

ST. MARY'S BILINGUAL PRESCHOOL

Parent Newsletter

OCTOBER

- 10 Columbus Day, **NO SCHOOL**
- 13 Free Dress Day
Back to School Night (Parents only)
- 24-25 Teddy Bear Days
- 26 Pajama Day
- 27 Crazy Hair/Hat Day
Fire drill, 9:40am (school playground)
- 28 **NO SCHOOL**
- 31 Halloween Parade

NOVEMBER

- 1-2 Parent-Teacher Conferences, **NO SCHOOL**
- 4 Parent-Teacher Conferences (PM), **MINIMUM DAY**
- 6 Daylight Savings Time ends — **Set clocks back 1 hr!**
- 11 Veterans Day, **NO SCHOOL**
- 18 Soup Night (Family potluck)
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday, **NO SCHOOL**

OCTOBER 2016



Noreen



Nathaniel



ALL PARENTS

for your generous
contributions
towards shipping our
Chinese language
materials back
from Taiwan

**JOHN, ROBERT,
& DORA**

for your help during
the fire drill



Check out our new website!

www.stmaryspreschoolsf.org

- ◆ Preschool calendar
- ◆ Past & Current Newsletters
- ◆ Make individual appointments
- ◆ Admission information

Many thanks to Herman Ip for his technical support

Going on vacation?

Is your child sick today?

Have a general program question?

Please email: preschool@stmaryspreschoolsf.org

For all other questions or concerns, email: pjaw@stmaryspreschoolsf.org

***Note: Please do not email preschool teachers directly**



**All program change requests
must be submitted by**

December 10

to preschool@stmaryspreschoolsf.org





Daylight Savings Time ends on
Sunday, November 6!

Help your child adjust by gradually shifting his/her bedtime forward by 15-20 minutes each night until Sunday.



Join us for

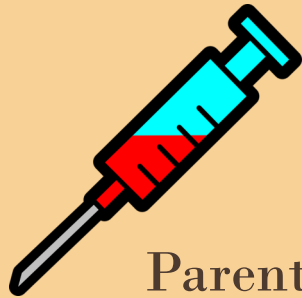
SOUP NIGHT

Friday, November 18

6:00pm

Contact Dora at wongsnl@gmail.com for details





Parent Volunteers!

California SB 792 requires that ALL preschool classroom volunteers provide documentation that they have received the following vaccinations:

- ♦ Influenza
- ♦ Pertussis
(Whooping cough)
- ♦ Measles

Please contact
Pey Jaw ASAP
for more
information.

Raising Bilingual Children

How do I foster bilingualism in my child?

Learning a language is about practice, and learning two languages is no different! Encourage your children to speak both languages as much as possible. Provide reinforcement by interacting with your child and expanding on his/her vocabulary. Involve your child in meaningful activities at home that require using language. Playdates can help too!—Children are strongly motivated to communicate with their peers.

Is it better for each parent to speak only one language?

The “one parent, one language” approach is only one out of many ways for children to become bilingual! The key is to find an approach that works for *your* family. Interact with your child in the language that feels most natural to you. Remember that your child’s abilities in the two language will shift over time, and that he/she will receive more and more English language input through school. If both parents speak a non-English language, using that language primarily at home is one way to give them lots of practice!

What if my child is mixing languages together?

Mixing languages, or code-switching, is a normal part of bilingual development. It does not mean that your child is confused—even newborn infants can tell the difference between two languages! Instead of sticking to rigid rules about speaking only one language at a time, emphasize the *communicative* goal of language, and encourage them to experiment with different words and phrases. Children need to figure out the patterns and rules that govern language. Creating opportunities for them to try things out and helping them rephrase and expand on their speech are two ways to enhance their bilingual development.

Source: ERIC Digest. (1996). *Fostering Second Language Development in Young Children*. <http://www.ericdigests.org/1996-2/second.html>

Halloween Parade



Thank you to Dora for coordinating the Halloween Parade!