

# Pembroke News

November 2014

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## Miss Andrea

October is ending on a very positive note! Our Annual Halloween Trick-or-Treat Open House was a huge success! We had approximately 200 trick-or-treaters and adults follow the candy corn trail to collect 2,600 pieces of candy. Elsa was the costume of choice. Treats in the Wiggle Room were delicious and beautiful. Thank you to all who shared treats and were kind enough to bring the best Pembroke Kids asset, your children. We do love all the children. Thank you for entrusting your children to our care.

**Cash or Cans** is the Name of the Game! For the past two years Pembroke Kids has participated in a "Food Fight" with businesses on Pin Oak Parkway to raise money and solicit food donations for Second Harvest Food Bank. We have been looking forward to the annual challenge, planning ways in which Pembroke Kids could surpass the 2,500 meals we donated last year. Sadly and completely unexpectedly, the event's sponsor declined to spearhead the fundraiser. After reflection, I have decided to organize a Pembroke Kids Second Harvest Food Drive for the month of November.

Here are the rules of the road:

\$1 = 5 meals

1.2 lbs. food = 1 meal

Children get excited about collecting non-perishable food. However, it is cost efficient to collect money. Here is this year's challenge:

If Pembroke Kids raises and collects 3,000 meals, Steve and I will arrange a special visit from Jungle Terry!

**Registration for 2015 – 2016** is upon us! Hard to believe, but it's true. Families have already signed up for next year! It is time to think about Kindergarten. Our very own Miss Stefanie is having a wonderful year with our Kindergarten class. Schedule a time to visit and see our age-appropriate, hands-on, dynamic Kindergarten.

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[www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids](http://www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids)

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## Miss Sue and Miss Rebecca

Fall is in full swing inside and outside of the classroom!

Thank you to everyone who supplied yummy treats for our Trick-or-Treat party! It's always so fun to see our students and families dressed in costumes. Thank you to

our moms who helped organize and run our classroom Halloween parties. We could not have done it without your help!

We have seen many signs of fall outside on our playground and on our walking trail. We have also been busy taking apart our garden for the winter months. We have had several woolly bear sightings as well.

In the classroom we did many fun things with pumpkins. We pounded golf tees into them, measured them with unifix cubes, and described them using adjectives. We voted on our favorite Halloween candy. The favorite candy in the morning and afternoon class was Nerds! We also talked about nocturnal animals. We discovered our gecko, Rainbow, is nocturnal (as well as the crickets he loves to eat).

The Mystery Can has been to many houses and has come back with interesting toys that the children have shared. Thank you for helping them with the three clues. This is a very popular part of the children's day, enabling them to speak with confidence before a group!

Realizing that our students have a big interest in emergency vehicles, we have decided to devote the next couple weeks to learning about different community helpers. On Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, we will have a visit from the Fire Department.

We are so very grateful for all our Pembroke families!

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## Miss Theresa and Miss Kathy

October seemed to fly by with the children's anticipation of Halloween beginning very early in the month! We started the month by learning about autumn and what people and animals do to prepare for winter. We also went on several nature walks to see firsthand some of the changes autumn brings. We collected leaves, flowers, seeds, crickets, grasshoppers and even a few woolly bears! The leaves, flowers and seeds were put to good use in the art center as the children created collage masterpieces! Sparkle (our class pet) was very happy with the crickets and grasshoppers. The woolly bears were released back into nature. The children also enjoyed helping to get our garden ready for winter by pulling out the plants. This activity fostered lots of teamwork, language, and problem-solving. It is nice to see the children enjoy nature!

Amidst all the talk of what they wanted to be for Halloween we snuck in lots learning. We had many discussions during our stories about pretend versus real and how we could tell the difference. We also worked on our social skills as we discussed how the characters in the stories felt. The children seemed to enjoy all of the hands-on math, literacy, science, and fine motor activities with the Halloween theme. One of their favorite activities was pounding golf tees into real pumpkins. Then they tried to get them out, only to pound them back in again! While doing this activity, the children worked on their cooperation, problem-solving and fine motor skills.

Looking Ahead: Upcoming themes will be Community Helpers and Being Thankful. The Fire and Police Departments visit Pembroke during our Community Helpers unit.

Volunteer Opportunities: If you would like to read a story to the class at the end of the day (11:45 am) please sign the sheet on the white board outside the classroom. We are also looking for volunteers to help in the classroom with small group activities (9:00 am – 9:30 am). We will provide the activity - it may be an art project, a learning game, etc.

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## **Miss Carrie and Miss Kelly**

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October has been a time of adjustment, connection and the wonderful exploration of individual identity. We are so pleased that the children are settling into their daily schedule and creating friendships with their classmates. The growth we have seen in such a short period of time has allowed them to relax and enjoy their new environment and surroundings.

The themes we have explored during the month of October include "Our Senses," "Fall," and "Farms." The children have been busy exploring the activity centers in the classroom, which encourages them to make true connections with the outside world. It is refreshing to "see" and discover the world as the children reflect their thoughts during morning circle.

As the children are steadily becoming preschoolers, we have also discovered they are starting to feel more comfortable sharing experiences. Colors and shapes have been integrated into our daily play. We have found that the children request these activities and find that it encourages learning as well as fun.

In closing, we would like to thank all of the parents that have been so generous to offer their time to volunteer in our classroom. We would also like to state how grateful we are for the opportunity to share in such an important time of your children's lives.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email us.

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## **Miss Molly - Mixed Age**

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October was busy! The students are mastering the morning routine and will persist as the year continues. They feel proud to know what to do when they come in each morning.

In October, students were introduced to journaling as a class. In November, the students will begin to journal on their own. This consists of creating a picture and writing the words and/or letters to match the picture they drew.

We also learned about many shapes, fruits and vegetables, and fall throughout October. In November, we will transfer our theme from Farmer's Market and Shapes, to the "olden days." We will have an opportunity to learn about the types of transportation, houses, jobs, and things associated with the "olden days" according to the students' interest. Additionally, we will discuss Thanksgiving and what it means to be thankful.

Our class loves to sing! In fact, the song helper is our top "class job." Currently, the popular song choices are: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star," "ABC's," "Ghostbusters," "Down by the Bay," and "Baby Baluaga."

A big thank you goes out to Shannon Ahlstrand (Liv's mom)! Our Halloween party was a huge success because of her! Also, thank you to all of the parents for all you do every day! We are thoroughly enjoying the students.

[molly@pembrokekids.com](mailto:molly@pembrokekids.com)

## **Miss Molly and Miss Carrie - Pre-K**

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Pre-K has certainly taken off! Through October, the students have learned 12 letters of the alphabet in depth, reviewed all of the letters and their sounds, numbers 1-10, shapes, and a brief introduction to patterning. We have also started journaling. In pre-K, students receive a prompt once a week about which to journal and the other days, students may choose what to journal. The students have already shown growth in their daily journals!

In November, we will continue alphabetic knowledge, patterning, and introduce the "olden days," and what that means to the students. We will also discuss Thanksgiving and what it means to be thankful.

Conversation starter of the month: What goes at the end of a sentence?

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## Miss Stefanie - Kindergarten

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What a great month in Kindergarten! We were busy learning new sight words and applying those new words to our journal writing. I am so impressed at how well the students are doing with the sight words and recalling them in their writing! In math, we have been working on sorting, addition, and ten frames. We will continue to work on these skills and also begin working on simple subtraction problems.

In November, we will be doing a short unit on Community Helpers and have a visit from the Avon Lake Fire Department on November 12. We will also be talking about things we are thankful for and incorporating that theme into our writing and reading.

I will be having Parent/Teacher Conferences in the coming weeks to discuss your child's progress. I will be contacting you directly to set up a time to meet.

There is a sign-up sheet on the dry erase board outside of the classroom if you would be interested in coming into the class to "Share A Story."

A huge THANK YOU to Heather Eadeh (Illeana's mom) and Marcy Spanos (Gia's mom) for planning an awesome Halloween Party! What a great way to end the month! I am very appreciative to all who helped make a great party for the kids.

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### Literacy Night - Tuesday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, 5 - 6:30 pm

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Our first Literacy Night was a big success last year and we have decided to carry on the tradition! The purpose of this evening is for parents to learn more about our curriculum and the methods we use to develop the pre-reading, reading, and writing skills of our students.

Each of our five classrooms will have hands-on activities you can explore with your children.

This is a fun event for the whole family!

### Thanksgiving Break - Nov. 26 - 28<sup>th</sup>

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Pembroke will be closed starting Wednesday, Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving break. School will resume on Monday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Holiday Traditions - Dec. 8 - 18<sup>th</sup>

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December is a month filled with many types of holiday celebrations and traditions. In our classrooms, we will be talking about different holiday celebrations around the world.

During this holiday season, we invite you to share one of your family traditions with your child's class. This can be in the form of food (eg., making potato latkes or decorating cookies), making gingerbread houses out of graham crackers, singing carols, making holiday decorations, or reading a favorite story.

We will be posting sign-up sheets outside your child's classroom soon if you would like to participate.

### Holiday Concert - Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - 11:30 am

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Our Kindergarten and Preschool students are busy practicing for our second annual Holiday Concert on Wednesday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>. If your child does not attend school on Wednesday, they may still participate. We will be sending home more information as we get closer to the date. Due to limited space, this event is for parents only.

Our Young 3's class will have a special program in their classroom on either Monday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, or Tuesday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Pembroke Store is open!

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Have you had a chance to browse through the logo wear in our Pembroke Store? It's located in the hallway around the corner from the office. We carry special Hobbes Logo T-shirts for students in an array of colors. With cooler weather just around the corner, a long-sleeved tee shirt, fleece vest, or jacket is just the thing to keep us warm. We also carry adult sizes. We will be placing an order before the holidays, so be sure to take a look!

### Inclement Weather School Closing

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It won't be long before the snowflakes fly and cold weather is upon us. Pembroke's school closing policy follows the Avon Lake Public Schools. If the Avon Lake Public Schools are closed, Pembroke will also be closed. There are many sources you can use to find out this information. Besides TV, we will post school closings on our website, [www.pembrokekids.com](http://www.pembrokekids.com), and Facebook [www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids](http://www.Facebook.com/pembroke.kids) by 7 AM. You can also call the school office (440-933-3782). We will change our main greeting by 7 AM.

### Box Tops for Education

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We continue to collect Box Tops for Education emblems. Simply clip the Box Tops emblem found on hundreds of products and bring them into your child's classroom. You can also earn eBox Tops for our school. Before you shop on line, check out [BTF.com/marketplace](http://BTF.com/marketplace).

Thank you for your participation. We just turned in over 1,320 box tops!

## Labels for Education

We are also collecting Labels of Education that help schools earn educational materials. Just drop these labels in the red box outside of the office. A list of brands and products that carry these labels is listed above the box.

Giant Eagle shoppers can help earn even more labels by registering your frequent shopper card at [www.elabelsforeducation.com](http://www.elabelsforeducation.com).

## Did you know . . .

### Pembroke Offers Tutoring

To help inspire the love of learning in the new school year or minimize academic stress, Pembroke offers one-to-one and group tutoring. Tutoring is available for pre-kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Each student's program is built around their personal needs. If you know of a friend or neighbor that could benefit from our services, please tell them about our unique approach!

### . . . and Before and After School Care

Do you have to leave for work before the school day begins or do you need a safe place for your child after school? Consider Pembroke's Before and After Care Program. Designed for students in kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, we can provide a safe, supportive environment guided by experienced teachers. We also offer limited before and after care for preschoolers. Call the office for more information.

### School Absences

We appreciate a phone call when your child is absent due to illness or other reasons. Please call the office (440-933-3782) as soon as you know your child will not be attending school.

### Dates to Remember

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|---------------|----------------------------|
| • Nov. 11     | Literacy Night 5 – 6:30 PM |
| • Nov. 26     | Thanksgiving break starts  |
| • Dec. 1      | School resumes             |
| • Dec. 8 – 18 | Holiday Traditions         |
| • Dec. 17     | Holiday Concert – 11:30 AM |
| • Dec. 20     | Noon dismissal for ALL     |
| • Dec. 22     | Winter break begins        |
| • Jan. 5      | School resumes             |

Keep up to date with school activities by checking our school calendar in the Parent section of our website: [www.pembrokekids.com](http://www.pembrokekids.com)

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## I am thankful for . . .



. . . hearts - Gabby



. . . my mom and my friends - Ryan



. . . my mom - Amelia



. . . dad giving me a basketball shirt – Lily

## Happy Thanksgiving!