



October 2026



Directors Corner

Dear Families,

It is hard to believe that we are already heading into October! September was a wonderful month of settling into routines, making new friends, getting to know our classrooms, and beginning another exciting year of learning at Jack and Jill.

As we settle into the school year, we know that mornings can be busy for families. However, arriving at school with plenty of time for your child to hang up their backpack, use the bathroom, and be ready to begin their day on time is essential. A calm, timely arrival helps children transition into the classroom routine and allows everyone to start the day together.

As we move into October, our classrooms will continue building on those routines while exploring our Community Helpers theme. Fall is always such a fun time at preschool, and we have lots of learning, special activities, and exciting events ahead!

Thank you to our families for helping us start the school year on such a positive note. As always, please take a few minutes to read through this month's newsletter carefully so you don't miss any important dates, reminders, or upcoming events.

We are looking forward to a fantastic October filled with learning, laughter, and plenty of fall fun!

Warmly,
Katrina ☺



Cooler Weather Reminder

As the mornings continue to get cooler, please be sure to send a jacket with your child each day. We spend time outside most days unless the weather is extreme, so it is important that children come prepared and dressed appropriately for outdoor play.

Mittens will also be important soon, so now is a great time to find them and have them ready. Playground equipment can get very cold, and warm hands make

outdoor play much more enjoyable.

When the time comes, please send mittens rather than gloves, as many preschoolers are not yet able to put gloves on independently. And, as always, please label all jackets, mittens, hats, and other outdoor clothing with your child's name.

At school, we teach the children how to put on their own coats using this simple rhyme:
*"Tag at the toes,
Arms in the holes,
Up and over the head it goes."*

Feel free to practice this at home, as it helps them gain independence and makes getting outside quicker so we can enjoy the beautiful fall weather.



Fall Festival

We are busy planning for our first community fundraising event of the year! Join us on **Saturday, October 17th from 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM** for a fun-filled family gathering outside the school.



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Here are a few important details:

- A Sign-Up Genius will be emailed to families on October 5th for donations.
- Pumpkin Passport order forms will be placed in family mailboxes on the 5th.
- All ticket sales must be made before the event. No tickets will be sold on the day of the event.
- We will be selling Book Grams which will be delivered to each student during the first week of November to kick off literacy month. Books are \$5.00.
- We will have a make your own flower bundles table for \$10 per bundle.

We look forward to celebrating the season and raising funds to support our school! Thank you in advance for your participation and generosity.



Pick-Up

Line Reminders

To help keep our afternoon dismissal safe and running smoothly, please remember the following procedures.

For the 12:30 & 12:45

PM pick-up line:

- If you arrive before 12:25/12:40 PM, you must pull all the way into the parking lot and park in an available parking space.
- When forming the pick-up line, please pull forward at least one full car length past the blue dumpster.
- Please pull up close to the vehicle in front of you. There should not be large gaps between cars, as this causes the line to back up unnecessarily and can impact traffic outside of the parking lot.

For the 2:00 PM pick-up line:

- The double pick-up line may NOT begin forming before 1:55 PM.
- If you arrive before 1:55 PM, you must pull all the way into the parking lot and

park in an available parking space. Please do not begin lining up along the building early.

- When forming the pick-up line, please pull forward at least one full car length past the blue dumpster.
- Please pull up close to the vehicle in front of you. There should not be large gaps between cars, as this causes the line to back up unnecessarily and can impact traffic outside of the parking lot.

We appreciate everyone's cooperation in following these procedures. With the number of families dismissing at this time, it is important that everyone follows the same process so we can keep dismissal safe, organized, and efficient for all families.



Scholastic

Book Orders

Thank you to all who placed orders through our Scholastic Reading Club. The due date for October family orders is October 23rd and the books should arrive within a week or so.



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Classroom Volunteers

We are excited to welcome volunteers into our classrooms beginning in November! A sign-up sheet will be posted outside each classroom, please keep an eye out. Volunteer opportunities will be available on specific days each month. To keep things running smoothly, we will have one volunteer in the classroom for each of the available days, unless teachers request additional help for a special project.

Before volunteering in the classroom, all volunteers are required to attend a brief orientation with me. Our Classroom Volunteer Orientations are scheduled for Tuesday 10/13 at 9:00 AM and Monday 10/19 at 5:45 PM. We will discuss general school rules, routines, expectations and happenings. If you are unable to attend please reach out and we will schedule a time to meet.



Health and Safety

A reminder about our illness policies to help keep everyone healthy and safe.

If your child is going to be absent, please remember to call 508-222-1149 or email the school. If your child is seen by a doctor and treated for a communicable illness, please let us know right away. This allows us to notify other classroom families if there are cases of strep, stomach bugs, or other contagious illnesses in our program.

Please note that all stomach bugs, vomiting and/or diarrhea, require children to be symptom-free for 48 hours before returning to school. The 48-hour window begins after the last episode of vomiting/diarrhea.

For further details, you can refer to our illness policy in the parent handbook.

A little extra tip we teach the children: We practice sneezing and coughing into our elbows to “catch” germs and minimize spreading. We also require hand washing after nose blowing or any time those little fingers end up in their noses or mouths! Hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds is one of the best ways to reduce the spread of illness. We’d love for

you to reinforce these healthy habits at home as well.



Music and Movement

We are so excited to welcome back Mrs. Tuminelli from Tunes for Tots. Mrs. T will be visiting us soon for music and movement. Mrs. T brings her guitar, and we sing and dance with her monthly.



Community Helper Month

October is Community Helper Month at Jack and Jill! Throughout the month, our classrooms will be learning about the many important people who help keep our community safe, healthy, and thriving.

We would love to include members of our own Jack and Jill community in our learning! If you or a family member is a community helper and would be interested in visiting the classrooms to share a little about what you do, please reach out to Ms. Lay.



Birthday Celebrations

We love celebrating birthdays with our students! If you are planning to bring in a treat for your child's birthday, please provide at least two weeks' notice. This allows us time to account for any allergies or dietary restrictions and ensure that every child can safely join in the celebration.

Please refer to the family handbook for the list of approved treats, and kindly only send in items from that list. Additionally, we ask that birthday invitations for parties that do not include the entire class be distributed outside of school. All families who opted in will have access to the family directory, which will be printed and placed in family mailboxes in the next couple of weeks. You have found our secret newsletter message! If you've made it this far, don't tell anyone! Stop by the office and tell Ms. Lay the cost of a Book Gram to have your name entered into a raffle for a \$15 Dunkin' gift card!

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Thanks for reading all the way through and remember, keep it a secret!

We do not hand out goody bags or extra items for birthday celebrations. These can create challenges for a variety of reasons, and we appreciate your understanding in not sending them in.

Important Halloween Information

We do not celebrate Halloween at school. At Jack and Jill, we aim to keep our routines as normal as possible and focus our celebrations on the seasons, rather than specific holidays.

We kindly ask that children do not wear costumes to school, as Halloween can be overwhelming or scary for some of our friends. Instead, we invite everyone to dress in orange and black on Friday, October 30th for a fun, festive alternative!

A few additional reminders:

- Please do not send goody bags or treats for the class.
- Candy is not allowed at Jack and Jill. While it may be tempting to add a

sweet treat to your child's lunch, we ask that you please save candy for at home.

IMPORTANT DATES:

10-5 Pumpkin Passport Order Forms Sent Home & Sign-Up Genius Emailed

10-10 Tuition Due

10-12 No School

10-113 Volunteer Orientation 9:00 AM

10-14 Pumpkin Passport order forms due

10-17 Fall Festival 10:30-12:30

10-19 Volunteer Orientation 5:45 PM

10-23 Scholastic Book Orders Due

10-30 Orange and Black Spirit Day