

THE SPOTTED ZEBRA

Learning Center

November 2024

Reminder:

- Veteran's Day is 11/11 – SZ is closed
- Thanksgiving Break is 11/28-29 – SZ is closed



Hello Families! As the outside gets cooler and dimmer it has been a joy to watch all of the children get warmer and friendlier with their peers and teachers. Everyone has been getting settled into their routines and learning as much as they can.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at our Open House in early October! We hope that getting to see the spaces, classrooms, and people that are here every day helped to paint a picture of what your child's day-to-day looks like here.

This month we are featuring some of our amazing Floating Teachers at the end of the newsletter!

Ms. Sheri, Mr. Matt, Ms. Shannon, and Mr. Derek

What is Happening in the Classrooms...

Violet Room News

We have had a wonderful start to the year in the Violet Room! Fall is flying by! It's hard to believe November is already here. October was filled with so much learning and fun! We enjoyed exploring fall themes such as leaves, pumpkins, apples, and Halloween! It was so much fun to trick-or-treat through the offices here at Spotted Zebra, and teachers loved seeing friends' costumes! Violet room friends have been learning so much this fall as we continue to add more topics into our circle time routine, better our self-help skills, and engage in numerous discovery-based play activities. We are continuing to dive into fall themes in November as we explore nocturnal animals, harvest season, Thanksgiving, and fairy tales. We will continue developing our pre-writing skills, exploring number and letter concepts, and working on social skills.

Cold weather has crept in on us already, so please ensure your child is wearing and has extras of weather appropriate clothing each day. We will continue to go outside, weather permitting. Please ensure all belongings are labeled!

Lastly, we would like to wish a Happy Birthday to Aiden (20th)!

Ms. Brittany, Ms. Terry, Ms. Laura, and Ms. Allison



Blue Room News

Wow October is almost over, can you believe that! We are at the tail end of our second month of school. It has been wonderful getting to know your children and you. Last month we learned about apple picking, counting ten apples, letters of the alphabet 'F', 'E', 'D' and 'P'. The children are really enjoying Handwriting Without Tears on Fridays with Ms. Caitlin. We learned about the Fall season and enjoyed Halloween parade. What a beautiful month we spent together!

Officially, Autumn's farewell month is November and winter vibes starts to trickle in. Please send your child with weather appropriate clothing. Weather permitting, we will spend quality time outside on the playground. The November month is one of the most prosperous periods of the year and we are looking forward to learning many things like sharing the stories of American Heritage Day and stories of indigenous people who made history. As November is the month to honor our troops, so, we will make Veteran crafts, will read related stories.

On 18th November, we will spread peace and kindness on World Peace Day and will read some stories. We will share gratitude on Thanksgiving and will learn about thanksgiving facts and traditions. We will make some funny turkey crafts and will learn about turkey body parts.

We are excited to celebrate two upcoming birthdays in November.

Eliana Laurenzo- 11/02

Ms. Jackie – 11/20

We have a very exciting full month ahead of us filled with fun event and thanksgiving activities that we will learn together. For any important information please check weekly lesson plans (N.B. part) and Class Dojo. Thanks again for your all support and help.

Ms. Sunita, Ms. Katina, Ms. Jackie



Green Room News

Hello Green Room Families! It is hard to believe that it is already November! We are "Falling for Fall" in the Green Room this year! Green Room students have been delighted with all the changes that fall brings! We were scientists making observations as the vibrant leaves changed colors. We noted the satisfying crunching sounds they made underfoot when we were running around the side yard. We are ready to dig deeper in November! To close out October we will be talking about Halloween, we had a spook-tacular day! Your kiddos had so much fun dressing up and parading through the school collecting treats! Our November themes will include a Laura Numeroff author study, corn and Thanksgiving and friendship. Thanksgiving is always a wonderful time for our students to reflect on the things they are thankful for and the friendships they are making in the classroom. Our Laura Numeroff author study will include books from the beloved If you Give a Mouse series!

Just a friendly reminder that as the cold weather approaches, please remember to send in jackets every day and cold weather clothing as we continue to play outside and go for walks, when possible, please make sure everything you send in is labeled clearly. We will be closed on Monday, November 11th for Veteran's Day.

We wish you a wonderful November!

Before we close out we would like to wish a very happy birthday to Nora F!

Mr. David, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle



Orange Room News

Hello, Families!

For the month of November, we will be starting a unit on classic fairy tales! We will discuss stories that we all know and love, such as The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and the Three Billy Goats Gruff. Each week during November, we will be focusing on one of these stories through storytelling, dramatic play, and other activities centered on our characters. Our class LOVES stories, so we are especially excited to dive into this topic with our friends.

As the weather gets chillier, please send your children to school with warm layers for playing outside. Hats, gloves or mittens, and a winter coat will be necessary on cold days. You may also want to consider keeping a hat and set of gloves or mittens in your child's cubby outside the classroom. If we see snow fly this month, boots and snow pants may also be necessary. Please remember to label all of your child's belongs including jackets and other cold weather items.

Lastly, the Spotted Zebra Learning Center will be closed on Monday, November 11th, for Veterans Day. Our facility will also be closed on Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th for Thanksgiving.

Best,

Ms. Hope

Ms. Tami

And the Orange Room Team



Yellow Room News

November?! Time flies when you're having fun learning! We did many STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) based activities such as building habitats, balancing bats, "building fires" and knocking them down, and investigating pumpkins. During choice play, the children enjoyed revisiting these activities in their own way. It was great to see them expanding upon that they've learned.

As we move further into fall, we will explore what animals do to prepare for winter in our region. The topics of hibernation and migration will be researched, reported, and "published" into a class book as we learn about "making meaning" of what we read. Veteran's Day, Indigenous peoples, thankfulness/gratefulness, and family traditions will also be focused on this month.

The focus in math will be to write, show, and decompose/make numbers 6-10 (e.g. 6 is made of 4 and 2, 3 and 3, etc). Decomposing, or making numbers is a precursor for understanding addition. Sorting and graphing concepts are embedded into many of our learning activities. We will also continue counting by ones and tens to 100 as we fill more ten frames (crayon boxes) and count the days of school to 100. The children are always excited to choose what we will do to count the days of school. Popular choices are chanting Hip-Hip Hooray and jumping up and down; imagine doing that 30+ times!

A-Z with Mat Man and Me letters this month are Pp, Ii, Dd, and Hh. Phonics practice is going very well, and some are beginning to notice a particular letter sound in the middle and end of words, in addition to the beginning as we have practiced. Understanding characters, including their feelings; setting; and beginning, middle, and end story events will be meaning making topics this month. Social-emotional learning themes such as kindness and persistence will also be explored in our letter books, as well as in other read aloud books.

We look forward to another month of learning and growing together! Before we close, we would like to wish Raegan, Lukas, Jack, and Lyla a happy birthday this month!

Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, Ms. Chris, and Ms. Sara

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

Ms. Juli	Psych
Ms. Marlis	OT (Orange)
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Kaylyn	Speech (Yellow)
Ms. Caitlin	OT (Y, B)
Ms. Rachel J	Speech (Orange)
Ms. Rachel M	Music
Ms. Carla	OT (V, G)
Ms. Allison T	Speech (Violet)
Ms. Wendy	Speech
Ms. Cindy	PT (B, G, O)
Ms. Laura	Speech
Ms. Allison R	PT (Y, V)
Ms. Jesse	Speech (Blue)
Ms. Olivia	Speech (Green)

Offsite Therapists

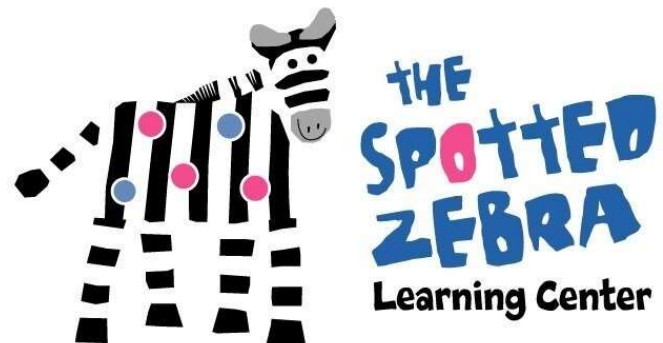
Ms. Shawna	Speech
Ms. Nicole Ge	Speech
Ms. Kathi	PT
Mr. Peter	OT
Ms. Nicole S	SEIT
Ms. Sarah	PT
Ms. Wendy	Speech

Floating Teachers

Ms. Lauren B
Ms. Chantal
Ms. Alaina
Ms. Tristyn
Ms. Nakisha
Ms. Nicole Gr
Ms. Sara
Ms. Karen

Admin Team

Ms. Sheri
Mr. Matt
Ms. Shannon
Ms. Amy
Ms. Brenda
Ms. Victoria
Ms. Rachael
Mr. Derek



Newsletter Features

Floating Teachers!



Nicole Grimes

What is your hometown?

Clifton Park, NY

Who are your favorite musical artists?

Hozier, Noah Kahan, and Chappell Roan right now!

What is your favorite season?

Autumn for sure

What is a fun fact about you?

I am a professional portrait photographer! Check out my work: www.ngrimesphoto.com

Lauren Bush

What is your hometown?

Amsterdam, NY

Who are your favorite musical artists?

The 1975, Role Model, and Dominic Fike

What is your favorite season?

Fall

What is a fun fact about you?

I have two cats named Ophelia and Kevin!



Sara Hamilton

What is your hometown?

The Capital Region

Who are your favorite musical artists?

I love and listen to all and any type of music

What is your favorite season?

Fall!

What are some fun facts about you?

I love and adore all animals and I am a HUGE foodie

