



# Parent Newsletter

Little Mates Monthly Newsletter

October 2011

## Important Dates:

**Oct. 4th-**  
Pre-K Field Trip to Weaver's Orchard  
Leave center 9AM

Claire's Fundraiser Due  
Kidstuff Books Due

**Oct. 10th-**  
Columbus Day/  
Teacher In-service Day  
Center Closed

**Oct. 14th-**  
Tuition Due for wks 10/17& 10/24

Oct. 24th-  
Claire's Fundraiser Pick-up

Oct. 28th-  
Tuition Due for wks 10/31 & 11/7

**Oct. 31st-**  
Halloween-Parade 9:00am

**Nov. 24th-**  
Thanksgiving Day  
Center Closed



## CENTER CLOSED MONDAY, OCTOBER 10TH:

Little Mates will be closed on Monday, October 10th in observance of Columbus Day. This is an in-service day for all Little Mates staff. The center will also be closed November 24th in observance of Thanksgiving Day

## CONFERENCES:

It is that time again for Parent/Teacher conferences. They will be held on October 12, 13 & 17. You will be able to choose from an AM or PM session on each day. Look for sign up sheets to come home with your child. They need to be completed and returned by October 3 in order for us to coordinate times per classroom.

## HEALTH ASSESSMENTS:

Anytime your child has a well visit with their pediatrician, you need to turn in a completed health assessment form to the office. The state requires proof of the well visit so simply turning in an immunization list is not acceptable. The doctor must show proof of the well visit.

## BILLING:

If you are left a statement that you believe is inaccurate or want to ensure a recent payment was applied, please call or e-mail Kristy as soon as you receive it. Any Statements left on the front table are accurate for only the day it was printed. Therefore, if there is an amount due & it is not paid immediately, late charges will continue to accrue.

**When witches go riding,  
and black cats are seen,  
the moon laughs and whispers,  
'tis near Halloween.  
~Author Unknown**

## FLU SEASON:

Most of us do not like to think about being sick, however the flu season is fast approaching. Here at Little Mates, we do everything possible to keep the center germ free through the use of sanitizers, scheduled laundering of linens and soft toys as well as frequent hand washing. Unfortunately, once a sick child enters the building, germs spread fast. Please review our Illness Policy located on the Parent Board outside of the office. Please keep your children home if they are running a fever, have diarrhea or are vomiting. Remember, your children need to be free of these conditions for 24 hours without medication before they can return to school

## LITTLE MATES PARADE:

We will be hosting a Halloween Party and Parade on Monday October 31st to begin at 9:00. Please do not send your children in with any weapons, costumes that may be a safety hazard OR that may promote fighting. You can sign up to bring party treats for your child's classroom. Please ask the teachers for their sign up sheets. We also ask that you **not** bring Halloween candy in for your children to eat for breakfast or for snacks other than at the party. Thank you for your cooperation. We look forward to the Spooktacular event



## PREVNAR 13:

Prevnar 13 can help protect your child 2 months to 5 years of age against IPD caused by some of the most common strains of pneumococcal bacteria out there. Check with your child's doctor today to make sure your child's vaccinations are up to date.



# NEWS!



## **HALLOWEEN SAFETY:**

Halloween is a fun time for kids, but it is also an important time to be extra vigilant for possible safety hazards so that your children have a fun and safe Halloween. Some tips to make Halloween safe include:

### **Costume safety**

- choose a costume made of flame retardant material
- costumes should be short enough so that they don't cause your child to trip and fall,
- for good visibility, add some reflective tape to the costume or bag he is using to carry candy or make/choose a costume made of bright material that is visible in the dark
- masks should fit securely and allow your child to see well and not hinder visibility
- if using [face paint](#), make sure it is nontoxic and hypoallergenic
- knives, swords and other props should be made of a flexible material, so that they don't pose a hazard if fallen on

### **Trick-or-Treating safety**

- children should be well supervised by an adult when trick-or-treating. Older children should trick-or-treat in large groups in well known neighborhoods.
- carry a flashlight
- stick to well lit houses in familiar neighborhoods only
- follow traffic signals and rules of the road
- avoid taking shortcuts across backyards or alleys. Stick to the sidewalks of well lit streets

### **Candy safety**

- instruct your children to bring all candy home before eating it so that you can carefully inspect it for tampering. Children shouldn't snack while they're out trick-or-treating, before parents have a chance to inspect the goodies. To help prevent children from munching, give them a snack or light meal before they go -- don't send them out on an empty stomach.
- Tell children not to accept -- and, especially, not to eat--anything that isn't commercially wrapped.
- Throw out candy or treats that are homemade, unwrapped or if they appear to have been tampered with (pinholes in wrappers, torn wrappers, etc.)
- Parents of young children should remove any choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies or small toys.
- Wash all fresh fruit thoroughly, inspect it for holes, including small punctures, and cut it open before allowing children to eat it.

### **General safety tips**

- homeowners should prepare their home for trick-or-treaters by removing obstacles from the front yard, restraining dogs and other animals, and lighting the house well
- provide treats that are individually wrapped candy or offer kids nonfood treats, such as stickers and erasers.
- artificial lights and candles are a safer alternative to real candles with a flame that can pose a fire hazard
- if going to an adult Halloween party, make sure that you don't drink and drive. Use a designated driver if alcohol is being consumed.