

THE SPOTTED ZEBRA

Learning Center

October 2024

Reminder:

- Save the date! 10/9 is our school-wide open house from 6-7 PM
- Indigenous Peoples' Day is 10/14 – SZ is closed



Fall is in full swing! We have loved getting to watch all of the children get more comfortable in their new rooms, make new friends, and grow in their own ways. We hope the initial apprehensive nerves are being eased, and that everyone is beginning to look forward to their time here if they aren't already!

We are shaking up our snack menus a bit! We are going to try out a rotating monthly menu that will have some constants that we have had as well as switching some crackers, juice, and veggies up to keep things interesting and healthy.

We hope to see everyone at our school open house on Wednesday 10/9 from 6-7 PM! There will be snacks and sips provided.

Take a peek at the back of this newsletter! We are going to feature teams of teachers, therapists, and other staff here each month; this month is the Blue Room!

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! September has flown by. We have spent lots of time adjusting to the classroom schedule and routines, and learning each other's names through songs and games. Friends and teachers have already begun to have so much fun together, learned many new things, and have even started making some new friends!

During the month of October, we have many fun and exciting seasonal themes planned. We will learn about Apples, Pumpkins, Fire Safety, Monsters, and Halloween. Happy Fall! In the coming weeks we will distribute information about upcoming special activities and events. We are excited to welcome parents only for Open House, which is scheduled for Wednesday, October 9th from 6:00-7:00.

As fall begins and the weather cools down, we ask that you please begin to send in warmer clothing such as long sleeves and pants, jackets/coats, and hats & mittens. Please label everything to avoid mix ups/lost items. We will be going outside, weather permitting.

Lastly, we'd like to wish a Happy Birthday to Navy (8th) and Ayden (16th)!

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



Blue Room News

Delighted to say that we have had a fantastic beginning of the 2024-25 school year. It has been a wonderful time of getting to know each other and acclimating with new friends. Kids are immersing themselves in friendships, play, learning, sharing, taking turns, exploring many new things, and getting used to the classroom schedule.

We are ready to welcome October with more Fall season activities. In the last month, we already learnt about apple's life cycle, parts of the apple and we made some beautiful crafts like name craft apple tree, paper plate apple, finger painted apple tree and apple shapes. This month we will focus on pumpkins, maple leaves, fall colors, corn, owls, and bats. We call October as a month of harvest and this month is called 'fun-filled month' due to kid's favorite Halloween festival. In this month people harvest apples, pumpkins, strawberries, blueberries, corns.

Thanks to all parents for a fantastic start of this wonderful school year. We appreciate all your support and flexibility. When we are close to Halloween, we will send daily news note about our Halloween celebration plan.

Ms. Katina, Ms. Sunita, and Ms. Jackie



Green Room News

Fall greetings!! We have been having such a nice time getting to know each other in the Green Room. We spent the first month of school getting to know each other. We played a lot of name games and getting to know you activities. We have found that our friends really love to dance and sing; work together to build puzzles and play with Play-Doh. We finished out the month talking all about fall and apples. Your kiddos got to be chefs and got to cut up apples to make apple sauce!

We have many exciting things planned for October as well. We will be learning about fire safety and will focus on what to do if there is a fire - stop, drop, and roll; stay low and go; get out and stay out; and call 911. We will even have a visit from Firefighters! There will be lots of role playing, so don't be surprised if your child drops to the floor to show you what to do! We will also be learning about all things fall, leaves, pumpkins, farms and Halloween! Lots of fun will be had this month!

Our Open House will be on October 9th from 6:00-7:00, more information will be sent home closer to the day.

Before we close, we would like to remind everyone to label clothing and outerwear coming to school. Also, just a quick reminder to change the clothing in your child's spare clothing bucket over to fall attire if you have not done so already.

Mr. David, Ms. Michelle, Ms. Elle



Orange Room News

Hello, Families!

The first month of school is under our belts and now we are falling into October!

During the upcoming weeks, we will be focusing on fall-themed topics. We wrapped up September discussing apples. This month, we will start our pumpkin unit, observe fall leaves, and celebrate Halloween!

The Spotted Zebra will be hosting their Open House on Wednesday, October 9th, from 6-7pm. This is a parent only event. The Orange Room team will be in attendance and we are excited to finally provide the opportunity for our students' families to tour our classroom and facility, and get a glimpse into our daily schedule and expectations. Parents will also have the ability to sign up for parent-teacher conferences with our team.

A couple of housekeeping reminders: As we move into the cooler temperatures, please be sure to send your child to school wearing weather-appropriate attire. This includes a warm layer (sweatshirt or jacket, rain coat on rainy days), warm shoes, and a warm change of clothes to keep in their cubby bins. We have been loving our outside time every morning however, to continue to enjoy our playground, all children must have appropriate attire.

We have also had a few incidents with shoes becoming wet or muddy, or footwear being inappropriate for play. If you have an extra pair of play shoes available, keeping them in your child's backpack or cubby is encouraged.

Finally, we will be sending out more details and information regarding our Halloween celebration via email later this month.

**Happy fall!
Best,
Ms. Hope
Ms. Tami
Ms. Christiana
& The Orange Room team**



Yellow Room News

Happy fall! We have enjoyed getting to know all of our new friends. This last month has focused on getting to know each other, as well as our classroom rules and expectations. In addition, we introduced our Learning Without Tears literacy program using the Alphabet Parade and letter Mm using A-Z with Mat Man and Me. The math curriculum focused on counting and representing 0-10.

In October, thematic units will be apples/fall, fire safety, nocturnal/diurnal animals, pumpkins, and Halloween. Within those themes, we will practice making five, which is a pre-cursor for addition. Tt, Aa, Nn, Ss will be the letter learning and phonics focus this month. Social-Emotional Learning will focus on characters, problem and solution, and feelings. We will introduce journaling for literacy, as well as science and math topics.

During Morning Meeting, patterning, observing, recording, and phonics practice occurs daily. We also practice taking talking and listening turns given visual and experiential supports. We use "Turn Taking Sticks" to rotate fairly through helper jobs.

We look forward to seeing all of you at Open House on Wednesday, October 9th from 6 – 7 p.m. The children have been busy with projects that we cannot wait to showcase. Please note that this is for parents and teachers only.

Before we close, we would like to wish Sage a very happy birthday this month.

**Ms. Carol, Ms. Megan, Ms. Chris, and
Ms. Paige**

Meet the Spotted Zebra Herd!

Therapists and Special Educators

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Ms. Juli | Psych |
| Ms. Marlis | OT (Orange) |
| Ms. Shawna | Speech |
| Ms. Kaylyn | Speech (Yellow) |
| Ms. Rachael | Speech (Blue) |
| 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, Y) |
| Ms. Laura | Speech |
| Ms. Allison R | PT (O, V) |

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
Mr. Derek

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 |



Newsletter Features!

The Blue Room



Katina Maniscalco-Smith

Where did you go to school?

Maria College, Russel Sage, and currently Empire State University

What are your hobbies?

Crafting, cooking, reading, camping, gardening, hiking, and going to concerts

What is your favorite season?

Fall

What is a fun fact about you?

I have three pet chickens named Gracie, Lucy, and Dolly

Sunita Panda

What is your hometown?

Midnapore, West Bengal, India

Who are your favorite musical artists?

Ed Sheeran, Justin Bieber, Shakira, Luis Fonsi

What is your favorite season?

Fall, Autumn, Spring

What are some fun facts about you?

- One day I want to be a good photographer
- I want to be a good make-up artist one day



Jackie Boulay

What is your hometown?

Fultonville, NY

Who are your favorite musical artists?

Taylor Swift, Harry Styles, Noah Kahan, and The Paper Kites

What is your favorite season?

Fall

What is a fun fact about you?

I won the "Best Dressed" senior superlative in high school