

## Special Events

Good Beginnings School offers an excellent balance between work and play. We believe that meaningful activity in all areas is essential to a well-balanced person. In addition to a strong academic program, we utilize a theme-based curriculum to further enhance and brighten our days. We will use the current theme being executed to plan any field trips or arrange for a monthly in-house guest. Every month there is usually something going on in our school! We have had puppet shows, music programs, clowns, and dramatically interactive storytellers, farm animals, reptiles, bugs and other creepy crawlers, magic shows, circus performers, just to name a few!

### In September

- While celebrating Johnny Appleseed's birthday. Kindergarten traditionally visits a local pick-your-own apple orchard, and Junior Kindergarten explores apples at the Heritage Farm Museum!

### In October

- It's usually Picture Day time!
- We learn about fire safety. We usually have a visit from our firefighters along with their fire engines.
- We also try to make sure to visit a local pumpkin patch for loads of fun!
- At the end of the month we'll parade around the school in costume and happily accept treats in our trick-or-treat bags! Then we all head to the gym for a Halloween Festival!

### In November

- We have a scrumptious pumpkin pie or apple pie snack together with our parents, family or friends.
- We set up a Thanksgiving Basket in the front of the school for families to share with others in need. After two weeks, all donations in the way of non-perishable goods are given to a local charity where distribution is made to working poor families or families with medical problems, or immigrant families who need help.
- We usually host a scholastic book fair the first week of November.

### In December

- We set up a "giving tree" in our foyer. This is important to us because it helps us to focus on helping others in need. Over the years we have had a bake sale for the children in Afghanistan, we have sent help to hurricane or earthquake victims in Turkey, Mexico and Taiwan, we have provided toys and warm clothing to orphans, we have helped the homeless in DC, we participated in sending donations to families affected by the 911 tragedies, etc.
- Mid-month we have a whole school holiday performance and classroom book exchange. Sometimes, if we're lucky we will also have a visit from Santa!

### In January

- We come back to school with renewed resolutions and look for ways to celebrate winter!
- We usually run a school wide competition to see which class can collect the most General Mills sponsored Box Tops. The winning class gets a special ice cream sundae party!

### In February

- We celebrate Valentine's Day with classroom parties!
- We also participate in an annual contribution for *Pennies for Patients* to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Each classroom collects all spare change that families care to contribute for a period of two to three weeks. The class who brings in the most change wins a pizza party!

### In March

- We celebrate St. Patrick's Day with classroom parties! We try to remember to wear green!

### In April

- Usually it's Picture Day again- this time for graduation and spring.
- We have a Parent Appreciation Day. We value our parents and want them to know how much we appreciate their investment in their children and in our school.
- We have a Volunteer Awards Luncheon prepared by the faculty, to honor our many parents who have given their time in ways to help us at school!

### In May

- We set aside the first week of May for National Teacher Appreciation Week! We appreciate our teachers and want them to know how very special they are to us!
- We have a whole school Mother's Day Performance, where each class sings and we all enjoy some treats afterwards.

### In June

- We celebrate two graduation days! Our Junior Kindergarten classes have their own special graduation day program, and our Kindergarten class has their very own special graduation day! We do caps and gowns for Kindergarten, diplomas and refreshments! This is truly a "Kodak" day!
- School session ends

### July-August

- Summer Camp- For more information, please click on the program tab on the main page.