how you provide for your families and the community. We enjoyed a visit from the “Truly Nolen” fleet of pest control cars, an artist, police officer, fire fighters ... and more!

October brings us new subjects to explore: all about “Christopher Columbus,” “Fire Safety,” “Animals on the Map,” “Our Senses” and, of course, “Halloween!” The children (and teachers!) love to take any opportunity to dress up and assume another character – this year will be no exception! Stay tuned for more information about our Halloween Party and Parade from your child(ren)’s teachers.

Just a couple of future dates and reminders to make note of:

October 9, 2016

We will be OPEN on Monday, October 9 (Columbus Day).

Teacher of the Month

Won’t you take a moment to recognize one of our special teachers by nominating her for “Teacher of the Month?” Our teachers work diligently to make each day special for the children. Nomination forms are located at the front lobby. Thank you! :)

Friday, October 27th - Halloween Party & Parade

Our Annual Halloween Party and Parade will be Friday,

October 27th at 3:30 p.m. More information to follow. Please, no scary costumes, guns, knives or swords!

Tooth Fairy

We will have a visit from the Tooth Fairy on Friday, October 27th at 9:30 a.m.

November 9 - Picture Day

LifeTouch Studios will be here on Thursday, November 9 to capture the smiles of your children. Please be sure your children are here by 9:00 am if you would like them to participate. Stay tuned for background choices, etc.

Looking forward to the Holidays

We will be closed on November 23 & 24 in observance of Thanksgiving. We will be closed on December 25 & 26 and January 1 & 2 in observance of Christmas/New Year’s.

“Fall Backward” on Sunday, November 5

On Sunday, November 5th, turn your clocks back one hour for the end of daylight saving’s time.

Thank you for a great start to the new school year! Before you know it, we’ll be hanging up holiday decorations!

All the best,

Janine

Janine Connell
Founder & Director
Windmill Creek Academy



The Giraffe students are paid a visit by some of the parents during our “Career Day” event.



Windmill Creek Academy Classroom Updates

Bunnies

September has arrived ... bringing the beautiful colors of the Fall season! The Bunnies are getting ready for their first Halloween! We can't wait to see them in their costumes. Our Bunnies are very busy ... Ainslee loves to eat, loves to be snuggled and is eating baby food now! Corbin is crawling, pulling himself up and eating pick-up food. Tripp is standing unassisted and loves fruit. He is the class "dare devil!" Leighton is "army" crawling and loves to vocalize. She is eating pickup food. Lucas loves to smile and observe. He loves the jumper. Noah is eating pick up food. He is sitting up and loves to be snuggled. Mable is such a happy and loving little bunny. She loves to suck her thumb and smiles all day! It's great to be a Bunny!

Ms. Iris, Ms. Kaira, Ms. Lesley & Ms. Lindsey

Cubs

This past month we welcomed Riley to the Cubs classroom! This upcoming month we will learn about fire safety, our senses. "Animals on the Map," and Halloween! All of our Cubs have achieved something new this past month. Frances is walking ... no, now she's running!:) Mia is standing up, Grant is talking a lot, Adele is singing songs on her own, Andrew is starting to talk, Lilah loves doing shapes and sitting at circle time, Ruth loves play-doh and doing animal cards at circle time and Riley is doing great as she adjusts to the Cubs classroom routine. Our circle time is a great hit with our students ... we sing and play with our shapes, animals and color cards. We love doing art projects and creating colorful art projects with crayons and dot paints. It's *creative* to be a Cub!

Ms. Kayla, Ms. Mariah & Ms. Sofie



Bears

In the month of September the Bears learned and did many exciting things! We created projects on community helpers. We made pictures of fire fighters, nurses and other community helpers who help us in our communities every day. We also made tool belt projects which were so much fun. We talked about our emotions – we made happy, sad and even silly faces to help us understand what each one means. We also began to discuss the season of fall. This beautiful seasons is approaching and we made colorful pictures of leaves to celebrate – always opportunities to express ourselves and learn new vocabulary. We are so excited that October will soon be here and along with it we will learn about fire safety, our five senses and one of our favorites – we will get ready for Halloween! We can hardly

wait to dress up and have our Halloween Parade!

Ms. Gaby, Ms. Jenny, Ms. Kayla, Ms. Lesley, Ms. Kaira, Ms. Maria & Ms. Rachel

Frogs

September was a fun month meeting many new Frog students and families. We enjoyed making our Frogs Classroom photo album! Thank you to all our parents and families for sharing your photos for "All About Me" week. It was a great sharing experience for the class. The children enjoyed looking at all our family pictures and talking about our favorite things to do! In October we will learn about Christopher Columbus, "Animals on the Map," fire safety, and our five senses. We especially look forward to decorating our classroom for Halloween. We will have our Halloween Party and Parade on Friday, October 27 at 3:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet for snacks to bring in will be posted in our class. We ask parents to please bring in one bag of candy or stickers, small toys and what you feel is appropriate for trick or treat bags as we will parade from each classroom during the party. We look forward to a fantastic October!

Ms. Ally, Ms. Lena, Ms. Maria and Ms. Raquel



Giraffes

We blew (literally!) through September in an unexpected way! The Giraffes teachers were so glad to see all of our friends return with stories about their experiences with Hurricane Irma! We got right back to our routine with the letters B and C. We have really enjoyed making our letter bags each week! We will continue to focus on one letter a week. We will also start with learning our numbers, counting, one-to-one correspondence and shapes. In Art the Giraffes had a fun month – making a family tree and a self portrait for the "All About Me" week. Community Helper week was great – we made tool belts and doctor bags. The Giraffes started Fall projects by making popcorn corn for the cornfield in front of the school. The Giraffes also made apple prints. The next month will be filled with lots of fun Halloween crafts. The Giraffes will carve pumpkins and we will use candy for corn for another special project. Art is a great way to learn colors, shapes, expand vocabulary and practice our fine motor skills – not to mention a great resource for self expression! In Social Studies and Social Science the month of September was varied. We started with learning about our emotions and how they are reflected in our faces, vocabulary and bodies. The Inventors and Inventions week was a favorite with the students as the students learned about Benjamin Franklin. The students got to fly a kite and they learned why he used a silk string and a key. The students also got to make "slime" and had so much fun creating their own favorite color of slime in this sticky and gooey, hands-on project. In October, the students look forward to learning about Christopher Columbus, "Animals on the Map" Fire Safety, and our "Five Senses!"

Ms. Daisy, Ms. Kristen, Ms. Krystal and Ms. Sammy





WHY teach music?

music is a science

It is exact, specific; it demands exact acoustics. A conductor's full score is a chart, a graph which indicates frequencies, intensities, volume changes, melody and harmony all at once and with the most exact control of time.

music is mathematical

It is rhythmically based on the subdivision of time into fractions which must be done instantaneously, not worked out on paper.

music is a foreign language

Most of the terms are in Italian, German, or French; and the notation is certainly not English – but a highly developed kind of shorthand that uses symbols to represent ideas. The semantics of music is the most complete and universal language. Also, many songs we study are from other cultures.

music is physical education

It requires fantastic coordination of fingers, hands, arms, lip, cheek, and facial muscles, in addition to extraordinary control of the diaphragmatic, back, stomach, and chest muscles, which respond instantly to the sound the ear hears and the mind interprets.

most of all, music is art.

It allows a human being to take all these dry, technically boring (but difficult) techniques and use them to create emotion. That is one thing science cannot duplicate: humanism, feeling, emotion.



October Birthdays!

- Brooke T - October 2
- Jaazie M - October 10
- Ms. Janine - October 12
- Valerie C - October 14
- Ms. Mariah - October 15
- Ms. Sierra - October 20
- Ms. Gaby - October 22
- Rylie C - October 22
- Oliver K - October 26
- Barrett S - October 29
- Ms. Jenny - October 30



Ms. Kaira - Windmill Creek's Teacher of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Kaira! October's "Teacher of the Month!"

Ms. Kaira is a teacher to many of our students here at Windmill Creek Academy! Ms. Kaira started working in our infants classroom of the "Bunnies" in the afternoons. After she graduated and obtained her Child Development Certificate (CDA) with over 600 hours of early childhood education specific course work, she also started working with our Bears' students. Being such a tremendous "Team Player" takes a special set of talents – learning to identify each classroom's needs and self-starter skills to

"jump in" when and where necessary! One of our families nominated Ms. Kaira and stated, "Kaira is a great teacher – she is great with my child and she is very friendly!" Thank you, Ms. Kaira, for being such a dedicated, energetic and caring member of our Windmill Creek Academy teaching staff!

