



# OCTOBER 2011

Look What's Up at Grace Building Blocks This Month

Grace Building Blocks, 2255 SE 38th Street, Ocala, FL 34480 352-629-GLAD (4523)



## Inviting all **DADS!**

### &/or GRANDPAS!

Your children are VERY EXCITED when Mom or Dad or Grandparents are able to attend school with them.

THANK YOU to Dads or Grandpas for signing up for ONE day to come at DROP OFF TIME and stay 30-40 minutes. If you have not already signed up, there is still time!

In the morning, we will have coffee and donuts for you (not your child) in the SonRoom. For afternoon families, we have cookies and lemonade or tea in the courtyard. Your child will go directly to their classroom to get ready. **Then you will join them for Circle time and a special project with Dad's help!!**

**Please plan to come! If you have not already done so please SIGN UP.** Tues/Wed/Thurs~ Oct 18-20

Moms—You can look forward to a VERY SPECIAL event in May!

*Also coming up... Family*

**Thanksgiving Days** in November  
Thurs-Tues—Nov. 17-22

**NO SCHOOL on FRIDAY**  
**October 28th**  
**Marion County Teacher Workday**

## FIELD TRIPS ~ What FUN!

At GBB, we try to plan field trips during the year. Here are some scheduled for the fall:

**Littles/Middles**— a trip to the **PUMPKIN PATCH!** *We will be leaving GBB for a reserved story time of 10:30 a.m. or 11:00 a.m. on THURSDAY, Oct. 27th. You may also buy pumpkins, take pictures and enjoy the fresh air together!*

**PreK**—Visiting the local **FIRE STATION**  
*Morning students go on Thursday, November 3—leave GBB between 10:10—10:15 a.m.*  
*Afternoon students go on Friday, November 4—leave GBB at 1:45 p.m.*

**Kindergarten & Elementary**—*Monday, Nov. 14th* Field trip to "Kid Power" at MTI, Ocala

*Please remember that GBB cannot transport children.*

Grace Building Blocks does NOT CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN. We have many fun pumpkin & fall activities, but please do not send in any jack-o-lanterns or ghosts. THANKS so much!!

## OCTOBER Weekly Themes

**Ms. P—Pets**  
**Learning about Literature**  
**Mr. D ~ Dad's Week**  
**Fall Centers**



### Bible Events this month:

**Noah's Ark** pgs. 24-30  
**Abraham** pgs. 34-40  
**Jacob & Esau** pgs. 48-57

"The New Bible in Pictures for Little Eyes" books are now available for just \$12 from the GBB office. Pick yours up and enjoy these remarkable stories together!

### October MATH—"One to one correspondence"

This is when a child COUNTS items and matches it to the WRITTEN NUMBER. We will be counting pumpkins, leaves, acorns and other things from nature. Look for your new FAMILY MATH GAME to be sent home in cubbies at the end of this month.

### LEARNING ABOUT LITERATURE

Your preschool child is learning about author, illustrator, cover and title page. They will illustrate their own book cover and participate in dramatic play. Literature and reading help children use imagination, develop problem solving skills, make predictions and other math skills. Our goal is to learn through reading and creative play.



COOL WEATHER IS HERE...

**PLEASE LABEL JACKETS AND SWEATERS with CHILD'S NAME!**

Simply write on the tag with a dark, permanent marker, or put a piece of tape on the label with the child's name.

Thank you!

### Moms, Muffins & More

Each Wednesday morning at 9:00—10:30 a.m. all MOMS (& caregivers and grandmothers) are welcome to attend the Bible study held in Fellowship Hall.

Childcare is provided for younger children. Snacks, friendship, and wisdom from God's word are available! Call the office if you have questions, or just arrive at 9:00 a.m. any Wednesday!

## Library Notes:

*from Mrs. Janice*



### Do you know who "MR. WIGGLES" is?

The children who have returned permission slips for Library have been read a special book called "MR. WIGGLES" which teaches children how to care for their library books. Mrs. Janice has taken small groups of children to the library where they have gone over good library manners and rules. Everyone with a signed permission slip has made their first library visit already! Please return all books to the library box inside our GBB door.

The children are enjoying this special opportunity, and we count on you to help them take GOOD CARE of the library books. It is now time for all books to be returned!

## October Birthdays:



Oct 8	Esther D.	Oct 24	Makenzie H.
Oct 9	Anthony D.	Oct 24	Drayke N.
Oct 17	Cameron C.	Oct 27	Hayden S.
Oct 19	Giselle B.	Oct 27	Ryan W.
Oct 19	Caleb H.	Oct 28	A.J.
Oct. 19	Brooke H.	Oct 28	Audrey S.
		Oct. 30	Morgan R.

**Small muffins or other simple snacks are great for birthday treats.**

**Preschool should bring enough for 10.**

**Kindergarten & Grades 1&2 should bring 12.**

# GPC FALL FESTIVAL—6:00~8:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, October 26th all GBB Families and Friends are welcome to attend the Annual Fall Festival sponsored by Grace Presbyterian Church.



Outdoors activities include: 4-in-1 combo playhouse, classic bounce house for the little ones, giant slide, basketball toss, snow cone machine, and MORE!!

There is **NO CHARGE** for this event—however donations of wrapped candy in bags will be gladly accepted at church or school office.

Hot dogs and snacks will be available for purchase at the Fall Festival.

**You and your family are cordially invited.**

**Costumes are welcome, but NOTHING SCARY—no witches, ghosts or vampires, etc.**

# MPACT

EACH WEDNESDAY, all GBB Families are invited to FREE DINNER and classes for all ages called **MPACT!** Come around 5:00—6:00 p.m. for FREE DINNER followed by nursery and children's classes with music, lesson and crafts. Great adult classes are offered for parents—taught by Mr. Wes King or Ms. Sherrill Taylor (ladies only please)

**SIGN UP FOR DINNER no later than MONDAY of that week.**  
See the GBB office or email **BY MONDAY** to [staff@gbbocala.com](mailto:staff@gbbocala.com).

## BUSY HANDS ~ Helping or Hurting ??

Our goal at GBB is *“to build students mentally, physically, spiritually, emotionally and socially in a Christian atmosphere where students are assisted in reaching their greatest potential”* - and to do all that in 3-4 hours a day!!!

All the children at GBB have been such a delight and have learned so much already. We hope that you are hearing new songs, Bible verses, and enjoying imaginative artwork with the wonderful stories they tell!

The children are also growing **SOCIALLY** as they become great friends. Part of our job as teachers and parents is to teach children **BOUNDARIES** in their play. I want our GBB parents to know that teachers work very hard to teach about **“HELPING HANDS”**. We know that children must **LEARN** not to push or pinch or hit—and we are working very hard on this. Keep practicing with your child **“STOP PLEASE”** when someone bothers them. Remind them that teachers are there to help when their words are not enough.

We want GBB to be and safe a welcoming place for every child. If you have any questions or concerns, please **TALK WITH US** in the hall or **CALL US!!**



# Special Holiday Projects & Fundraisers:

## **FAMILY THANKSGIVING DAYS: A treat for YOUR WHOLE FAMILY!**

Your child will prepare a special treat and craft for you. It is their way of showing their thankful hearts for YOU! We will be scheduling these family snack times in November. Watch the parent table to sign up the number of family members who are able to join us. We are THANKFUL for our GBB FAMILIES!!

**Lil Angels Fashion Photography** —If you enjoy extra-special photos of your child dressed up, you may sign up soon. These fun photos make great gifts to give to grandparents and relatives! Mrs. Kim, the photographer will be here on Thursday, Nov. 10th. Lil Angels gives GBB a percentage of the sales amount as a fundraiser!

**Operation Christmas Child:** This is an EASY and age-appropriate idea for teaching your little one to care for others. GBB has a great reputation for so many families who get involved! **Information will be put in your cubbies soon with all the details.** Our GBB students always tell us how much they enjoy packing shoe boxes for children who don't have much at Christmas!!! *Completed **BOXES can be brought to GBB as soon as they are ready, but no later than NOVEMBER 18th.***



**CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISERS/GIFTS:** To help raise FUNDS for special projects at GBB (or to help with regular budget) PLEASE PARTICIPATE IN OUR FUNDRAISERS. We only do this once a year, and we offer several options that make great holiday gifts. Paperwork on all these fundraisers will be in cubbies soon...



**Cookie Dough**—Yum, yum! These are great for baking Christmas cookies or as gifts!



**Greenery**—Wreaths, roping, mailbox wraps. These are beautiful, smell so fresh and can be shipped anywhere in the USA.



**Candles**—New product called "Scentsy" - These are sure to delight you or your friends with wonderful smells and beautiful, ceramic containers.

**Please plan to participate and to help GBB!**

Last year's fundraising money went toward many playground improvements! New high-quality mulch, new bouncer & new swings. THANKS to our volunteer help ~ Mr. Bob, Mr. Frank, Jonathan C. and Jessica C. for your hard work over these past months!

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We constantly look for FUN ways to present learning, and I want to tell you about the newest LEARNING CENTERS this month.

As we study Families and Homes this month, our rooms have added new, interactive centers!

We are having such FUN!!! (oh, and your children are too!) **THANK YOU for letting us be a part of this exciting learning adventure in your child's life! Don't forget that some of the most important lifelong skills are learned through PLAY!**

*These books are available in our GBB office, if you are interested in borrowing them!*

*"The Hurried Child" & "Preschoolers at Risk" - by Dr. David Elkind, Ph.D*

*"Reclaiming Childhood" - by Dr. William Crain, Ph. D*

*"Einstein Never Used Flashcards" - by Dr. Kathy Hirsh-Pasek & Dr. Roberta Golinkoff*