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**October**

**Theme:**

Autumn and Halloween - We will be talking about the changes in our natural environment (trees, leaves, animals). As Halloween approaches, we will also discuss safety issues regarding bonfires and fireworks. Lots of artwork will be going home so don’t be too frightened of all the scary masterpieces!

**Policies and procedures:**

Can I please ask parents to sign that they have read and understood our policies .

[www.orchard-preschool.co.uk](http://www.orchard-preschool.co.uk)

**Fancy Dress Party:**

We will be having our fancy dress Halloween party on Friday 25th October.

**Parent/Teacher meetings:**

A settling in meeting for your child/ren will take place w/b 21st October, please choose a date and time (on noticeboard) that suits you best to attend.

**Birthdays:**

We would like to wish a Happy 4th Birthday to Olivia, Jaylene, Aodhan and Cillian McG.

[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=Happy+birthday&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&docid=AizseZ_dDm5-5M&tbnid=jLAy5GJgZkG7dM:&ved=0CAUQjRw&url=http://castletv.net/forums/nathan-fillion/happy-birthday-nathan/&ei=vB6aUYiUGu7w0gXzooCoCA&bvm=bv.46751780,d.d2k&psig=AFQjCNHakMslYPRxbA5NvKxwG61zq32UeQ&ust=1369141297722841)

**Closures:**

We will be closed Monday 28th October and reopen on Monday 4th of November.

**Drop off and pick up:**

Can I kindly remind parents/ carers/ childminders, that you are not permitted to park in the school grounds, the safety of our children is paramount, so it is vital that this is adhered to.

**AGM:**

You are invited to attend our Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 9th October at 7.30pm

It is very important that one family member represents their child at this meeting.

We need a committee to successfully run our pre-school and out of school club.

Can you please complete the reply slip attached and return to Briege. As always, your continued support is greatly appreciated.

**Getting Involved:**

At Orchard Pre-School we encourage parents and members of the family to take an active role within our setting. If you are willing to come along and read a Halloween story to the group, please speak to Briege. (Don’t be frightened!!)

**Rhymes**

**Pretty Leaves are Falling Down**

Sung to: "London Bridge"

Pretty leaves are falling down, falling down, falling down.  
Pretty leaves are falling down, all around the town.  
(wiggle fingers)  
Let's rake them up in a pile, in a pile, in a pile.  
Let's rake them up in a pile, all around the town.  
(make raking motions)  
Let's all jump in and have some fun,  
have some fun, have some fun.  
Let's all jump in and have some fun, all around the town.

**Have You Ever Seen a Pumpkin**

*(Tune of "Have You Ever Seen a Lassie")*

Have you ever seen a pumpkin, a pumpkin, a pumpkin,  
Have you ever seen a pumpkin, that grows on a vine?  
A round one, a tall one, a fat one, a small one.  
Have you ever seen a pumpkin, that grows on a vine?

**I'm a Little Scarecrow**

(sung to the tune of I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little scarecrow,  
*(Point to self)*  
Raggedy and worn  
*(Stand with arms out like a scarecrow)*I wear a hat,  
*(touch top of head with one hand)*And my shirt is torn  
*(touch shirt with other hand)*

When the crows fly here,  
*(flap arms)*  
I wave and shout,  
*(wave arms)*  
"Away from my Garden  
Now get out!"  
*(make 'shooing' motions with hands)*

**The Ghost Finger play**

I saw a ghost (fingers circle eyes)  
He saw me too (point to yourself)  
I waved at him (wave your hand)  
But he said, "BOO!" (try to scare person next to you)

**Sing a Song of Halloween**

(Sung to "Sing a Song of Sixpence")  
  
Sing a song of Halloween  
What a Scary night,  
Ghosts and bats and big black cats,  
Give us all a fright  
Shinning jolly Jack-O-Lanterns  
Fill our hearts with fun,  
But if the black cat comes along  
We’ll all run!