

# Bright Horizons at USAA Child Development Center

## November Birthdays!

Look who's turning **ONE!**

Olivia  
Aurora  
Anthony

I'm turning **TWO!**

Alexander  
Emma  
Noah  
Joshua  
Mateo  
Eleanor

I'm turning **THREE!**

Mackenzie  
Liam  
Edward

I'm turning **FOUR!**

Paloma      Alijah  
Mariah      Lucas  
Amara      Clara  
Mithaniel

I'm turning **FIVE!**

Jeremiah      Harper  
Jennifer      Emma  
Karthikeya

## Important Dates

### November 12

Veteran's Day Observed  
(school age care offered)  
*Reservations at the front desk.  
\$40/day*

### November 15

Family Feast  
(during all classroom lunches)  
*The administrative team will take this  
day to honor and serve our families a  
full course traditional holiday meal.*

### November 19-23

School age care offered for  
Thanksgiving Break  
*Reservations at the front desk  
\$40/day*

### November 22

Center Closed Thanksgiving Day

### November 26-30

Scholastic Book Fair  
*Theme: Enchanted Forest*

### November 29

Clifford Day (4:30 pm-6:30 pm)  
*Clifford will be at the center  
during this time to take pictures  
and visit with the children!*

## Bright Horizons at USAA Child Development Center

4800 USAA Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78240

210-694-4121 | [usaatxdir@brighthorizons.com](mailto:usaatxdir@brighthorizons.com)

Monday-Friday 6:30 am-6:30 pm



# CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS



## Infant

Throughout the month of November our infant teachers will be exposing our infants to various areas of our curriculum. Classroom A1 will be focusing on *Toward a Better World*. This part of our curriculum encourages our infants to gain awareness of themselves and others. These concepts will be promoted by planning diverse and enriched meaningful experiences that promote creativity and foster our families' cultural values. Classroom A2 will be focusing on *Language Works*. The teachers are going to be fostering the infant's language skills through learning simple signing and participating in the give-and-take of communication. This will be done by asking open ended questions and engaging in conversations. Classroom A3 is going to be focusing on *Toward a Better World* by engaging their classroom families in a World at Home Project of making a cornucopia of their family photos and what they are thankful for. Classroom A4 is going to be focusing on *Science Rocks* through fine motor and sensory experiences that will promote problem solving. An experience the classroom will be planning is a sensory board. Classroom A5 will focus on *Language Works* by teaching sign language at lunch and bottle feedings as well as reading books. They will also be working on *Well Aware* to increase the infant/toddlers movement and body awareness. They will be using the movement matters room to encourage crawling, walking and exercising. Last but not least Classroom A6 will be focusing on *Art Smart*. They will be guiding the infants through artistic experiences that will allow them to paint with their hands and feet. These experiences will encourage our infants to develop small muscle skills as they paint with brushes and explore various textures and paints.



## Toddler

Toddlers and Two's will be doing a variety of things in the month of November. A8 and A9 will be celebrating Harvest/Family Traditions. Some of their activities will be creating a family recipe book and having the families decorate a pumpkin and sending a family picture as World at Home projects (Toward a Better World). B10 and B11 will be celebrating Family Traditions and Harvest. They will be having a classroom pot luck and creating a classroom recipe book by asking each family to bring in a special recipe for the book.

A10 will be celebrating the Fall season and Harvest. The children will be painting with their feet by walking on butcher paper to create a road. The children will be making sensory bottles by filling the bottles with Fall inspired items. The children will also be exploring with a Fall Inspired Folder Game by sorting and using classification skills (Math Counts, Art Smart). A11 will be continuing with the season of Fall and adding counting to their lesson plans. The children will be exploring leaves by counting and sorting them by colors. The children will make Fall inspired sensory bags by filling them with fall items and materials (Math Counts). A13 will be celebrating Harvest and all that it represents. They will use materials and objects that represent Fall such as Corn, Sunflowers, pumpkins, and creating Cornucopias (Art Smart). A12 will be exploring the theme On the Farm. The children will be exploring apples as they count them, classify them, and make applesauce (Well Aware, Science, Math). A14 will be continuing with the season of Fall but they will incorporate weather changes and how we dress for this season by teaching the children how to put on their jackets by themselves and talking about cold weather. (Science, Math Counts).



## Preschool

This month Preschool will be enhancing their skills with Numbers & Counting. We will learn to recognize and write numbers 1-10. The children will also practice sorting, matching, and identifying patterns. The children will incorporate Fall recipes such as pumpkin pie, muffins, and cookies to allow them to learn measurements. Some activities Include: Number Rocket, The Apple Tree Count, Snack Math, Pom Pom Patterns.

## Kindergarten Prep

This month Kindergarten Prep will be talking with the children about Giving Thanks and the Harvest Time. The children will enhance their social emotional skills as they learn to demonstrate compassion for the things around them as they talk about what they are thankful for. They will continue to build on their vocabulary as they learn new Spanish and Sign Language like Friend, Turkey, and Fall. Some activities include: Thankful Tree, Hide your Turkeys, Leaf Exploration

# 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

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- 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

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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!