



Ted Williams

November 2014 Newsletter

Principals Message:



Dear Parents,

These last few months have gone by so quickly. The holidays are already upon us. The children and teachers had a blast with the Costume parade. Thank you also for those of you who came out to see all of the great costumes.

This month we are excited to announce a new fundraiser called *Original Works*. This is a great way to keep art work that your child has created by turning it into a coffee mug, magnet, notepad, key chain or even a tote bag. Holidays are just around the corner and this is a cute way to get some of your shopping done. Check your child's folder for information along with a picture they have created in their classroom. You can also stop by the office for additional art paper to create even more masterpieces. All orders will be due to the office by November 14th.

Thanksgiving is coming soon and we would like to take a moment to personally thank all of you for entrusting your precious children in our care. All of us here at Discovery Isle truly enjoy what we do. This last year we have been blessed with high enrollment that has allowed us to purchase more equipment and materials needed. We could not have done this without your commitment to us and we will continue to create a warm, loving and engaging environment for your child to grow.

Sincerely,

Melinda Carvalho, Principal

&

Jen Hayes, Assistant Principal

Save The Date:



Nov. 2nd: Daylight Savings time: Fall back 1 hour

Nov. 3rd: Tuition Due

Nov. 3rd-14th: **Canned Food: Drive** The classroom with the most cans wins a Party! Their choice of a pizza lunch or a popcorn & movie day.

Nov. 7th: **Spirit Day!** Wear your Discovery Isle T-Shirts!

Nov. 10th- 14th: **Literature Week:** Parents are invited to read their favorite story to the class!

Nov. 14th: **Last Day of the Canned food Drive & Scholastic Book orders due**

Nov. 18th: **Kindergarten Field Trip:** The Grinch Who Stole Christmas & **Original Works Fundraiser** order due

Nov. 24th: **Pumpkin Pie Day**

Nov 25th: **PJ Day**

Nov. 26th: **Bring in your Favorite Stuff Animal Day**

Nov. 28th & 29th: **School Closed, Happy Thanksgiving!**

Can Food Drive Begins!

November 3rd to November 14th



Help local San Diego Families. We will be collecting food donations to help support San Diego Food Bank. Our goal is to fill 2 of the red barrels. That is over 400lbs of food. See the flyer sent home for much needed food items.

Scholastic Book Orders

You can now order books online through Scholastic!

We are working on building our school library and would love to offer this great program to build yours. Whenever you order books our school collects points that we can use to order books for our classrooms. Just go to scholastic.com/readingclub and enter our Class Activation Code MGJ8J. You can make your payment online and the books will be delivered here. This month's order is due on November 14th.

A Message from our Nobel Education Department...

How to Approach Tough Topics of Conversation

While effective communication with your preschooler can already be difficult, tough topics can be even more challenging to maneuver. In a world ever-changing and with such constant influx of news from various media outlets, it is impossible to shield our children from some of life's complicated happenings. The preschool years are also the time when questions of 'why' can knock us off-balance and force us to take a careful approach to talking about tragedy, life, death, and faith.

War. Crime. Terrorism. Politics. Birth. Divorce. Death... These are the topics we all know we will face in conversation with our children at some point in time, and it is best to be prepared for these tricky subjects when, not if, they come up in conversation.

- When children ask about topics that may be unsettling at first, the initial reaction should always be to respond with a question. For example, "Where do you think babies come from?" Often children already have preconceived notions, and, by turning the tables, you can better gauge their knowledge already and the true aim of their question.
- You may also want to ask your child why they are wondering about that or how they heard. This often gets to the underlying emotion or confusion of the issue. For example, following a question about what happened in a car crash you drove by, you may ask "Why are you wondering about what happened to those cars?" Your child may respond with "Is our car going to get in a crash?" This then helps you pinpoint that the question is less about what happened to those cars and more about your child's own concern for his or her safety.
- Keep the answers simple. For most preschoolers, one simple sentence response to tough topic questions is enough. For example, in response to a question about a police officer pulling someone over, "Police are there to keep people safe." When we go on too long with too much detail, we may accidentally be layering in more anxiety provocation for our child.
- Ask more questions. Share with your child in simple terms how you feel and ask how they are feeling. For example, in response to questions about death, "I feel sad that Uncle Ben died because I will miss him. How do you feel?"
- Be prepared for the question to surface again. Your child will likely think about your response for some time and may ask you the same question again or continue the questioning later. Model the same pattern as noted above.

For as Dr. Seuss said so eloquently, "Sometimes the questions are complicated and the answers are simple."

Lauren Starnes, PhD- Director of Early Childhood Education