



# PRESCHOOL NEWS

November  
2011

## Mrs. Houldsworth's Class REMINDERS

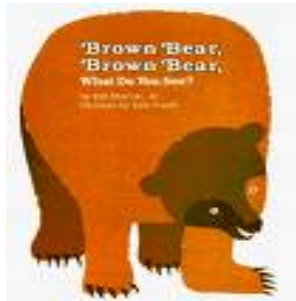
### IMPORTANT DATES

Nov. 2nd - PTA Meeting

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - Parent/Teacher Conferences (no school)

Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> - No School Veteran's Day

Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> - No school Thanksgiving Holiday



### Themes This Month

Last month we visited the land of Nursery Rhymes. It was fun creating twinkling stars and Eency Weensy spiders. We also had a visit from the Hopkinton Fire Fighters, who showed us their equipment.

This month our color is orange and our shape is a triangle. We will read the book Brown Bear, Brown Bear by Eric Carle and make our own "Who do you see?" class book. We look forward to mixing yellow and red to create orange, and learning how to make a triangle using Popsicle sticks.

A helpful web page to work on letter and letter sounds is [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com). We will be working on the letters/sounds of D and T.

At the end of the month, as Thanksgiving approaches, we will create turkeys using clay and feathers.

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

- We have two more **Fridays** for popcorn day. If your child would like to purchase popcorn the cost is 50¢
- It is handy to have your child practice some self help skills at home such as zipping, and buttoning. Skills like these promote independence.

### To Button, Zip and Tie

Getting dressed on time in the morning can be a real challenge for many of us, but it is particularly difficult for young children who have to contend with buttons, zippers, and shoelaces when fine motor skills are still developing.

When families are trying to get ready to leave the house at a certain time, parents will probably need to help young children with the dressing process. Preschool children want to be independent but get easily frustrated when the buttons won't do what they want them to do or the zipper will not cooperate.

Helping kids learn to contend with the logistics of buttoning buttons, zipping zippers or tying shoes is best done at less stressful times. Concentrate on one skill at a time. Work together and assure children that they will be able to do this with practice.

Learning to control hands and fingers according to information received from sight is a coordination skill that will aid children in early attempts of reading and writing.

We can provide many different opportunities for children to develop these skills. Dressing and undressing dolls and dramatic play with clothing that has buttons and zippers are good practice. Activities such as shaping playdough, stringing beads, and placing pegs into pegboards also enhance the fine motor skills needed for dressing.

With appropriate experiences, you child will gradually master all the intricacies of getting dressed and undressed!

### PLEASE HELP US OUT

- We would welcome disinfecting wipes to help to keep our classroom clean.