Dear Parents,

We have had a busy couple of weeks in our little nest! Last week we planted two of our earth boxes in our garden. We first readied them with soil and fertilizer. We then planted romaine and red leaf lettuces, kale, and parsley. We are watering our plants, taking care of our baby starters. The garden is very busy.

**Play Dough**

We also made playdough for our first time in the classroom! We mixed and then cooked it in our microwave. When it was finished, we kneaded the playdough and sealed it in a zip lock bag to cool and set. We took some out to put in our playdough container. The children were excited to work with the playdough they had made and of course the color was orange for our October holiday.

**Play Dough Recipe:**

- 1 cup flour
- 1/2 cup salt
- 2 tsp. cream of tarter
  - Whisk dry ingredients to fully combine, then add:
    - 1 cup of water
    - 1 Tbsp. cooking oil
    - food coloring of choice
  - Mix well until all lumps are gone.
  - **Stove top method is preferred:** Cook stirring for 3 minutes or until mixture pulls away from the pan. Knead immediately. Store in an air tight container.
  - **Alternate microwave method:** Cook for 1 minute intervals, stirring between each one. Dough is ready to knead when it no longer appears wet and pulls away from the bowl. Knead immediately. Store in an air tight container.

**Halloween Crafts**

Last week we began our jack-o-lantern crafts. This is our first work using glue. We have a tap and squeeze glue bottle which works the muscles in little hands. The children see the presentation then work on their own. It is fun to see all the different pumpkins. The children are learning the process at this age as to not care of what the end result is as much as what they are doing.
Crafts continued...

This week we began working on our black cat collage! This is another gluing activity with yet a different application for the glue. We use an empty nail polish bottle which has been cleaned and is now a glue applicator. The children are very precise placing their glue on their black cats then taking their choice of colorful squares and placing them on the glue. The children see the presentation then again work on their own. The art activities are truly their work. Some have many squares glued on top of each other, some have squares all over their cats, and some may only have one or two squares glued on the cats. It shows us that every child is in a different place and each has his or her own individuality.

Baking

On Friday we baked our 3-ingredient banana cookies and shared them during lunch. We will make these many times throughout the year, as through repetition the children will eventually know how to do it on their own. By the nearing end of our school year, this hopes to be a one person work from beginning to end.

We welcome our volunteers weekday mornings.

Enjoy your weekend!

Ms. Christine and Ms. Rosa

Important Dates continued:

- Thursday, October 31st: Parent Coffee at 8:30am, 9:00am School Wide Halloween Parade (excluding Nest Students); 11am Fun House and Crafts (Nest does not participle due to age of students)
- Saturday, November 9th: 11am-1pm Art Festival (It's a fun day! Please come!!)
- Monday, November 11th: Veterans Day, School Closed
- Tuesday, November 12th: Mayor Feed the Hungry Food Drive Begins
- Friday, November 22nd: Grandparents and Special Friends Day
Thank you:

The Haspel Family for healthy snack the week of September 3rd
The Pallegar Family for healthy snack this week of September 9th
Coach Taylor for his addition of our small basketball hoop

The Jackson family for healthy snack during the week of October 14th.
The Kinsella family for healthy snack this week.
Natalia for her gardening help last week.
Charlotte for help with our craft preparation.

Nest Notes Pictures

Painting at our easel
Making play dough
Working with our geometric shapes puzzle
Working with the Black Cat Collage
Working with our Jack O Lantern craft
Zero ground matching objects