



October 2024



## Directors Corner

Dear Families,

We have reached the second month of this school year. The children and teachers have settled in beautifully. Everyone knows the routine of their classroom and the children are happily engaged in play and learning.

We strive to create a nurturing and supportive environment where every child, teacher and family feels safe, respected, and valued. Recently, we have noticed some unkind behaviors and words toward both children and teachers, which has impacted our classroom atmosphere.

We understand that children are still learning how to express their emotions and navigate social interactions, and occasional conflicts are a normal part of that process. However, to ensure a positive and inclusive environment for all, we are reaching out to ask for your support in reinforcing the importance of kindness at home.

Here are a few ways you can help:

### **Talk about kindness:**

Have conversations with your child about what it means to be kind to others. Discuss how words and actions can make someone feel good or hurt their feelings.

### **Model positive behavior:**

Children often imitate what they see. By showing empathy, patience, and kindness in your daily interactions, you are setting a powerful example for your child. Encourage reflection: When unkind behavior occurs, gently ask your child to think about how they would feel if someone treated them the same way. This can help develop their sense of empathy.

### **Reinforce classroom expectations:**

Remind your child of the expectations we have at school. Our school rules are:

1. We take care of ourselves.
2. We take care of our friends and teachers.
3. We take care of our things.

We will continue to work closely with the children at school on these important life skills. With your partnership, we can create a stronger, more compassionate community where every child thrives.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Warmly,  
Katrina ☺



### **Fall Festival**

We're excited to announce our first community fundraising event of the year! Join us on **Saturday, October 21st from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** for a fun-filled family gathering outside the school.

Here are a few important details:

- A Sign-Up Genius will be emailed to families on October 7<sup>th</sup> for activity sign-ups.
- Order forms will be placed in family mailboxes on 10/
- All ticket sales must be made before the



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event—no tickets will be sold on the day of the fundraiser.

We look forward to celebrating the season and raising funds to support our school! Thank you in advance for your participation and generosity.

### **Birthday Celebrations**

We love celebrating birthdays with our students! If you are planning to bring in a treat for your child's birthday, please provide at least two weeks' notice. This allows us time to account for any allergies or dietary restrictions and ensure that every child can safely join in the celebration.

Please refer to the family handbook for the list of approved treats, and kindly only send in items from that list.

Additionally, we ask that birthday invitations for parties that do not include the entire class be distributed outside of school. All families have access to the family directory, which will be printed and placed in family mailboxes in the next couple of weeks.



### **Scholastic Books**

Thank you to all who placed orders through our Scholastic Reading Club. The due date for October family orders is October 28<sup>th</sup> and the books should arrive within a week or so.

### **Health and Safety**

A reminder about our illness policies to help keep everyone healthy and safe.

If your child is going to be absent, please remember to call or email the school at 508-222-1149. If your child is seen by a doctor and treated for a communicable illness, please let us know right away. This allows us to notify other classroom families if there are cases of strep, stomach bugs, or other contagious illnesses in our program.

To help prevent the spread of illness, please keep your child home for a full 24 hours after starting treatment.

For further details, you can refer to our illness policy in the parent handbook.

A little extra tip we teach the children: We practice sneezing and coughing into our elbows to “catch” germs and minimize spreading. We also encourage hand washing after nose blowing or any time those little fingers end up in their noses or mouths! Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is one of the best ways to reduce the spread of illness. We'd love for you to reinforce these healthy habits at home as well.



### **Outdoor Wear**

As the mornings get cooler, we kindly ask that you begin sending jackets with your child every day. The mornings can be quite chilly. Mittens will also become important soon, so now is a great time to dig them out! The playground equipment can be cold, and your little ones will appreciate having warm hands.

At school, we teach the children how to put on their own coats using this simple rhyme:

*"Tag at the toes,  
Arms in the holes,  
Up and over the head it goes."*



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Feel free to practice this at home, as it helps them gain independence and makes getting outside quicker so we can enjoy the beautiful fall weather!



### **Music and**

#### **Movement**

We are so excited to welcome back Mrs. Tuminelli from Tunes for Tots. Mrs. T will be visiting the Mixed Age and 5 Day Pre-K classes on Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. T brings her guitar, and we sing and dance with her monthly.



### **Community**

#### **Helper Month**

October is Community Helper Month at Jack and Jill! Throughout the month, we will be learning about the important roles that various community helpers play in keeping our neighborhoods safe, healthy, and thriving.

### **Halloween**

With Halloween falling on a Thursday this year, we want to remind you that we do not celebrate Halloween at school. At Jack and Jill, we aim to keep our routines as normal as possible and focus our celebrations on the seasons, rather than specific holidays.

We kindly ask that children do not wear costumes to school, as Halloween can be overwhelming or scary for some of our friends. Instead, we invite everyone to dress in orange and black on Thursday for a fun, festive alternative!

A few additional reminders:

- Please do not send goody bags or treats for the class.
- Candy is not allowed at Jack and Jill. While it may be tempting to add a sweet treat to your child's lunch, we ask that you please save candy for at home.

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**10-7** Pumpkin Passport Order Forms Sent Home

**10-10** Tuition Due

**10-14** No School

**10-16** Pumpkin Passport order forms due

**10-19** Fall Festival 10:30-12:30

**10-28** Scholastic Book Orders Due

**10-31** Orange and Black Spirit Day