



November Update

We believe that every child has wings and we will help them to soar!



The month of November is already here!! This is a time for all of us to be caring, thankful, and giving. It's all about family and community. I would like to thank all the families who participated last month in our playground fund raising event as well as our 1st annual Neighborhood Halloween Giving Parade. This month we will be discussing and planning classroom activities around the themes of fall, food and giving thanks. On behalf of the entire staff at St. David's Preschool, we are thankful to have all of you as part of our school family.

Communications: Many of you have indicated that you have had trouble finding our face book page. The link to our new webpage is saintdavidspreschool.com Once you access the webpage scroll down to the bottom right hand side of the page and you will see the icons for face book and twitter accounts. Or the direct link to the face book page is

<https://www.facebook.com/stdavidspreschoolRI/>

Please post any pictures and comments about St D's and what is happening here. If you would like to write a brief comment about how yours or your child's school experience has been so far, I would love to quote you on our website. Just send to me the comment at stdavidspreschoolri@gmail.com

Parent Advisory Board: I am looking one person to work with me on the Parent Advisory Board. This small group will look at the policies and procedures for the school and make recommendations for improvements. The group will meet in the evening for 4-6 times during the year. Please contact me if interested at stdavidspreschoolri@gmail.com or call my cell at 935-4566. I really need to fill this spot on the board so that the voices of parents can be hear!

Picture Day: O'Connor Studios will be at the school on Thursday, November 3rd and Wednesday, November 9th. Individual portraits and class pictures will be available for purchase at the time of the camera shoot. If you do not want the outfit that they take their picture in to remain on all day, please send a change of clothes. There will be a make-up day in late December if you miss these opportunities. This is considered a fundraising effort as the school will retain 20 % profit.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS: Due to federal election laws the preschool will be closed on Tuesday, November 8th due to the presidential Election. They will be using St. David's as a polling place. Friday, November 11th we will close for the Veterans Day Holiday. In addition, the school will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday on November 24 & 25th.

Got Tables? St David's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church is sponsoring its annual Holiday Bazaar and indoor yard sale. (Please see attached flyer). We are in desperate need of folding tables. If you have one or two 6' resin folding tables that we can borrow, it would be greatly appreciated. Those of you who have **6' tables** to lend we ask you to label them with the words preschool parent, your name and phone number. Tables can be dropped off in the lower hall before **Thursday, Nov. 10 th**. You can plan on picking up your table(s) from the preschool on Monday or Tuesday of the following week.

Free Flu Shots: In conjunction with the church Holiday Bazaar and Indoor yard sale, St David's preschool will be hosting CVS Pharmacy who will dispense free Flu Shots. The clinic will take place Saturday morning, November 12th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Preschool Conference Room. Please encourage family and friend to attend. Please spread the word through social media or print out the attached flyer and distribute them! Thank you.

Parent Involvement: I am looking for a couple of parents who would be willing to volunteer in the classroom when special projects are done. We always welcome extra set of hands. If you are interested, please let me know so we can get your proper information and clearances.

There will also be opportunities to help with our next family engagement piece. Along with the church and CCAP Program we will be coordinating a Thanksgiving food drive to make baskets for needy families in our community. The classrooms will also be having a Friends Giving. We will be in need of helpers to set up and clean for the festivities.

Clothing Issues: It is our responsibility as educators and parents instill independence and help them to develop self-help skills. Learning to dress; put outerwear on and off and learning to pull garments down and up when toileting are skills children must master at an early age to be successful in a school environment. Therefore, we are asking all parents to **refrain from sending children to school with one-piece outfits that snap under the legs.** Reminder we can neither unsnap nor snap outfits that connect between their legs and your child does not possess the necessary motor skills or cognition to do it themselves.

In addition, please

- *dress your children for the daily weather conditions. Be mindful that the weather is changing and to send your child to school with the correct outerwear. We go outdoor on a daily bases, even when it is cold and snowy.
- *Have your child practice taking outerwear on and off without assistance.
- *Please change the set of spare clothes that you originally brought in for warmer winter outfits.
- *Remember that we are a play-based school and we allow children to participate in any learning activity they want. Children learn though play. Consider sending them to school in everyday outfits that they can play and get dirty in. We are currently play on the front lawn so grass stains can ruin good outfits.

BOYS-IT'S TIME TO STAND UP! We are having a slight problem with toileting the younger boys. We are encouraging all parents of young boys to begin working with them on standing up to urinate. Child safety laws prohibit the staff from touching your child's private areas in any way. Therefore, we cannot wipe or assist your child in the act of urinating. We can only give verbal directions.

We have had many cases where the boys have wet their clothes while sitting to urinate because the flow of the urine goes between the rim and the seat, traveling down and wetting their clothes. However now that they are attending school they need to be more independent. Practice makes perfect. Older siblings, Dad's, or even grandpas need to be role models.

“Rome was not built in a day”, so practice patience. It may take up to few months for your child to master the SKILL of urinating – no messes and direct hits! You may need to invest in a step stool in order for them to reach above the bowl. Remember it is very important not to degrade or embarrass your child if he is taking time to learn urinating while standing up. There will be accidents, yes, and there will be embarrassing situations too. However, remember to remind your child of your love and support and that you as well as our staff are there to help him learn.

