

## NOVEMBER COUNSELOR'S CORRAL



**RED RIBBON WEEK** was very proactive! Thank you to our wonderful PTA for planning it. Always remember to encourage your children to live a drug-free life. 😊 Our prevention topic for November is Tobacco.

In classroom **Counselor Lessons** this month, we will be focusing on **Career Development!**

This month's ethical principle is **Concern for Others**. People who show concern for others:

- Think about and respond to their needs.
- Ask how they can help.
- Are polite and use kind words.
- Make somebody's day better by a smile, a hug, and a caring word.
- Make the world a better place!

We know the expression, "It is better to give than to receive," but how do we demonstrate that to our children? It is important to nurture this trait by going out of our way to do kind things and show compassion, and we can do this in little ways each and every day. Showing concern for others is one way to make the world a better place, and it feels great inside when we do!

The holidays are a great time to help your children think beyond themselves and their own needs. Contact a local charity organization or homeless shelter and ask for ways that you and your family can volunteer. Donate food to a local food bank, and let your children help sort the donated items. Instead of a surplus of toys as gifts, talk with your children about different groups that they might like to help, such as the SPCA or American Cancer Society, and donate \$\$\$ in your child's name to that organization.



November 1-16, 2018, Deer Creek is hosting "The Giving Tree" to support **Leander ISD Backpack Program** for kids in need of extra food at home. There is a need for students at every school in Leander ISD. Each week food is delivered to the schools and students take home food items. The Giving Tree with collection baskets is located right off the foyer in the Kinder wing across from Ms. Sendejo's office. **No glass containers please!** Here are the items needed right now: **Granola Bars; Fruit Cups; Peanut Butter; Applesauce Cups; Macaroni & Cheese; Soup; Raisins; Oatmeal Packets; Tuna.** Thank you for your support and generosity in supporting our Colts and other Leander ISD children! 😊

We will also be hosting our **Annual Toy Drive for HCCB** November 26<sup>th</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>. (Choose a gift card from the holiday table in the foyer or send any new toy, new game, new book, or any new gift for a child unwrapped during this period.). Again thank you for your support and generosity. 😊



The developmental assets for this month are ***Family Support*** and ***Peaceful Conflict Resolution***.

***Family Support:*** Children are more likely to grow up healthy when their families provide them with high levels of love and support. Below are three ways to be supportive of your child:

- ☺ Have a **WEEKLY FAMILY GAME NIGHT**. Take turns choosing games.
- ☺ Spend **SPECIAL 1-ON-1 TIME** with your children each week for one hour. Take a walk, listen to music, go to the park, or just hang out.
- ☺ Find out one area where your child is struggling. **LISTEN TO YOUR CHILD'S CONCERNS.** Help your child think of ways to address issues.

***Peaceful Conflict Resolution:*** Three ways to help create peaceful conflict resolution:

- ♥ Set up a specific place in your home for peacemaking.
- ♥ When conflicts occur at home, use author William Kreider's approach: "**CAPS.**"
  - Cool off.
  - Agree to work it out.
  - Point out your view.
  - Solve the problem.
- ♥ Admit when you have responded poorly to conflict. Apologize. Suggest new ways to solve the conflict.

The first nine weeks are already behind us, and our children and systems at Deer Creek are settling into place. Lots of learning is occurring, and neat and innovative lessons are happening down at "The Creek!" The children are focused on meeting some of their goals. The students' data notebooks are always so impressive and knowing that they understand their own data empowers them to take an active role in their learning. All of our Colts are such hard workers and true delights! 😊

♥Cindy Sendejo  
School Counselor

