



Angelic News

November 2014



Dates to Remember

It's a very busy month, so please jot down the following dates on your calendars!!!

Sunday	November 2	Fall back your clocks!
Monday	November 3	M.A.D. FUN Backpack Kick Off Day!
Tuesday	November 4	Election Day
Tuesday	November 11	Veteran's Day/ No School
Wednesday	November 19	Picture Day!
Thursday	November 20	Picture Day!
Friday	November 21	Picture Day!
Tuesday	November 25	No After Care Today
Wednesday - Friday	November 26 – 28	Thanksgiving Holiday/ No School
Wednesday 11:30-1:00	December 3	Picture Viewing Day
Thursday 11:30-1:00	December 4	Picture Viewing Day
Friday 11:30-1:00	December 5	Picture Viewing Day

Our virtue of the Month is "COMFORT": to sooth in times of distress;
to help others feel better

I CARE CAT RULE #2: HANDS ARE FOR HELPING, NOT HURTING!

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE A COMFORTER

Today, as the children were arriving for preschool, I was purposely watching to see who brought a “comfort” item with them to school. I saw blankets, silkies, and many kinds of well-loved stuffed animals, pacifiers, thumbs, books, and special little cars. All these “lovies” are **comforters**; they make them feel better when they are sad, hurt, or lonely. They just know that when they have it – everything is better.

This month at preschool we will be teaching the children that they can be **comforters** too! We all know that from the day we are born until the day we die, none of us are immune to fear, pain, sadness, distress and tearful situations. Think about a tiny new born baby who is startled at birth. That baby is immediately **comforted** and soothed...wrapped in a cozy blanket, talked to, cuddled and fed. The days and months come and go and along with them come many life happenings that cause us to need **comfort** or to give **comfort** to others. Before you know it the years have flown by and that little new born has grown old and helpless and is facing death and greatly needs **comforting** again. Life begins and ends with the need for **comfort**.

The Bible says, “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all **comfort**, who **comforts** us in all our troubles, so that we can **comfort** those in any trouble with the **comfort** we ourselves have received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. It is very clear that we are all called to be **comforters**. God is our **comforter** who listens to our prayers, our aches, and our worries and fears. He’s there morning, noon, and night. He tells us He is always with us and will help us. We can count on Him and He is counting on us!

We might say things like, “I don’t have time to get involved with someone else’s heartaches,” or “I just don’t know what to say,” or “I have my own troubles to deal with.” God says, “I placed you here to step into the hurt with them to give them courage and **comfort**,” or “I will give you the words to say,” or “You can help them through their pain because you, too, have felt the same pain.” In my life, I would say that those who have **comforted** me most usually have said the least. It was their gentle presence that really mattered to me. It was knowing that I wasn’t alone. It was a hand on my shoulder or a hug that I could tell was real! It was them sharing my tears of sadness and despair.

Again, we will be teaching the children how to be **comforters**, mostly by our example in how we **comfort** them. And trust me – lots of **comforting** goes on in preschool! Most of the worries and fears and hurts are little and easy to fix. (A Band-Aid, a hug, and an empathetic word usually does the trick!) We have many teachable moments! Most of all, we want children to learn to share their feelings, fears, and sadness with others. We also want to teach them to listen when their friends are sharing their feelings, too! Our biggest desire is that we want the children to know that, without a doubt, Jesus is their best friend and **comforter** and sense that when they have Him (just as when they have their well-loved **comfort** item) everything is better!

Someone once said, “The greatest thing that a man can do for his Heavenly Father...is to be kind to some of the Father’s other children!” I can’t think of anyone kinder than those who **comfort**!

Thanksgiving Blessings!

Kathy Stinson
Director



LITTLE BUNNIES NEWS



Fall is in the air, the paint, the stories, and the play-dough, too! We'll have lots of fun creating colorful fall projects this month. We will be learning about fall harvest through songs and stories. We will also be talking about all the healthy foods we can eat.

Our color for the month is brown to match our character Brown Bear in our special book, *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* We will learn all about the colorful leaves of fall.



Leaves, leaves,
Falling down,
Falling on the ground.
Red and yellow,
Orange and brown,
Leaves are falling down!

A few of the books we will read during this colorful month are: *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *We're Going On a Turkey Hunt*, *Potato Joe*, *Go, Go Grapes*, *The Thankful Book*, and more!

Thanksgiving Blessings,
Teacher Mindy, Teacher Teresita, and Teacher Ruth



BUSY BEE NEWS

Horses, donkeys, cows that moo, chickens, kittens, piglets too!
Fish that swim down in the pond, ducklings quacking all day long.
All these animals you can see if you go to the farm with me!

This month the Busy Bees are off to visit the farmer in the dell, the farmer in the dell, heigh ho the derry-o, the farmer in the dell!! We will learn about cows, pigs, chickens and many more farm animals. We will talk about the food that the animals give us and the food that the farmers grow on the farm. It's the perfect time of year to learn about harvest time and to be thankful for all the good things that we've got!



The Busy Bees really have a feel for our daily routine now. Drop off time is much smoother and we are seeing lots and lots of smiles. We are off to a great start!

Thanks to all the parents who stopped by our Back-to-School Night! It was a pleasure to spend time with you in our classroom!

Enjoy this colorful month of November with your family!
Teacher Lisa, Teacher Lupe, Teacher Elizabeth, Teacher Dani

LITTLE TURTLE NEWS



November greetings, Turtle families! October was an exciting month as we learned about Old McDonald's farm and all its wonderful animals. It was a treat to see the Little Turtles all dressed up in their costumes! Thank you to all the parents that helped out with our Halloween parties.

In November, we will be exploring God's beautiful forests and the creatures that live there. Our colors for this month will be **brown** and **black** and our shape will be the triangle. We will finish the month discussing the pilgrims and Native Americans and the first Thanksgiving. Of course, we will be having a great time with arts and crafts this month, too!



Have a blessed Thanksgiving with your families and friends.

As we take time to remember what we are really thankful for, we want you to know that we are truly blessed by each one of our Little Turtles...they are such joy givers!

God bless,
Teacher Bettina and Teacher Amanda



LITTLE BEARS NEWS

How can November already be here? Time sure flies when you are having FUN!



I'm a little cowboy!
Here is my hat. Here are my spurs.
And here are my chaps!
As soon as I get up, I work all day,
I get on my horse and ride away!



Our November theme is "Wild, Wild West!" We will learn about life as a cowboy and a cowgirl and other western characters! Of course, we will learn about horses, too! Later in the month we will be discussing the First Thanksgiving Day and modern day Thanksgiving customs. We will give the children an opportunity to discuss the many things that they are thankful for.

The Little Bears are continuing through the alphabet focusing on a different letter each week. Our November letters are I, J, K, and L. Our virtue of the month is "comfort".

May God bless you and your family this Thanksgiving and always!
Teacher Ana and Teacher Ariel

LITTLE LAMBS NEWS



October had our room filled with spook-tacular artwork, poems and songs! We had a lot of fun learning about nocturnal animals and all the different sounds they make. We hope you are enjoying the Nocturnal Animals book your child created.



Autumn winds begin to blow;
Colored leaves fall fast and slow.
Twirling, whirling all around.
Till at last, they touch the ground!



In November, we will be learning about all the wonderful changes the season of fall brings; the changing of leaves, weather and the different foods that are harvested. We will learn about the First Thanksgiving and we will take time to share with each other about the many things we are thankful for. Our letters this month are F, L and C. Our virtue is “comfort”.

It has been a joy to watch new friendships develop as the Little Lambs get to know one another better. Thank you to all our co-ops; we appreciate you volunteering and helping to prep projects!

Have a blessed month!
Teacher Katie and Teacher Aida



LITTLE TIGERS NEWS

Wow! We loved how decorated our room was for October! Halloween was so much fun!

Our theme for November will be Nocturnal Animals, Hibernating Animals, and, of course, Thanksgiving. Our poem is:



Brown bears do it;
Ladybugs too-
Bats and snakes,
And a frog or two.
Groundhogs, chipmunks,
In a sleepy state.
What do they do?
They hibernate!!!!!!



Our letters will be O, Q, G, and S. Our color is **brown** and our shape is a square.

During this month of Thanksgiving, remember to slow down and acknowledge all that you are thankful for. We are so very thankful that you have put your children in our care.

Blessings,
Teacher Robin, Teacher Ana, and Teacher Elizabeth



What a magical time of year...so many opportunities for learning! The crispness in the air will soon be here...exciting changes everywhere!

Autumn activities are sure to excite the children's senses as they explore the magic; changing weather, shorter daylight hours, colorful outdoor scenery, and celebrations with opportunities to express thankfulness for all God has given us! Take a walk with your little angels and discover the wonderful world God made. Create some "math moments" by collecting leaves – sort them by size, color, and shape!



We will experiment and explore many treasures of the season as we read stories, write, dance, sing, count, cut and paste, and learn to work together! We will talk about the FIRST THANKSGIVING, HARVESTING TIME and LIFE ON THE FARM!

Our letters for the month are C, O, Q, and G. Our color is **yellow** and our shape is a rectangle. We will work on numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. We will be learning how to be a COMFORTER to others this month, too.

We had lots of fun at our Halloween party. The children were adorable in their costumes. Thank you to all who helped make our Halloween celebration special by providing treats!

Have a MAGICAL Thanksgiving!
Teacher Staci and Teacher Lori



Teacher Kathy says..."Spend a little time together and make some ...PUMPKIN PLAYDOUGH!"

2 cups flour
1cup salt
2 cups water
3 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
2 tbsp. cooking oil
4 tsp. cream of tarter
Orange food coloring

Mix the ingredients in a large pan. Heat and stir until the dough begins to stick together in lumps. Remove and knead until the lumps are gone. Enjoy! Smells yummy!
(You can substitute cinnamon for the pumpkin pie spice.)

M.A.D. FUN

Local Backpack + School Supply Drive

Make A Difference (M.A.D.) this Christmas!

In past years, Littlest Angels Preschool has supported families in need by providing food and Christmas gifts for local needy families. These families are identified by our friends at the Tongan Christian Assembly of God Church in East Palo Alto. Pastor Pesa and Pastor Mele Tupa came to us this year with a plan to support more families with greater needs. Our goal is to bless 125 children in East Palo Alto and East Menlo Park with a backpack filled with school supplies this Christmas. Bethany Lutheran Church members have already provided 125 backpacks which are being sent to children in Tonga. The backpacks have the logo of Littlest Angels Preschool and Bethany Lutheran Church. We will also be providing food baskets for a much larger number of families than we have in the past.

We want your children to experience the joy of giving as they have in past years. Once we have the school supplies, the children will help fill the backpacks with their teachers in the classroom. We will also talk about these gifts and make sure they can see all of the backpacks when we are ready to give them away.

Donate to M.A.D. FUN

The process this year is a little different because we saved you time by shopping for you. We have priced the school supplies at local stores, online and in bulk. The bulk price allowed us to purchase these items at half the cost of local stores. We couldn't pass up the opportunity to buy at reduced sale prices! The supplies cost approx. \$25/backpack.

As in prior years, we will ask you to pick up one or more paper backpacks from your child's classroom display. These paper backpacks are available in different amounts so that you can choose the size of your gift. There will be an envelope near the display, where you can place your paper backpack and a check payable to Littlest Angels Preschool with a note "MAD FUN". Or if you prefer you may:

- A. Donate online at: LittlestAngelsPreschool.com/MADFUN
- B. Donate at the kiosk in the Preschool Office
- C. Donate using our new Text-to-Give service by sending a text to 650-656-2991 with the following message: "Donation amount" + MAD FUN

Please make all donations by December 5. Any funds above the cost of the backpacks will go to feed the homeless at the Thanksgiving Dinner or for food baskets to help needy families at Christmas. All donations will go 100% to local people in need. Thanks for Making A Difference in the lives of local children!