

# St. James Early Learning Center

## NEWSLETTER

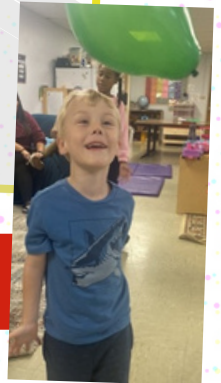
November 2024

### Important Dates

- Nov. 3 | Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov. 4-8 | Parent-Teacher Fall Conferences Week 🧑🏫
- Nov. 4 | Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. Begins
- Nov. 5 | Election Day
- Nov. 7 | Giving Spree Event
- Nov. 20 | SJELC Thanksgiving Dinner 5:30-7:00PM
- **Nov. 28-29 | ST. JAMES ELC CLOSED!** 🛒
- Nov. 8 & Nov. 27-Dec 2 | No School For GASD
- December SJELC CLOSINGS | Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31-Jan. 1

### What's In This Month's Issue?

- Important Dates
- Center Happenings
- C.A.R.E.S.
- Fall Conferences
- Adams County Giving Spree
- Thanksgiving Dinner/Closings
- Flu Shots
- CCW Updates



## CENTER HAPPENINGS

### Fall Weather Clothing/Cleaning 🍂

Fall is in the air! Our goal is to go outside daily. Please make sure your child has appropriate outdoor clothing and an extra set of clothes for their bins. The weather will gradually get cooler and dreary as Fall continues! Children may also bring in a light jacket to keep in their cubbies if ever needed. Also, please make sure your child has shoes that are appropriate for walking, running, and climbing. We recommend sneakers or crocs.

### Fever/Sick Policy 🤒

With Fall and changing weather; along comes seasonal germs! Children with a fever (100.4) or other illness that requires time away from school, may return when they have been symptom/fever-FREE for 24 hours withOUT symptom/fever-reducing medication (Tylenol & Motrin). If your child comes to school and begins showing reoccurring symptoms halfway through the day, you will be called to pick up your child again and will have to restart the 24-hour period. Please take care in making sure your child is healthy and can function in day-to-day activities before returning them back to school, to help keep everyone healthy and functioning at their best! Giving your child medication to get through the day, does not keep children (or staff) healthy, it only allows them to spread more germs putting everyone at risk. Keep in mind; when we don't have staff, you don't have childcare.

### Center Wide Breakfast 🍳

Breakfast is served every morning from 6:30-8:00 A.M. If you would like your child to eat breakfast at school, please have them here before 8:00 A.M., so they have an opportunity to eat before breakfast is put away for the day. We also ask that parents do not bring in additional breakfast or alternative breakfast items. As a center, we provide a variety of foods that are part of our food program options. If you prefer that your child eats items that you provide, please make sure they eat their breakfast before being dropped off in their classrooms.

### Wednesday's 🚗

Youth Group continues and ends at 5:00 P.M. - as you know, this shakes up our parking availability around 4:45-5:15 on Wednesday evenings as children are being picked up. Please be patient with other families and plan accordingly.

**Parking Reminder** to all families that St. James ELC parking with larger vehicles - please park at the top of the lot closer to the road so other vehicles can still get through. We are not responsible for tickets, tows, etc. if you are parking elsewhere.




## C.A.R.E.S.

Gettysburg C.A.R.E.S. (Combined Area Resources for Emergency Shelter) will be starting on November 4th. They will be staying on the 3rd floor of the church in the evenings, and having a morning meal in our youth house. They should be off the premises by 7-7:30 and not returning until 6 p.m. We ask that you **DO NOT** let people into the childcare center that you do not know! If you are unsure of someone at the door, please tell them you will get someone to assist them and find an administrator to let them know someone is at the door. It could be a family member or it could be someone confused on where they should go for assistance. We can help direct them. Thank you for understanding!



## Fall Parent-Teacher Conferences

**Save the dates!** November 4-8 is our center-wide parent-teacher conference week! Conferences typically last 15 minutes between 9:00AM-1:00PM on the day of your child's classroom's conference day. Keep an eye out for sign-up sheets in front of each classroom! If you are not able to meet with the teachers in person on their given conference day, we do offer over-the-phone conferences as well! 



## Adams County Giving Spree

**What is the Giving Spree?** The giving spree is an annual day of giving where everyone in the community comes together to learn about local nonprofits and is encouraged to make a difference in supporting them by monetary donations. The Community Foundation operates the Giving Spree as a gift to Adams County: no fees are charged to participating nonprofits and there is no fee taken from donations. In fact, all contributions received during the Giving Spree will have an incentive match based on the amount they raise.

**Who can donate, and how do you donate?** Everyone can donate! Please consider visiting one of these five locations to place a donation on November 7th from 1:00-5:00PM: The Gettysburg Times, Biglerville Library, East Berlin Library, Littlestown Thunderbolt Stadium, or the New Oxford H.A.R.T. Center. **OR** Donate online from 12:00AM-11:59PM at [ACCFGivingSpree.org](https://www.ACCFGivingSpree.org) on November 7th only! Donors can make a gift by check, credit card, stock, qualified charitable distribution from an IRA or a grant from a private foundation or donor-advised fund.

Donate by mail: When completing the Giving Spree Donation Form, donors can:

- GIVE TODAY and support the St. James ELC with an immediate gift,
- GIVE FOREVER and earmark your Giving Spree gift to a permanent endowment, which will support the St. James ELC year after year. Forever gifts are invested by the Community Foundation and each year 4.5% of the permanent endowment will be sent to the nonprofit selected by the donor. **To give to St. James ELC, please designate funds to #99.**

**Why St. James Early Learning Center?** St. James Lutheran Church Early Learning Center is an integral part of our Adams County community! We understand the importance of childcare for working parents and that children need a safe, structured environment to learn and grow in their most prominent years! All contributions to SJELC will go towards our scholarship program, and the replacement of classroom equipment and materials for all of our little friends to enjoy!

**Giving Spree**

November 7, 2024

[ACCFGivingSpree.org](https://www.ACCFGivingSpree.org)

#99

# Thanksgiving Dinner/Closings



St. James Early Learning Center will be hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner Night for all of our families within our program! Avoid the stress of dinner planning and join us on Wednesday November 20th, from 5:30-7:00PM for a yummy thanksgiving meal! We will provide the turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy. Add to our feast by bringing a side dish or dessert to share! Sign-up sheets will be located in front of each classroom - next to the sign in/out sheets in the next week or so.

St. James will be **CLOSED** on Nov. 28-29 for the holiday.



## Flu Shots



All children aged 6 months to 6 years are required to have an updated flu vaccination. Please schedule your child's appointment and provide the ELC office with their immunization records. If you do not wish to have your child vaccinated, please complete an exemption form located outside the office.

## THANK YOU FOR VOTING FOR US

ST. JAMES  
Early  
Learning  
Center



## CCW (Child Care Works)



As we all have come to realize, the cost of living has increased tremendously and has not shown any mercy as of yet. With that being said, we understand the cost of childcare is just as important as any of our other bills we have to pay - just so working families can continue to work and provide for their families.

CCW (Child Care Works) is a subsidized childcare assistance program designed to help low & middle -income families who need childcare. We would like to make all of our families aware that CCW has improved their guidelines on what incomes qualify for assistance, in the hopes of helping more of our "middle-class" families!

If you think your family may qualify for it, please look into these new guidelines and try applying! 😊 Every little bit helps. Visit the Compass website, copy and paste the link below:

<https://www.compass.dhs.pa.gov/home/#/>

