



NOVEMBER

NEWSLETTER

A Note from the Director

Dear Parents,

During this special season of Thanksgiving, I want to take a moment to express my thanks for the opportunity to serve on the GEM staff with the wonderful team of teachers and support staff God has placed in this ministry. It is our privilege to partner with each of you teaching and nurturing your precious children. I am blessed to work in a job I truly love!

Thank you to each parent who was able to attend Open House. We appreciate your time and value the relationships we can build in order to partner most effectively with you teaching and nurturing your children. Thanks to all the families who contributed items and gift cards for the class baskets that were auctioned off at Open House. Thanks also to everyone who bid on items and won! It was great to visit with families at Open House and provide families with an opportunity to visit classrooms and interact with GEM staff. The total raised from the auction is \$11,712. These funds will go towards an additional outdoor play area and/or expanding our supplies and resources for our students and staff. Thanks so much for your support!

At GEM classes will have a feast to celebrate Thanksgiving. Read your child's class newsletter and check the class BAND app for details. One of our goals is to encourage our students to develop hearts of gratitude and thankfulness for all God has given us. We are encouraging GEM students to talk about the people and things they are thankful for. In addition, we want our students to have opportunities to learn to give to those who may be less fortunate and in so doing share God's love with others. With this in mind, we have an opportunity to provide items for children in our community.

We are collecting new pajamas and books for children to donate to the Children's Advocacy Center of Collin County. Donations may be turned in through Friday, December 15th.

Every class enjoys at least 25 minutes of daily outdoor play. Childcare licensing recognizes the importance of regularly planned large motor activities throughout the school day; and as a licensed childcare center we adhere to their standards. In addition to playground time, all students participate in P.E. and Music & Movement for at least 20 minutes per school week as well as daily music and movement activities utilized during circle time and class transitions. In all, students have opportunities to engage in large motor activities added to their schedule. Outdoor play extends opportunities for large muscle development, social-emotional development, and small muscle development by offering variety, challenge, and complexity in ways that are not attainable in confined indoor space.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your child and their experience at GEM.

Wishing you Thanksgiving Blessings!

Diana Abbott



"Give thanks
to the Lord,
for he is
good; his love
endures
forever."
Psalm 107:1



Please
and
thank
you

YEAR-END GIVING

For your year-end giving, would you help us reach our \$25,000 fundraising goal? If you'd like to give a gift to GEM, please scan the QR code below. Don't forget to ask your company if they do gift matching. Thank you!

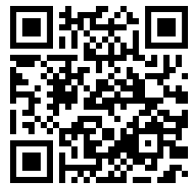


RaiseRight™

Simply the right way to fundraise

Support GEM as you plan ahead for the holidays. Stock up on gift cards to do your holiday shopping and to give as gifts. **The deadline to order to ensure delivery before Christmas is Friday, December 1st!**

If you're not using Raise Right yet, sign up today! Scan the QR code or download the Raise Right app and use enrollment code **2F3AL97C43612**.



\$25 GIFT CARD WINNER!

Congratulations Lisa Cooper for winning a \$25 gift card with our Raise Right contest!



WE'RE A BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION™ SCHOOL!

For over 25 years, Box Tops for Education has given nearly \$1 billion to schools nationwide, 10 cents at a time. Every kid deserves a chance to reach their full potential, and Box Tops can help us close the funding gaps in our school.

Scan the code to download the Box Tops app and start earning for our school today!



BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS



SCAN YOUR RECEIPT



EARN CASH FOR YOUR SCHOOL

LEARN MORE AT BTFE.COM

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

11/5
Sharee Sanders

11/7
Jessica Alvarez

11/8
Chloe Bisbee

VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Make plans to attend our special Veterans Day Celebration on either **Thursday 11/9** or **Friday 11/10** (whichever day your GEM student attends).

Coffee & donuts will be provided for Veterans and their families between 8:50am and 9:10am. All GEM families are invited to come and hear a fun musical Veterans Day tribute performed by GEM students at 9:15am each morning.

If you are a Veteran and plan to attend GEM's Veterans Day celebration, please scan the QR code and complete the requested information by Wednesday, November 8th.



THANK YOU!

Opportunity to Give Pajamas and Books

We are collecting new pajamas and books for preschool aged children through Friday, December 15th. We will be donating them to Children's Advocacy Center of Collin County. This a great opportunity to show God's love through giving.



SAFETY · HEALING · JUSTICE



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER OF COLLIN COUNTY

Grace Kids CORNER

A Not So Silent Night registration is open!

We're also doing another Mom's Coffee Meet Up at Cream and Sugar on Friday, November 17th from 9 to 10:30am.



Stephanie Connon
Children's Director
stephanie@grace-efc.org

gemexpress.org

2005 Estates Pkwy
Lucas, TX 75002

972-727-0071

diana@grace-efc.org



NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
				VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION WEAR RED, WHITE & BLUE OR CAMO		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	NO SCHOOL - THANKSGIVING BREAK					
26	27	28	29	30		