

# The Play School's STAR NEWS

**Hours of Operation:**  
7:00 am - 6:00 pm M-F

**October 2020**

## **The Play School at Arbor Village**

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## **The Play School at Legacy**

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Director: Kara Spencer  
Office Manager: Angela Landis

## Community Coat Drive

You can help make a difference in the lives of Hamilton county children and adults in need. As you are cleaning out your closets in preparation for colder days ahead, please consider donating any of your gently used coats, hats, mittens, gloves, scarves, and/or boots To The Play School Annual Community Coat Drive. We can accept both children and adult sizes. Donation boxes will soon be in the front office lobby. The Good Samaritan Network of Hamilton County kindly asks for all items to be washed if gently used before donating. All your donations are paid forward and get in the hands of LOCAL families in need of fall and winter weather gear. Thank you in advance for your donations of new or gently used winter items!



## Monthly Basics:

	Numbers:	Letters:	Color:	Shape:	Opposites:	Sign:
Toddlers:	3	S, F, R	Orange	Circle	Up/Down	All Done
Preschool:	5 & 6	Ss, Ff, Rr	Orange	Circle	Up/Down	

## The Pledge of Kindness



I pledge to myself,  
on this very day,  
to try to be kind,  
in every way.

To every person,  
big or small,  
I will help them,  
if they fall.

When I love myself  
and others, too.  
that I can do.

ALWAYS

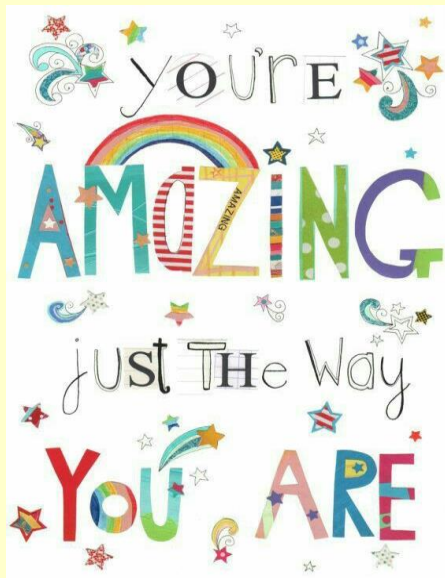


KIND

kindness  
begins with  
me!



# Arbor





# ★ Legacy ★





# ★ Saxony ★



# *Celebrate*



**Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month** honors the achievements and contributions of Italian immigrants and their descendants living in the United States, particularly in the arts, science, and culture

## **Filipino American History Month**

celebrates the arrival of the first Filipinos who landed in what is now Morro Bay, California on October 18, 1587.



## **HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**



## **Hispanic Heritage Month**

recognizes the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States,



## **SIDS AWARENESS MONTH**

October is National SIDS Awareness Month. In the United States, nearly 1,000 babies die each year from suffocation in their sleep. Sudden Unexpected Infant Death Syndrome (SUIDS) is the leading cause of injury deaths of children younger than one year old. But this tragedy is preventable. It is as easy as A B C -- Alone, on the Back, in a Crib. This means a baby should sleep by himself, on his back, in a safe crib, bassinet, or portable playard (such as Pack 'n Play ®). At The Play School, our infant staff are all safe sleep trained along with CPR and first aid. There are several policies in place to assure the infant classrooms are a safe sleep environment for the children. Many of the policies we follow can easily be followed at home too. Children must sleep in a crib with a tight fitted sheet and no blankets, toys, or bibs. Children are always placed in the cribs on their back. In addition, children may not sleep in seats, on the floor, or swaddled. Pacifiers may not have clips on them or have any animal attached to them. The Play School is a corporate sponsor and gives annually to American SIDS Institute. If you have any questions regarding providing a safe sleep environment for your infant at home, please do not hesitate to reach out to an infant teacher or your school director.





# **#SOCKTOBER Sock Drive at The Play Schools!**

**Benefitting the HallieStrong Foundation!**



**HallieStrong sends care packages of warm & fun socks to anyone fighting cancer, free of charge. As a nonprofit, HallieStrong relies 100% on donations. Socktober is our biggest annual sock drive & fundraising effort!**

## **Details:**

- Socks will be collected the entire month of October in the lobby of each school**
- The perfect socks to donate are brand new socks for men, women & children of all ages that are fun, funny, colorful and/or warm!**



**To learn more about HallieStrong, visit [www.halliestrong.org](http://www.halliestrong.org)  
To send a free care package, visit [halliestrong.org/nominate](http://halliestrong.org/nominate)**



# Breast Cancer Awareness Month

The Breast Cancer Awareness Month, marked in countries across the world every **October**, helps to increase attention and support for the awareness, early detection, and treatment as well as palliative care of this disease.

Help support the kids effort to raise money for a great cause! Stop by our treat stand for homemade strawberry lemonade and sugar cookies!

# BREAST CANCER

*Awareness Month*

**WEAR PINK!**

As a show of support for our families here @ The Play School that have been touched by breast cancer.

**\$1**  
DONATION

**FRI  
OCT  
9**

Proceeds will be donated to~



The Play School  
will match all  
donations

## Helpful Hints and Tips

### POTTY TRAINING TIPS

This is the second installation of POTTY TRAINING: TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS.

Potty Training Tip #2: Here is another important point to consider as your child is practicing on the potty at home: potty vs. toilet. At The Play School, we have child sized porcelain toilets that flush with a typical, loud sound. At home, your child may have a separate little potty or a padded toilet seat insert. (Those are not sanitary enough for our setting, so we do not utilize those at school.) Since you have more flexibility at home, take advantage of it. Toilets are big and loud. Some children are frightened by them; others know the small potty is not what adults use and may give it a snub. So, have both a seat inserts and a small potty available. Use the one your child prefers without making a fuss or trying to talk your child into the option most convenient for you. Take a bold step and try underwear at school. Send lots of changes of underwear, pants, and socks for accidents when they happen. If your child has been potty training at school, please to check their supply of spare clothes. We play hard at school and often get messy. Spare clothes in your child's backpack are always in need.

Preschool 4's/5's and School-age kids

# BE A SUPERHERO!

## HELP TEACHERS & CLASSMATES STAY SAFE FROM COVID-19



### Make wearing a mask fun.

Let kids choose from two appropriate options when they pick out their clothes.

### Pack an extra mask.

Put an extra mask in a zip-top bag in case the one they are wearing gets wet or soiled.

### Be a role model.

Practice with your children and wear a mask when appropriate.





## PUMPKIN PIE BAKED OATMEAL

This Baked Pumpkin Oatmeal has all the warm flavors of pumpkin pie in a quick and easy breakfast idea.

PREP TIME 10 MINUTES  
COOK TIME 25 MINUTES  
TOTAL TIME 35 MINUTES

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 ½ cups quick-cooking oats
- 1 cup solid pumpkin (pumpkin puree)
- ¾ cup milk
- ¾ cup chopped pecans, divided (use ¼ cup for top)
- ¼ cup packed brown sugar
- ¼ cup granulated sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1½ teaspoons pumpkin pie spice mix
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- milk, for serving (optional)

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350° F and grease a 9-inch square or 2-quart baking dish.
2. Mix all ingredients together in a large bowl and stir until well combined. Spread into prepared dish. Sprinkle top with ¼ cup chopped pecans and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until edges are starting to turn golden brown.
3. Serve with a drizzle of milk.



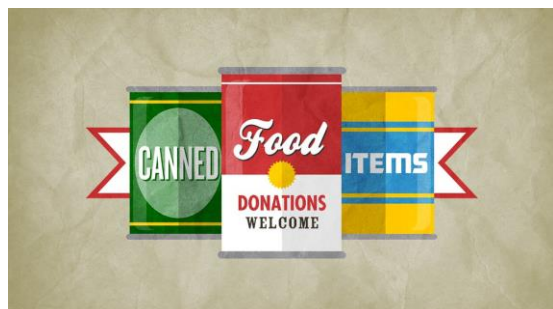
## Upcoming Events



### Kans for Kids

Throughout the month of November and December, The Play School will be collecting canned goods and other non-perishables items. The Play School has been collecting canned goods for local families in need since 1988! We are excited to continue with this time-honored tradition. All items donated go directly to FAMILIES RIGHT HERE IN HAMILTON COUNTY!

What better way to teach your children about kindness by sharing with those in need! Thank you in advance for partnering with The Play School in another community service project!



### Annual Boo Bash Class Parties!

We will hold our annual Boo Bash Costume Parties on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign-up sheets will be posted on classroom doors for ways that you can help add to the fun. As always, donations are not required but always appreciated. Please send your child to school in costume. The teachers will change children out of their costume before lunch. We will have a costume parade in the morning that each classroom will participate in. They will trick-or-treat room to room for special treats and prizes. Please ... no Halloween masks, weapons, or anything that will scare our youngest trick-or-treaters. We want everyone to enjoy this fun and special day. Adorable pictures to follow!





# Elementary School Fall Break



\*Hamilton Southeastern 10/19-10/23

\*Noblesville 10/12-10/23

\*Carmel Clay 10/15-10/16

4kids  
only  
club



## Our Activities

- ✓ Privately booked field trips
- ✓ In house cooking classes
- ✓ In house art projects
- ✓ Sports Camp



**REGISTER  
TODAY!**

*for more info*



Call your center Director



During this unprecedented time, We want you to know that the Health and Safety of our families and staff are of the utmost importance.

Here is an update of what our protection from Covid looks like:

- First and foremost, Hand-washing is key! Always has been and always will be.
- Our in-house laundry runs all week, every day and all infant bedding, fabric covers and soft items are washed constantly.
- We have a cleaning crew on our premises, they are vetted and part of our Staff.
- Carpet shampooing is part of our routine and not just a quarterly event.
- We have streamlined the temperature taking by installing no-contact infrared forehead thermometers.
- Indoor gym and sensory room are sanitized between classrooms.
- Hand sanitizer is utilized upon entering and exiting common play areas.
- Teachers are using their nap-times to sanitize toys midday and infant and toddler rooms are sanitizing toys constantly.
- We have the children outdoors as much as possible and within reason, weather permitting. We urge outdoor learning; story time under a tree is a dear sight to see Covid or no Covid. Children can learn as much outdoors as indoors we believe! It is a science Lab, an art gallery, lunchroom, a library, symphony hall, theater, and a gymnasium!

We are concerned and care about our teachers. They are hiding their stress and anxiety well. They know we support them and they simply do not come to School if they do not feel well. We have built in subs for this reason. Our directors know that the children come first. Covid testing is widely encouraged and we are and will always be transparent about the health of any person in our building that affects your family personally. Covid bonuses and benefits have been given to our teachers throughout this ordeal. We will continue this process to the end. Our Teachers are essential, Covid or no Covid! ~ Ms. Rita





# Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 Homemade Chicken Pot Pie, Mixed Vegetables, Applesauce	6 Homemade Baked WG Ziti with Meat Sauce, Steamed Lima Beans and Diced Grapes	7 Breaded Flounder Fish Strips, WG Roll, Country Baked, Sweet Potato Fries and Cinnamon Apples	8 Chicken and Cheese WG Quesadilla, Refried beans, Spanish Rice and Cherry Tomatoes	9 Homemade Chicken and WG Noodles, Cooked Carrots and Mandarin Oranges.
12 Homemade Lasagna with Meat Sauce, Pears, Peas, and Milk	13 Baked Chicken Breast, WG Buttered Bread, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, and Milk	14 Sloppy Joe Sandwich on WG Slider Bun, Green beans, Banana and Milk	15 Homemade Meatloaf, WG Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Applesauce, and Milk	16 Chicken Alfredo with WG Bowtie Pasta, Steamed Cauliflower, Tropical Fruit and Milk
19 WG Breaded Chicken Nuggets, WG Roll, Cooked Carrots, Cinnamon Apples, and Milk	20 Hamburger Tater Tot Casserole, Sweet Potatoes, Pears, and Milk	21 Turkey and Cheese Burrito's on WG Tortilla Shell, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, and Milk	22 Beef Bolognese with Meat Sauce on Spinach Noodles, Peas, Pineapple Tidbits, and Milk	23 Homemade Chicken Pizza on WG Crust, Steamed Lima Beans, Blueberries, and Milk.
26 Beef Mac and Cheese with WG Macaroni, Baked Beans, Pears, and Milk	27 Homemade Pizza Burgers on English Muffin, Corn, Strawberries and Milk	28 WG Breaded Cod Nuggets, WG Macaroni and Cheese, Steamed Cauliflower, Fresh Melon, and Milk	29 Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Baked Beans, Warm Cinnamon Apples, and Milk	30 Chicken and Brown Rice Casserole, Green Beans, Diced Apricots and Milk

The October snack menu will include the following homemade and whole grain items:

- Homemade Pumpkin Pudding
- Homemade Pumpkin Loaf
- Homemade Fruit Crisp with WG Oatmeal Crumble
- Fresh-Baked Blueberry Muffins

We will also continue to serve many of the children's favorites including carrots, hummus, cucumber slices, whole grain crackers, fresh fruit, and so much more.



FALL IS HERE!

As the temperatures are changing, our classrooms are continuing to go outside and enjoy the fresh air while playing on the patio, playgrounds, or going for a walk.

Please take a moment at drop off or pick up time to check with your child's teacher to make sure your child has weather appropriate clothing and a light Jacket. Also, please take home any unused sunscreen.

Thank you!

### **REFERRAL PROGRAM**

There is no bigger compliment than when family joins

The Play School because of your support and kind words. For every family that enrolls due to your referral, you will receive a \$100 tuition credit on your account after the new family's 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive week with one of our schools. This applies to new families only and must be mentioned at the time of enrollment. Thank you again for supporting our Schools!

### **VACATION CREDITS**

The Play Schools generously offer our families two weeks of "tuition free vacation time" annually, from August to August These credits cannot be used toward a two-week notice.

"In the past months we have given additional grace during the peak COVID time. We are certain that if needed we will respond in a similar way if conditions return. We will work with all our families during these unprecedented times. We ask you to trust us as we will be as fair as we can be." -Ms. Rita

## **2020-2021 School Closures**



**11/26/2020 Thanksgiving**

**11/27/2020 Thanksgiving**

**12/24/2020 Christmas Eve**

**12/25/2020 Christmas Day**

**12/31/2020 New Year's Eve (3pm)**

**1/1/2021 New Year's Day**

**02/15/2021 President's Day - Professional Development Day**

**1/18/2021 Martin Luther King Day**

**5/31/2021 Memorial Day**

**7/5/2021 July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**9/6/2021 Labor Day**

**11/25/2021 Thanksgiving**

**11/26/2021 Thanksgiving**

**12/24/2021 Christmas Eve**

**12/31/2021 New Years Eve**

**(All Tuition remains the same)**



## **Other Administrative Contacts**



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