

# Bright Horizons at Spotswood News

## Spotlight Family

Hello everyone, we are the Lee Family – KJ, Kyoungsun and Sua – from East Brunswick. Sua just turned 3 years old in October, and she is busy ACTIVELY exploring the world around her; now it is all about bugs, especially fascinated by spiders and ladybugs ☺

It was a journey finding a school for Sua which started early in the year when we made visits to several different schools. Thanks to Naura who was understanding of this difficult process and offered a “Discovery Hour” and “Transition Hour” in Ms. Pooja’s Toddler class for Sua to help her feel more comfortable in a new environment. Sua was able to develop a close connection with Ms. Pooja and since then, for last 8 months, we had Sua at Bright Horizons at Spotswood - Sua is now in Ms. Kris’ class. It is grateful to know that there is a team of management staff and teachers who has a caring heart and is always looking out for the best interest of our little one. We are happy to be a part of Bright Horizons at Spotswood family.



## Bright Horizons at Spotswood

410 Main Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

(732) 251-2686 | [spotswood@brighthorizon.com](mailto:spotswood@brighthorizon.com)

## Important Dates

9/2-9/9: Food Drive

9/13: Fall Festival 4:30 – 6:00pm

Mr. Ray will preform 4:30! Dinner and activities to follow in our classroom and enrichment spaces

9/14-9/16: Parent Teacher Conferences

9/22 & 9/23: Center Closed for Thanksgiving

## Reasons to Celebrate

This month we say Happy Birthday to...

11/1 Chase S.

11/6 Jared C.

11/9 Sofie R.

11/12 Sydney D. and Ms. Melisa

11/21 Ms Margie

We welcome the following to our center...

Adien to Infants!

Valentina and Salvatore to Toddler!

Claire, Sofie and Andrea to Preschool!

# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS

## Infant

---

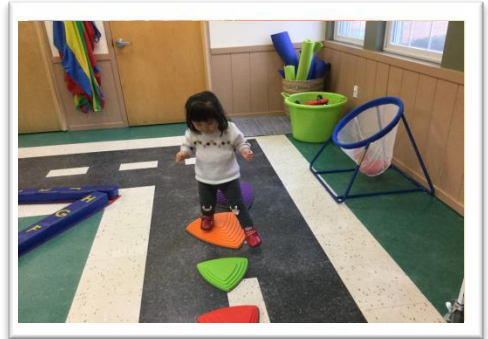
Pre-writing skills are learned in infants! By using crayons and other art materials, our infants learn to develop pincer grasp to pick up small objects. They learn this by manipulating and squeezing the items to make deliberate marks on their paper, which will later lead to skills they need to hold a pencil.



## Toddler

---

Our Movement Matters Zone helps gives each student an opportunity to access structured physical activities and to encourage all children to establish positive attitudes at an early age. Our toddler class practiced their balance skills using our stepping stones this month. They also learned color recognition by stating what color stone they were on.



## Preschool

---

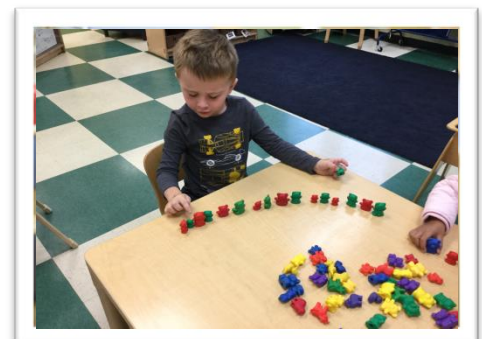
As an enrichment to our Language Works curriculum, our preschool teachers utilize Handwriting Without Tears as an introduction to letter writing. Our students learn how to write with a hands on approach by tracing letters in sand or molding letters with playdough.



## Kindergarten Prep

---

*Math Counts* offers a framework for developing the skills and abilities of young mathematicians. This month our Kindergarten Prep class has focused on creating and repeating simple patterns using counting bears.



# EDUCATION NEWS

## Learning a New Language: A Family Activity that Lasts a Lifetime

Our country is a beautiful melting pot of people from all over the world. As we know, there are many different languages spoken on earth. Being able to talk to each other is an essential path to build bridges. Also, having the ability to communicate with people who speak a different language encourages cross-cultural understandings, which opens the door to new friendships. Think about how welcome someone feels when your family smiles and says hello in their native language. Have you ever considered learning a foreign language along with your child?

Research shows that exposing young children to different languages taps into their innate ability to distinguish sounds, which enhances their growing cognitive skills. Because young children generally learn a new language more quickly than adults, your child might take the lead. There are many language learning opportunities online, from interactive exercises that teach language to watching YouTube videos. Some are even free, while others require purchasing a program. Two recommended websites:

### **Duolingo**

[www.duolingo.com](http://www.duolingo.com) offers interactive lessons in Spanish, French, Italian, German and Portuguese.

### **Mamma Lisa's World of Children and International Culture**

[www.mamalisa.com](http://www.mamalisa.com) offers poems, songs, rhymes and traditions from around the world, in over 57 languages.

As you begin learning a language together, you might delve into the culture of the countries where the language is spoken, pick up children's books in that language or prepare a traditional recipe from that country.

Everything we do as a family builds a stronger, more caring, cohesive unit. Practicing a new language broadens our view of the world. It's fun and can be done anywhere: while taking walks, commuting, playing a game, listening to music, dancing, dining, reading bilingual books, and watching a movie.



# BRIGHT HORIZONS NEWS

## Thanksgiving Prep - Tips for Involving Kids

---



- 1) Make the cranberry sauce with the kids the weekend before Thanksgiving. It will keep and it allows you to include the children in the cooking process.
- 2) Have the kids make place cards together. Give them index cards, markers, crayons and stickers. Older children can write the names, inventive spelling and all, while younger children can decorate with stickers.
- 3) Try to find the easiest Thanksgiving worthy appetizers you can that the children can help prep by counting crackers, opening jars, and arranging plates.
- 4) Ask them to be taste testers and enjoy your Thanksgiving meal!

## Podcasts for Parents on the Go

---

Did you know that Bright Horizons has a podcast? Navigate your parenting journey with our podcast series created with working parents in mind.

Tune into our podcast, ***The Work-Life Equation***, to hear about parenting, caregiving, and balancing work with everyday life. Whether you're a working or stay-at-home parent, you're likely always on-the-go. But throughout the daily hustle and bustle, you have questions, concerns, and simply need support.

Our parenting and education experts are here to help you navigate the parenting journey with an "on-the-go" podcast you can listen to when convenient for you.

Browse our episode selection at [brighthorizons.com/family-resources/podcasts](http://brighthorizons.com/family-resources/podcasts)



Check out all the places you can connect with us!