

Y-KIDS' Club Family Newsletter November 2008

Welcome Fall!

In everyone's life, at some time, our inner fire goes out. It is then burst into flame by an encounter with another human being. We should all be thankful for those people who rekindle the inner spirit.

Albert Schweitzer

Gratefulness

Instilling an attitude of thankfulness into your children is a priceless gift that only you can give the world.

The first step to do this is to practice gratefulness in your every day living. Your child will see your example and follow in your footsteps.

Try these family activities:

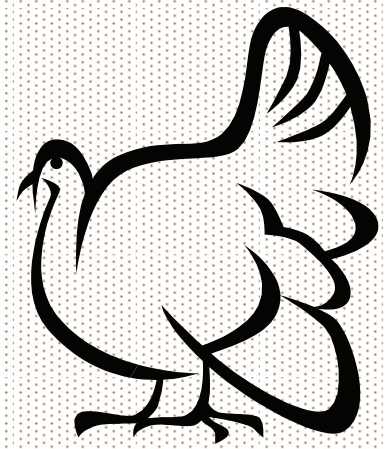
- Practice saying *please* and *thank you* for everything! Try making a game out of it and see if you can catch each other not saying please and thanks.
- During meal times celebrate things you are thankful for by having every family member share 3 things they are thankful for.
- Thank You Notes—Be intentional about writing thank you notes after receiving gifts and to others who do nice things for your child or your family.
- Practice giving. The holiday season is a great time to make giving a habit. Go through closets and donate used clothing to those who need it or volunteer at the community food bank as a family.

Help show your child the surprising thing that happens when you give—you receive joy from giving!



Have a wonderful November!

Alana Murphy



Important Dates:

- October 24—RSVPs due for Oct. 30 Early Dismissal & Oct. 31 Full Day
Nov. 6 Full Day, Nov. 7 Full Day
- October 30—12:30pm Dismissal
- October 31—Full Day at the Y
- November 6—Full Day at the Y
- November 7—Full Day at the Y
- November 26-28—Thanksgiving Break! No Y-KIDS' Club until Monday, December 1st!



Important Numbers:

Site Phones

EES Site: 620-245-1892

WES Site: 620-245-1894

Program Director, Alana Murphy

Office: 620-241-0363

Cell: 620-245-4142

Fall Family Fun

Teaching Thankfulness through Giving

Participate in **Operation Christmas Child**
with other Y-KIDS families or on your own!

Both Y-KIDS' sites will be participating in **Operation Christmas Child** in the coming weeks. **Operation Christmas Child** is an annual shoe box / gift drive of Samaritan's Purse that delivers donated Christmas gifts in shoe boxes to children around the world. Check out their website at <http://www.samaritanspurse.org/index.php/OCC>

Containers will be at both sites starting Monday, Oct. 27th through Friday, Nov. 8th. Please send small gifts (suggestions below) to be included in the Y-KIDS boxes if you feel led. This project is a great way to teach children about giving to those less fortunate. Please do not feel pressured to give to this project. During Y-KIDS we will be writing letters and drawing pictures to be included in the boxes. Our goal is to fill 2 boxes per site—one boy and one girl.

Gift Suggestions

School supplies: pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons, markers, stamps and ink pad stamps, writing pads/paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

Toys: small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, Slinky, etc. (Think Happy Meal toys)

Hygiene items: toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap, comb, washcloth, etc.

Other: hard candy, lollipops, mints, gum, T-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), cloth bags, etc.

Personal notes: You may include an envelope with a note to the child receiving the box and a photo of yourself or your family—if you include your name and address the child may write back, if able.

Cash donation: You may donate \$7 to help cover shipping and other project costs.

Do not include: used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy military figures, knives or guns, chocolate or food, out-of-date candy, liquids or lotions, medications or vitamins, breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers, or aerosol cans.

Operation Christmas Child Family Event:

On Friday, Nov. 7 from 4-7pm and Sat., Nov. 8 from 9am-2pm your family is invited to a Trash to Treasure Open House in support of OCC at 717 N. Hickory.

Bring an empty shoe box and the Trash to Treasure ladies will get you started filling your box by providing a free school bag, a folder, a pencil, a pen, 24 crayons and a bag of candy.

All boxes need to be taken to Countryside Covenant Church or given to Alana Murphy by Sunday, Nov. 9th to be shipped to Samaritan's Purse.