



TCS Times

November 2017

School Faculty 2017-2018

Kim Conner—Primary
Support

Julie Gill—Older All
Days

Ande Green-
Williams—All Days
Support

Lexi Hundley—
Younger All Days

Aldijana Karadza—
Younger All Days

Ally Lauer—Younger
Primary

Tonya Palsulich—
Older All Days

Maite Petersen—
Parent-Toddlers

Alyson Peterson—
2-3-4s

Miranda Podolsky—
Older Primary

David Rodenstein—
Parent/Toddlers,
2-3-4s and 3-4-5s

Olivia Smith—Support

Rebecca Stalder—
Younger Primary

Pam Vance—Older
Primary

Sarah O'Dell—
Executive Director

Andrea Laird—
Assistant Director

Nicole Shadduck—
Education Director

From the Director: That is the Sound of Settling

By Sarah O'Dell

Ah, November. As a teacher I had always greeted November with a big exhalation. Children feel settled in their classes, I had gotten to know parents better through parent-teacher conferences, routines are established, tweaks are made, and the school feels like it is quietly humming.

As the Director I have waited with bated breath to see if I still feel that way as November rolls around. Surprise! In October I discovered the amount of work that was done by my predecessors to bring teachers, families and children to that feeling of being settled. The tweaks, the routines, the getting to know people have been amplified six times. In my job of helping teachers (and families) get to that moment of exhalation, I have had meetings with teachers to check in on their schedules, planning time, how children are doing and the general feel of their classroom. As a result there have been some minor changes to teacher schedules. Your classroom teachers will communicate with you about the particulars and how it will affect your family. Please talk to them if you have any questions or comments and as always, feel free to come talk to me! Ah, November!

P-TCS News:

By Kat McClaskey

From the carnival to the Fall Work Party and everything in between, P-TCS has been busy! A very special thank you to Sonja Slavick and her team of cooks for organizing the wonderful potluck meals for teachers during the school conferences. November is here and the holidays are rapidly approaching. Take a break from all of the craziness and join us with one of the several great events set for the month. Come join us!

Rediscovered Books Night- Thursday, November 30th @ Rediscovered Books- Get your holiday shopping done with friends and enjoy treats, too. A portion of all sales goes back to TCS.

Conflict Resolution the TCS Way- A two part series. Thursday, December 7th and Thursday, December 14th. 5:30-7:00pm @ TCS. Join our director of education, Nicole Shadduck, to understand the unique and valuable approach to conflict resolution that makes the learning experiences at TCS so rewarding.

Bake Sale- The annual PTCS bake sale is on for the week of December 18th @ TCS until supplies run out. This is a GREAT way to pick up beautiful and tasty treats for neighbors, coworkers, friends, etc. all while supporting PTCS and without the agony of holiday shopping!

Important Details

Please see weekly Updates and the school calendar for a comprehensive list of events and closures.

November 29th-
December 7th,
Annual Drive to
benefit the Interfaith
Sanctuary New Child
Care Center

(This is replacing our
annual Food Drive.
Please see the weekly
Update for more
information.)

December 18th, P-TCS
Bake Sale

December 21st,
3-4-5s and Younger
Primes Holiday Parties

December 22nd,
2-3-4s, Younger All
Days, Older All Days,
Older Primes Holiday
Parties

Individual classes
will provide more
information.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AT NOON FOR WINTER HOLIDAYS

**December 25th-
January 5th, Winter
Holiday Break**

January 2nd-5th, Only
All Days classes and
Prearranged Primary
Child Care open. All
other classes closed

**January 8th, All
classes resume**

Classroom News

Older Primes

We have been very busy enjoying the fall weather. The class has been playing with the leaves and reading books about them. While exploring the garden yard, there was a lot of activity around collecting larvae from the oak tree, but the larvae have not been surviving indoors. Pam stopped at a pet store and found out that we can observe the life cycle of mealworms in the classroom. So exciting! We're hoping these new guests last longer than our ants.

Younger Primes

We have been getting into the full swing of November! While we continue to work on our project on Animal Habitats, next up...the grasslands! Our focus has shifted temporarily to Thanksgiving. We are reading stories and singing turkey songs. We have even written a Younger Primes original, the 'Tiny Turkey Song'. We are making placemats and invitations and getting ready to make mashed potatoes and gravy for 3 classes! We are also having discussions about what it means to be grateful.

Older All Days

While we are looking forward to Thanksgiving and the sense of community it brings here at TCS, we want to share some of our Halloween experiences with you. We purposely kept Halloween celebrations low key. We sang songs and read stories about Halloween. Children talked about their costumes and going trick-or-treating. Some shared about decorations they have at home. On the Friday before Halloween, we carved a pumpkin. Children offered suggestions about how his face should look. Many of them wanted to touch the pumpkin "guts" inside. We also roasted pumpkin seeds and nibbled them in the afternoon. Several children saved a raw seed to plant at home. And so...the holiday season is here!

TCS Feast

By Andrea Laird

The Holiday Season has arrived! TCS celebrates Thanksgiving with our traditional "Staff and Children Feast" at school. We come together to share a meal and sing some favorite songs. Each class prepares part of the meal to share with the rest of the classes. The 2-3-4s and the All Days classes will gather in the Younger All Day room at 10:00 and the 3-4-5s and the Primary classes will gather in the Younger Primes room at 1:30 on Thursday, November 16th. We have traditional songs that we sing (you've probably heard some of them at home). They have been singing and learning the words for the time coming up to the feast.

Potatoes are peeled and cooked and mashed, fresh fruit sliced and chopped by little hands (with kid knives) for a delicious fruit salad and pies baked to a golden brown. Turkey slices are rolled around cheese slice. Voila –rollups! The morning classes' contributions will also be served with pancakes that will be prepared by the Staff. Add a little agave syrup and whipped cream and a feast is born!!

This is one of the few times that staff and children get to gather as a group - no parents, no siblings, just each other. It often remains as one of the best memories of TCS for children. Ask your child to sing, "I heard Mr. Turkey Say". It's a classic (at least at TCS)!