

This is one newsletter you will not want to miss!



WE HAVE GREAT NEWS!

After a long, long wait and very much hard work, First Presbyterian Child Development center has been awarded their second start from Quality Rated! You have made the right choice in choosing the right center for your child's early learning and development!

Any child care program participating in Georgia's Quality Rated has agreed to meet standards that exceed the state's licensing requirements and is committed to improving the quality of care it provides to children. Based on the results of a rigorous application process, programs are awarded one star, two stars, or three stars. A star rating - regardless if it is one, two or three stars - indicates a higher quality program. Stars are awarded based on a combination of points gathered from an independent observation and a portfolio that demonstrates that the program meets standards above and beyond what licensing requires. The number of stars simply reflects scores above certain levels. The Quality Rated system was designed so that any parent selecting a program participating in Quality Rated can feel confident that they are enrolling their child in a program that is committed to continuous quality improvement and higher quality standards.

For your information First Presbyterian Child Development Center is one of two centers in Hall County that have achieved this standard of excellence! WE HAVE TWO STARS

Pick up a bumper sticker in the office!

Happy Fall

With the beautiful cool weather we know that fall is finally here!

Apples and pumpkins are both a symbol of autumn. For this reason we have chosen to incorporate them into our fall curriculum. Fall is the season where apples galore can be found all around the United States and can easily be integrated into every subject of the curriculum. The same can be said for pumpkins.

Apple Language Development

Five little apples are sitting in a tree. (Hold hands up in the air.)

The first one said, "I want to be free!" (Wave arms around.)

The second one said, "It's spooky down there!" (Chatter teeth and shiver)

The third one said, "But we don't care!" (shrug shoulders)

The fourth one said, "let's rock and sway!" (Rock back and forth)

The fifth one said, "We fell, hooray!" (Fall on the ground)

Then the five little apples rolled out of sight, as they shouted "Hip, Hip, Hooray!" into the night. (Roll around)

Pumpkin Math and Science

- ***Inside a Pumpkin - Cut open a pumpkin and allow children to see what is inside. Provide spoons, bowls, etc. and allow children to explore and feel the inside of a pumpkin.***
- ***Sink or Float - Prepare a chart entitled "Will a Pumpkin Sink or Float?" Give each child a pumpkin cutout and ask them to place their pumpkin in whatever column they think will happen ("Sink" or "Float"). To find out what the answer is, drop a small pumpkin in a container of water and discuss results.***
- ***Pumpkin Measuring - Provide a variety of pumpkins in different sizes. Have children measure them with yarn. Talk about which one is the biggest around/smallest around. Compare other objects in the room with the length of string to see what items are longer or shorter.***

Kids don't always listen when we tell them to wash their hands before eating, after using the bathroom, or when they come inside from playing. But it's a message worth repeating - hand washing is *by far* the best way to prevent germs from spreading and to keep kids from getting sick.

Germs can spread many ways, including:

- touching dirty hands
- changing dirty diapers
- through contaminated water and food
- through droplets in the air released during a cough or sneeze
- on contaminated surfaces
- through contact with a sick person's body fluids

When kids come into contact with germs, they can unknowingly become infected simply by touching their eyes, nose, or mouth. And once they're infected, it's usually just a matter of time before the whole family comes down with the same illness.

Good hand washing is the first line of defense against the spread of many illnesses - from the common cold to more serious infections, such as meningitis, bronchiolitis, the flu, hepatitis A, and most types of infectious diarrhea.

Hand washing is routine at First Presbyterian Child Development Center. If you stop by to visit you will see that everyone-staff and children-follow a vigorous pattern of handwashing. .

The steps we follow at FPCDC are:

- Moisten hands with water and liquid soap
- Rub hands together away from the flow of water for 20 seconds.
- Rinse hands free of soap under running water.
- Dry hands with a clean, disposable paper towel
- Turn off faucet using paper towel.
- Throw the used paper towel into a hands-free trashcan.



STAY CONNECTED:



