



SECC 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Wow! The month of September has flown by, we have already been in school for a few weeks . It has been fun connecting with old friends and making so many new friends! We are enjoying being back in school and adjusting to the classroom routines and schedules. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you again for your generous donations to the classrooms!

The preschool classrooms have lots of exciting things planned for this month. For the month of October, the themes are Fall (weather, activities, science, etc.), Pumpkins, & Halloween. We are introducing the students to the Social Thinking Curriculum through the We Thinkers! (Incredible Flexible You) Program. Our book for this month is the Group Plan. The Group Plan book introduces the concept of understanding what it means to be part of a group. It is a fundamental social concept to develop in our early learners. It is a precursor to so many aspects of our social lives: friendships, school, career and being part of a community.

***During the last Friday of October, we will be celebrating Halloween. Look for the information to come home regarding this event from your child's teacher. The children are welcome to bring in their costumes in their backpack (teachers will assist with putting them on) and an individualized special snack from home just for your child to celebrate the holiday. (Please check with your child's teacher regarding any restrictions that may be in place due to food allergies in their room.)***

As we enter the fall season, please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. You may want to consider sending in a change of clothes (long pants, long sleeved shirt, etc.) to have in the classroom.

If you are dismissing your child early from the preschool, please wait in the lobby area for a staff member to bring your child to you. Thank you for your understanding.

We have some important dates and information listed below:

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| * <b><i>Mon October 5th</i></b>   | <b><i>Picture Day</i></b>                                   |
| * <b><i>Mon October 12th</i></b>  | <b><i>No School</i></b>                                     |
| * <b><i>Fri October 16th</i></b>  | <b><i>Townsend Fire Department Visit - Fire Safety</i></b>  |
| * <b><i>Fri October 30th</i></b>  | <b><i>Costumes in Class</i></b>                             |
| * <b><i>Tues November 3rd</i></b> | <b><i>No School (Full Professional Development Day)</i></b> |

Please know that we are available for you and it is important that you and your child's teacher communicate often. We are available through email and phone calls.

Sincerely,  
SECC Preschool Teachers

Please check out the suggestions for math, social emotional, and stem skills and activities provided below:

**Math:** <http://theelementarymathmaniac.blogspot.com/2017/10/fall-math-fun.html>



**Social Emotional Skill of the Month:** Identifying emotions

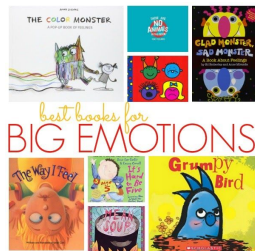
### **What is social emotional learning?**

According to [CASEL](#), social-emotional learning can be defined as: *“the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.”*

### **What can we as parents and educators do?**

Helping young children gain control of their emotions is a two-step process. First, they need to learn how to identify their emotions and then how to manage them through self regulation. Identifying and managing our own emotions as adults can be very difficult, but young children are still learning what emotions are and how to respond appropriately to everyday feelings like anger and sadness. As teachers and parents it is our job to help young children understand and identify their feelings, as well as communicate those feelings effectively to others. Age-appropriate books can be helpful tools when it comes to learning how to identify and manage big feelings and emotions. (Levin, Vanessa, [www. Pre-k pages. com](http://www.Pre-kpages.com))

<https://www.pre-kpages.com/books-emotions-preschool>



### **STEM Activities: Little Bins for Little Hands**

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/fall-activity-discovery-table-changing-leaves-trees/>

