



October 2011
Issue

Upcoming Dates:

FALL PICTURES

OCTOBER 14TH, 17TH-21ST

TOOTH FAIRY

OCTOBER 11TH @ 10:30AM

K-9 OFFICER

OCTOBER 14TH @ 3:30PM

FIRE TRUCK

OCTOBER 24TH @ 3:30PM

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

OCTOBER 14TH & 28TH

**HALLOWEEN PARADE
& PARTIES**

OCTOBER 31ST @ 3PM

Inside this issue:

Things to do 2

Halloween Games 2

Positive Discipline 3

**MVP
October Birthdays** 4

Dressing for Fall 5

The Fall Season Has Arrived



Wow, can you believe that summer is over and fall is here? The summertime flew by so quickly, but we are glad that fall has arrived! We hope that all of our TCS families are as excited for fall as we are. With the fall season, it brings us into cooler weather activities and we are in for a fun filled year of discovery and learning. Please look out for email updates for fall pictures, community helpers at the school and our Halloween



All About Me & Jamaica



As a part of our education enrichment program, we are utilizing the spaces on the preschool hallway as part of our curriculum. The preschool classes engage in various theme-based and multicultural activities as an extension of the classroom.

The rooms are very interactive and encourage a learn through play approach. The children are learning about the human anatomy. We have actual models of the human anatomy for the children to take apart and put back together. They are learning all about bones, muscles, veins, and how the human body works.

Twice a week, they get to do fun planned activities in the theme-based room and twice a week they get to visit the country of the month, where they learn about the country, engage in cooperative play, organized games, languages, music, crafts and foods of other cultures.



What	Where	When	Cost
DISNEY ON ICE DARE TO DREAM	Phillips Arena	October 12th - 16th Times Vary	\$75 Rinkside \$50 VIP \$35 Club Seats \$30, \$22, \$14 Price Levels
9TH ANNUAL PUMPKIN FESTIVAL	Stone Mountain Park	OCTOBER Saturdays, 10am - 7pm Sundays, 10am-5pm 8pm Laser Show	Adults \$27 +Tax Children Ages 3 - 11 - \$21 +Tax 10.00 parking
MOVIES ON THE MAIN TANGLED	Stone Mountain Village	Saturday October 15th @ Sundown	No Admission

Parents Night Out : October 14th & 28th

OCEANS & AUTOS CAR SHOW	GA Aquarium	October 22 9am-12pm October 23 10am-5pm	General Admission Adults \$24.95 +Tax Children 3 - 12 \$18.95 +Tax
TASTE OF ATLANTA	GA Tech Square Marta Stop: North Avenue Park: 8th & Spring	October 22 & 23 11am-6pm	\$25-\$35 VIP \$75- \$85
GEORGIA A-SCARY-UM	Georgia Aquarium	October 29th & 30th	Children 3 - 12-\$15.50 Adults \$17.50 Under 2 Free

Halloween Games

"Guess Which Paper Cup (a Halloween cup makes it nicer) Has Candy Under It"



The name of this game says it all. Have children turn their backs while you place five or six cups upside down on a table, with candy under one.

Tell them to turn around. Have one child at a time come to the table, guess until he guesses the correct cup. Give him a small prize "for being such a good guesser."



"Halloween Candy Hunt".

This game is essentially the same as an Easter Egg hunt, only with Halloween candy or party favors. Hide candy or stickers or a safe Halloween toy

around the house. Have the children find them and place them in something like a Trick or Treat bag or a large basket. Once all of the hidden treasure have been found, give the children an age-appropriate prize "for being such a good 'finder.'"

Positive Discipline by Teresa Pitman

Uh oh! Who just colored all over the hardwood floor? Now that your baby's past two, it's time to start thinking about discipline.

Babyproofing was the beginning — sticking those childproof plugs into the electrical sockets, installing baby gates and putting away breakables. As your baby became a toddler, you continued making your home a place where she could play safely without getting into too much trouble. All of that is still important. But now she's past two, and it may not be enough anymore. It's time to start thinking about discipline.

By discipline, we don't mean being spanked over a parent's knee or standing in the corner. Anne Leon, the mother of six boys (ranging in age from three-year-old Dominic up to Michael, 14) has learned a lot about more positive approaches to discipline. "It's really about teaching them or showing them the right way to behave," she says.

The first step, she adds, is having reasonable expectations. What is fair to ask of your child? This will be different for each child, since children develop at different rates and have different temperaments.

It's easy to assume that a toddler with a larger-than-average vocabulary and fluent language skills is more mature than others the same age, but that's rarely the case. Your very verbal little girl probably has no more self-control, patience or social skills than any other two-year-old. Leon also points out that what's reasonable also often changes from moment to moment: "If your child is tired or hungry, he's going to be less

able to be co-operative," she says. If your child has been confined to a car seat for two hours, asking him to sit quietly for another hour or two when you arrive at your destination is probably not reasonable, either.

Leon has plenty of other tips:

Be positive

"Try not to be saying no, no, no all the time. You know they'll just shut it out anyway. It's always more helpful to say, 'This is where you can jump' or 'You need to eat in the kitchen,'" according to Leon.

Teach by example

Leon recalls, "After supper one day, I said to Dominic, 'See how Isaac is taking his dishes to the sink? I want you to take your dishes to the sink, too.' He watched how his brother did it, and looked quite pleased with himself to be able to do the same thing."

Even when a child has no older siblings to demonstrate, Leon notes that parents are teaching by example all the time. "When your child is fighting with a friend, and you go in and calmly separate them and help them to sort out the conflict, you are providing a great example. If you go in and start yelling and getting upset with them, that's what they learn to do."

Be hands-on

Leon finds "direct guidance" useful with toddlers. "It's no good to stand in the doorway and yell, 'Stop that!' or 'Come here!' You have to actually guide them." That might mean going up to the child, putting your hands on his shoulders, and propelling him (gently) in the direction you want him to go.

Encourage corrections

Leon also helps her children correct their mistakes. If Dominic runs through the kitchen and knocks over the cat food dish, scattering little morsels everywhere, Leon asks him to get the broom and help sweep the food up. "Sometimes he's reluctant," she acknowledges. "He doesn't want to stop whatever game he was playing. But I insist."

Insist

This works well for Leon. From her experience, it's better to have fewer rules, but to be clear about them. She's insistent about car seats, for example. At Dominic's age, he'd like to be out of his seat — but Leon makes sure he's buckled in every single time. She doesn't punish him or even yell at him about it; she just helps him into the seat and does up the harness. If he squirms or complains, she persists. If he manages to make it impossible, she just waits. They aren't going anywhere until Dominic's buckled up.

"And I can outlast him," she laughs.

Give a little

Leon has developed some perspective on what issues matter, and which ones aren't worth making a fuss about. Many toddler behavior issues will be outgrown as the child matures. Finding the right balance for your family — and for each individual child — will help you begin the teaching process that is discipline in a positive way.

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Preschool Monthly Themes

MVP for October

September	All About Me	Jamaica	
October	Community Helpers	India	
November	Fall Harvest	Morocco	
December	Cultures & Celebrations	France	
January	Winter Wonderland	Russia	
February	Food & Health	China	
March	Spring & Nature	Ireland	
April	Outer Space	Germany	
May	Transportation	Mexico	



Cottrell McElrath

Congratulations to **Mrs. Cottrell McElrath** for being nominated as the MVP for the month of October.

She was nominated for being a team player, especially with the Bonsai teachers. They say she's always there in their time of need, with a friendly greeting and a smile. From infant room to the preschool hall, she does it all without hesitation. She's there professionally and personally for her coworkers. She is always looking for ways to improve her classroom, be it art projects or new developmental activities for the infants. She is always helpful in providing assistance to her fellow coworkers.

Congratulations Cottrell for going over and beyond—and smiling about it!

Congratulations on the great job and continue just being you!!!



As the MVP of the Month, Cottrell was awarded a \$100 gift-card and the coveted Teacher of the Month Parking Spot.

September Birthdays

October Birthdays



In our September Newsletter, the names of a couple of Kids Clubbers who celebrated a birthday that month were accidentally left out. We also listed Thomas Wakefield's birthday incorrectly. We apologize for the mistakes.

Dennis Scott	13	Kids Club
Evan Milam	16	Kids Club
Thomas Wakefield	21	Kids Club

Knox Westmoreland	4	Dogwood
Cassidy Davis	4	Kids Club
Tracey Starwood	5	Front Desk
Dorothy Williams	12	Mango
Maris Brantley	13	Persimmon
Brigid Brandon	16	Kids Club
Charlie Milam	18	Mimosa
Sophia O'Keefe	19	Mango
Charlotte Sutherland	21	Dogwood
Lillie Neidlinger	22	Plum
Dede Wakefield	23	Mom/Owner

Seasonally Appropriate Clothing for Preschool Playgrounds

By: [Nina Kern](#)

Part of the excitement at the end of summer for parents of young children is shopping for new fall clothes. Getting all the stuff kids need to transition from summer to fall always feels like a fresh start: new shoes, new clothes for a new year! An important thing to remember when shopping for children this fall is that style needs to follow substance. Consider what your kids will be doing in those clothes. Preschool kids spend a lot of time during the day romping around on daycare equipment, playgrounds and playing with messy materials like paint and sand. So, it's paramount to dress kids comfortably and seasonally. What kids do in their clothes is an important factor when choosing their new wardrobe this season.

Dress Kids for Comfort

Kids need to wear functional, practical and comfortable attire. Because let's face it, kids will be kids. That means that large portions of their days are spent playing and participating in arts and crafts. It may be best to save the ruffles and bows for annual portraits. For the rest of the time, dress kids in play clothes that encourage mobility for easy running and using the playground equipment at recess. Your children will be more comfortable and have more fun.



Dress Kids for Safety

Here are some tips for safe playground attire:

- Flip-flops and sandals are not practical for playground equipment. Pack tennis shoes to avoid blisters or boo-boos on their feet and toes.
- Clothing strings and clothes with excess fabric can easily catch or snag on playground equipment and can create running hazards as well.
- Fancy barrettes and clips can hurt a child's tender head when she lies down at naptime and even runs the risk of getting caught on playground equipment.

Dress Kids for Weather

Fall is starting and the weather is bound to fluctuate. A smart choice for keeping kids warm and comfortable on the playground this season is to dress them in layers. With the temperature rising and falling throughout the day, kids wearing layers will be able to easily regulate their temperature. Another point is that active children on swing sets and playground equipment get warm quickly. If children are dressed in layers, then they can add or remove clothing as necessary. Parents need to stay in tune with the seasons and temperature forecasts. Some smart families keep an extra set of clothes in their car for quick-changes in case of surprise weather changes.

Buying new clothes and shoes for fall is and always will be something fun to look forward to. Just keep in mind that even though the summer has ended, your kids will still be using playground equipment well into the school year. Remember to dress your kids for comfort, safety and weather this year. Children will have a lot more fun and teachers will have a lot less hassle.