

Creative Learning Center

November 2016

Please visit our website at www.clcalamo.com.

Dates to Remember

Friday, November 11 - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL

Friday, November 18 - Friendship Feast (more info to come)

Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25

Thanksgiving Holiday - NO SCHOOL

November Theme

Theme: Written and Illustrated by...

CLC favorites, "Caldecott" winners, nursery rhymes, story telling

Letters of the Week

Nov. 7-10 A a

Nov. 14-18 D d

Nov. 21-22 D d

Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 F f

December Theme

Share a Family Tradition with Us! Our December curriculum theme is "Who is coming to our house?" We'll be focusing on celebrations, family traditions, cultures and special days. We would like to invite our families to come in and share a special tradition, celebration etc. with the children in your child's Together Time Group. Please follow up via email to clcalamo@sbcglobal.net or talk with your child's Together Time Teacher.

Need more time as the holiday season approaches?

Drop in space is available in our **Afternoon Rainbow Enrichment** program. Treat your child to an afternoon of creative, educational activities and yourself to some extra time. Please call the office at (925) 837-4044, email clcalamo@sbcglobal.net, or come in and see our Office Manager, Julie.

Health Information Reminders

With the cooler weather upon us, we remind you to be sure that your child is HEALTHY when coming to school. Help us minimize exposure to those winter germs. Please remember our health policy related to colds:

"Children should be excluded from school until contagious symptoms (i.e. green mucus, wet cough, etc.) have disappeared."

Reminders:

- Wash hands with soap frequently, including after using the restroom.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Disinfect often-touched surfaces, such as toys and door handles, especially if someone is sick.

Winter Clothing

As the weather gets cooler and your children come to school in sweaters and coats,
**** PLEASE REMEMBER TO LABEL THEM ****
and, please help us out by NOT sending umbrellas to school.

Lunch Bunch

If you know your child will not be attending their regularly scheduled lunch bunch day, please let the office know. We have several "drop in" requests daily. Please call us at (925) 837-4044 or email clcalamo@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you!

What's Happening?

October offered us the opportunity to meet with many of you at our first conferences of the new year. In February, we'll again be scheduling conferences to continue to discuss your child's development and growth, as well as program options for your child next fall.

As the month came to a close, our children enjoyed the Halloween Parade along with singing some of our favorite "not so spooky" songs. We hope you took a lot of wonderful pictures to keep these images forever.

Pledge to Humanities Candy Drive

CLC will be collecting excess Halloween candy to be distributed to our troops. The candy will be donated to Blue Star Moms to be sent out via care packages to benefit our men and women serving overseas. A box will be placed at curbside November 1-4 following Halloween for donations. Thank you for your participation and support!

Food Drive for Food Bank of Contra Costa County

This year we will be moving our Food Drive to February. More info to come in January's Newsletter.

Together Time Highlights



Motor, Science and Music

- During MOTOR time with Teacher Courtney, we spent time working with hula hoops, walking forward, backward and sideways on the balance beam, practicing barrel rolls and bean bag balancing too!
- We were busy in SCIENCE with Teacher Lynne weighing and measuring pumpkins; learning about the inside and outside of pumpkins by exploring their stems, flesh and pulp; experimenting with pumpkins and testing "do they sink or float?" and, estimating how much they weighed. Chemical reactions were observed with baking soda and vinegar Exploding Boo Bags and Alka Seltzer and corn starch Ghost Rockets...BOOM!...when you mix 2 ingredients together.



- Everyone loves October, especially the children and parents who love Halloween! "October Rocktober", a drumming and hand motion song, was an all time favorite rock and roll tribute to the joy of Autumn. "Looking for Dracula" was a fun and silly take off of "Going on a Bear Hunt". We also did a listening activity riding horses and acting out the hunting hounds and fox in a fox hunt. The music was "Autumn" from Vivaldi's "Four Seasons." We did finger plays with "Five Little Pumpkins", "Where is Pumpkin?" and learned about the human skeleton with "Dem Bones." We played the circle game "Witch Witch Fell in a Ditch" and danced to the "Autumn Falling Leaves" song. "Halloween is Coming", "Big Pumpkin" (book and song), "One Little Two Little Three Little Witches" and the candy songs "Lollipop", "The Lollipop Tree" and "The Candy Man" were also great fun with Teacher Jan in MUSIC.



Mary's Orange Tigers

- Cut and painted carrots for "C" week
- Acted out "The Carrot Seed"
- Estimated how many jelly beans in a jar
- Sang "The Big Pumpkin" song

Chieko's Red Rock Stars

- Cut out Jack-o-Lanterns
- Tasted jam and voted on our favorite flavor
- Created cats out of the letter "C"
- Learned the cookie jar song, made cookies and ate them

Susan's Yellow Bees

- Made fluffy lambs and learned a nursery rhyme
- Talked about feelings, then glued faces on our stuffed Jack o' Lanterns
- Created cats, chickens, and crabS -- oh my! --for "C" week
- Tasted celery and used the stalks as "C" stamps. Fun!

Linda's AM Blue Birds

- Made fresh squeezed lemonade and painted rock ladybugs
- Tasted different jams and created jellyfish
- Made cheesecloth ghosts, black cats and jack-o-lanterns for some spooky Halloween fun
- Read "The Carrot Seed" and tasted some deliciously crunchy carrots

Marie's Green Geckos

- Examined a turtle's shell and learned that it is a shield that protects it
- Made the letter "L" with our bodies
- Decorated our Jack-o-Lantern
- Acted out "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"

Lindi's AM Purple Pandas

- Jumped and jived with jingle bells
- Listened to a Rosh Hashana story shared by Matan's Mommy and made challah
- Went on a pumpkin hunt
- Created creepy crawly creatures to go with the books "What's in a Cave?"

Lindi's PM Red Apples

- Made lemonade with real lemons
- Picked and painted pumpkins from our pumpkin patch
- Carved a giant jack-o-lantern
- Measured, mixed and baked oatmeal cookies

Lynne's PM Blue Birds

- Became acquainted with Teacher Lynne and welcomed her to their group
- Made Jack-o-Lanterns
- Created Halloween hand prints
- Painted caterpillars using cars

Marisha's PM Purple Pandas

- Learned a directional movement song called "5 Little Pumpkins"
- Created jacket art
- Read "Pinkalicious" (Cupcake) and decorated paper cupcakes
- Had an open discussion about events (two stay home days (the weekend), Halloween safety)

Marisha's PM Golden Stars

- Practiced lacing hearts and dictated "Who Do You Love?"
- Worked on jewel art
- Identified letter "C" through a search game
- Painted with corkscrews

Staff Spotlight

This month our staff spotlight shines on Mary, our JK Orange Tiger teacher. Mary joined CLC in January of 1990. She attended Chico State University where she received her B.A. in Art. Mary also attended DVC where she received her Early Childhood Education training. Mary lives in Walnut Creek with her husband, Dave, and has two daughters, Melinda and Katherine, and four grandchildren. In her free time Mary enjoys gardening and walking.

*"As I see these wonderful children, I'm reminded of the Paul Simon line
'These are the days of miracles and wonder.'
These little people are truly miraculous...Enjoy."*

Baby News

Congratulations to Briana and her family!
Baby brother Logan James was born on October 17 weighing in at 7 lbs., 4 oz.
CLC joins Justin, Erin, Taylor and Briana welcoming baby Logan!

Caleb welcomed new baby sister Clair on October 29th!
Clair weighed 9 lbs., 4 oz. CLC joins Caleb and his whole family
in welcoming baby Clair.

It's My Birthday!

November Birthdays - Let's Celebrate!
Alice F, Amy, Aubrey, Bela, Evan M, Jessica & Suhana

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