

# November 2018

## Newsletter





# November News

Dear Parents:

Thank you to all of the parents who returned their Household Income Statements and Family Enrollment forms on time. The Child and Adult Food Program is very important to us to help offset the cost of the meals we provide. We would also like to thank all of the families that helped with the poinsettia fundraisers. They will be delivered on

December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

We are participating in Give to the Max Day on November 15<sup>th</sup>. The website is open now and some of the proceeds will come back to Sandcastle. Check out the Facebook link to the website.

The weather is becoming cooler. Please remember to update your child's extra clothing so that they are the correct size and seasonally appropriate. It's also important to remember a jacket, hat, and mittens for the chillier days!

Please remember to bring a blanket for your child for naptime. He/she will rest better and be much more comfortable. The blanket should be brought home at the end of each week, washed, and returned.

With school closings due to inclement weather, we will still follow St. Paul Public Schools, but we will also have Fox 9 News mention if we are closed.

As the end of the year gets closer, we are aware that many of you will need year-end receipts. These are not automatically generated. Please give Cheryl 2-3 days notice if you need one. This general rule applies to any receipts or documents that you require. Remember, if you have any billing questions, concerns, or requests you can e-mail Cheryl at [cschroeder@sf-sj.org](mailto:cschroeder@sf-sj.org).

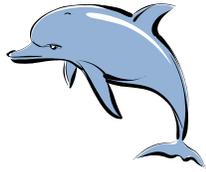
Please be aware that we are closed Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> for Thanksgiving. We hope that everyone has a fun filled and safe holiday weekend.

Have a blessed month filled with peace, love, and happiness.  
Jennifer, Wendy, Lisa, and Rachael

## "Infant Information"

### Dolphins: (Jackie, Danette, and Carol)

We would like to welcome Cailani, Mae, & Ivy who started in our room during the past month. We are enjoying getting to know them and their families!



### Thumbs vs. Pacifiers:

No big deal for babies. Many suck their thumbs early on – then quickly get over it. Pacifiers are fine for little ones, too. Early sucking does not lead to long-term pacifier addiction. If you find yourself reaching for the pacifier instead of your baby whenever they cry, "pull the plug and lose it".

Here are a few other things to remember if your child is using a pacifier:

- Do not pop it in their mouth every time it opens.
- Encourage them to go to sleep without the pacifier.
- Find other ways for calming your crying child.

### Seahorses: (Jody, Angie, Rose, Denise, Jessica, and Isabel )



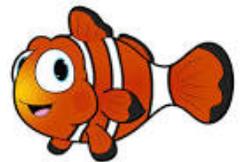
October was filled with fun activities with pumpkins, leaves, & walks. The children in infant 2 are getting ready for Thanksgiving. We can't wait to talk to them and read books about Thanksgiving. We will be checking out some more fall items- pumpkins, gourds, leaves, and more.

As the weather gets colder, please make sure your child has extra clothes that are nice and warm here. Please make sure to bring in appropriate outdoor gear so that we can still go on walks with the children until there is snow on the ground.

### Game of the Month:

"Throwing Fun" (9 – 12 months)

Make balls of paper for me to throw into a laundry basket. Clap and fun and exciting sounds as we play together. I do not need fancy toys for my brain to develop. Just having a chance to play with you and having interesting objects to explore helps my brain grow.



### Clownfish: (Emily, Tiffany, & Q)

We had an exciting October! We painted pumpkins and we learned about sharing and taking turns. This month our theme is "Let's Give Thanks!" We will be working on our fine motor skills. They will be playing with playdough, stamp art, and Turkey Tasting! We will work on sharing skills and learning more about families.

Get outside and enjoy the weather before it gets too cold outside!

## "Totally Toddlers"

### Sea Lions: (Debbie, Brandye, and Barb)

We had so much fun visiting the Wild, Wild, West last month. They loved the two dance parties that we had, also riding the horse, lassoes painting and dressing up like cowboys and cowgirls. We had a fun time trick-or-treating on Halloween.

During the month of November our theme will be "Going on a Bear Hunt." We would like all the children to bring in their favorite teddy bear from home that can spend the month here at Sandcastle with them. We will have a Teddy Bear Picnic with them, paint with them, do group time with them, and sleep with them. Our dramatic play area will be set up to match the song, "Going on a Bear Hunt."

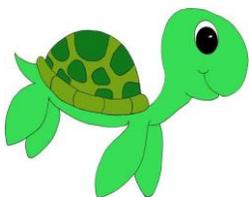
We will be going outside every day (weather permitting) so please make sure that you have the appropriate labeled outerwear for your child. Also, please check to make sure your child has weather appropriate extra clothes.

Things to do at home:

- Set up an area with a cave for the bear
- Have a Teddy Bear Picnic
- Go to the zoo and watch the bears
- Go to the library and find books about bears (both fiction and non-fiction)



### Sea Turtles: (Brittney, Molly, Sarah, and Tracey)



In the Spooktacular month of October, we the Sea Turtles had a haunted house, learned about pumpkins, and how to make eggless brownies! Be sure to ask for the recipe! We enjoyed lots of extra outside time with the nice weather this month. We had a pizza party to celebrate National Pizza Day. We requested for families to bring in canned food items, so we could donate them to help those in need! The kids had a great time learning about emergencies and understanding the great helpers in our community.

This next month we are going to be thinking extra hard about our friends in need. We will be doing some new food tasting and learning how to make some yummy snacks. We are going to spend the month being thankful for our friends. We do have some new faces in our room, both teachers and children. We would love to take the time to let everyone get to know us. Feel free to stop by the Sea Turtle Room and say hi to the teachers.

It is starting to get cold outside. Please be sure to send your child with proper outside gear as we make the move into winter!

### Sea Crabs: (Laura, Myesha, and Rosa)

Guess what time it is, it's turkey time! When the winds begin to get colder the jackets, hats, and gloves begin to come out more, so make sure your child is dressed for the weather. We had a blast with last month's theme of going to the farm. It was filled with making farm animal art. We even got to dunk apples in Carmel, marshmallows, and chocolate for kids in the kitchen. To top it off we ended the month dressing up in our costumes to get some delicious goodies around the neighborhood. This month's theme is transportation. We will



be making our own license plates, whipping up a scrumptious green bean casserole and making hot air balloons. The color of the month will be blue, and the shape is a triangle.

Things to do at home:

- Jump in a leaf pile
- Visit the railroad museum
- Make turkey decorations

Gobble 'til you wobble, Sea Crabs

Laura, Myesha, & Rosa

## “Preschool Players”

**Whales:** (Patti, Megan, and Sreymao)



Gobble, Gobble! For the month of November, the Whale Class will be focusing on giving thanks. The dramatic play area will be set up as a kitchen and dining room. The class will be able to act as cooks, servers, and dinner guests. They can have fun practicing their manners and role-playing together! Maybe they will even set up their own pretend Thanksgiving dinner. The sensory table will be

filled with corn and measuring cups. Also, the month of November is National Pepper month, so we will be painting “pepper prints.”

**At Home:** The whales are becoming so independent in our class! The class is going to be practicing independence in the dramatic play kitchen and dining room, and they demonstrate this during meal time in class as well. Have your child clear their own dishes or serve their own food. This will be a great way to incorporate our theme and independence at home.

**Penguins:** (Allison and Tiffany)

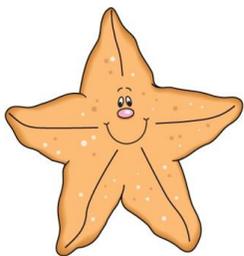
Last month we have fun learning about store! The kids really enjoyed using coupons and counting with money. Also, shopping for food and checking things off our grocery lists! The month of November we will learn about and explore our home state. We will be adding to the children’s knowledge of winter sports and activities, and identifying our state and cities we live in. In addition, we will be introducing different animals and different ecosystems that exist in our state.



**Things you can do at home:**

- Go to local state parks and try to spot some animals
- Help your child identify our state map and the city your family lives in
- Search for wild life and animal tracks in snow
- Talk about things that Minnesota is known for

**Sea Stars:** (Brianna, Giovanna, Jill & Sue)



This past month we had a lot of fun with our theme of Tabby Tiger’s Diner as well as celebrating Halloween! We had tons of fun expanding our vocabulary and exploring the theme through books, art, and play! Who doesn’t love to talk about food!? The children loved sharing with everyone their favorite food. We also had a blast at our Halloween Party!

For this upcoming month, our theme is “A Day at the Zoo.” We will be learning about zoo animals through books, art, and play. We will be having fun celebrating various national days as well as Thanksgiving.

**Things to try at home:**

- Take a trip to the zoo.
- Tell each other and discuss your favorite zoo animal. Look up information about the animal together.
- Read books about the zoo.
- Together, draw / Create a picture of your favorite zoo animals.
- Have fun making different animal sounds.

Have a Happy & Safe Thanksgiving!

# “Pre-K Performers”

## Jellyfish: (Val, Kathi, Meriah, & Sumayo)



In the month of November our theme is Healthy Me. We will be learning about many ways to stay healthy and strong. There will be many opportunities for talking, reading, writing, and thinking. The children will get a chance to pretend to be doctors, nurses, and dentists taking care of their stuff animals. During this theme they will learn about what happens during a medical checkup- something that a lot of children fear. We will be learning new vocabulary words and practicing forming letters in their names while signing medical charts and making name tags. This will promote their fine motor and communication skills. You can join in with your child(ren) by asking the child for advice on healthy practices; ie why should we wash our hands before eating?

Please make sure that your child has extra clothes in their cubby. Accidents do happen, and we need to be prepared for them. And don't forget to sign our permission slips for the Sholom Home.

## Stingrays: (Stacey, Ashley, and Margaret)

Our theme last month was “Health Me.” In dramatic play we set up a doctor’s clinic. In art, we painted with syringes. We also traced our shoe, and measured the length using unifix cubes. Our theme for November is “Community Helpers.” We will be learning about all the people in our neighborhoods who help us.



It was great seeing everyone at the Open House! Thank you for supporting our bookfair.

Fall is here. And the weather is getting colder. Please take a moment to write your children’s name in his/her clothing, especially in their hats and mittens.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving! - Stacey, Ashley, & Margaret

## Puffer Fish: (Becky & Mia)



Happy Fall to all! We do hope you’ve had a wonderful October and going to have a fantastic November.

As we transition into the next season, November will be filled with learning about what it means to be “thankful” as our theme is “We are Thankful.” This month we will do 2 taste tests, have multiple

days of bringing and sharing some of our favorite items from home, and enjoy a peaceful movie day before our 4-day Thanksgiving weekend!

As the weather changes, please keep in mind to bring your child with warm outdoor gear because we do go outside every morning and afternoon as long as it is above zero degrees. And please have nap items and extra clothing in your child's cubby.

We do hope to bring your child into the month of November feeling happy and excited to come to school everyday!

-Ms. Becky & Mia

### Manatees: (Amy & Morgan)

The Manatees spent the last few weeks exploring our new classroom and breaking in our new teachers.

As we enter the month of November, we will be focusing on our theme "We are Thankful." We will discuss what Thanksgiving is all about and learn about our families.



#### This & That:

Please check your child's change of clothes box in their cubby and replenish if needed

Please send warm outside clothing everyday with your children. We go outside every day and their little ears & hands are starting to get cold.

Be sure to check your child's drawer in our classroom at pick up time for any projects or papers that need to go home

If possible, try to send a backpack or bag with your child every day. It makes getting things home much more successful.

Happy Thanksgiving!