

## Mrs. Bray and Mrs. White-Hensen 5-day 4s By Holly Coventry



Mrs. Bray and Mrs. White-Hensen have their 5-day 4s in the spirit of Thanksgiving. The kids are making a variety of Thanksgiving-themed art projects such as turkeys made from pine cones and Mayflower ships. They've used Indian corn to paint, and they are making beaded necklaces and Indian head bands. Of course, with all of the Thanksgiving activities, it's important to take the time to think of what we're thankful for. The kids were more than happy to give their ideas!

Marie is thankful for video games. Abby, Noah, Samantha, and Andrew are thankful for their thankful for motor cross. Tyler his Daddy. Helen and Sam are Liam is thankful for his sister Christopher is thankful for and Drew are thankful for their Myles is thankful for his best Carson is thankful for turkey. Grayson is thankful for big toys. Mrs. Bray and Mrs. White-Hensen are thankful for children and their wonderful class.



families. Ryan is is thankful for thankful for food. Kennedy. pine cones. Lindy Mommy & Daddy. friend Ryan.

Of course, Thanksgiving is just one part the excitement of this class. Every morning, the bee of the day gets to help out. They have such responsibilities as checking the mail and helping with the calendar and the weather. They get a special stamp on their hand and are the line leader for the day.

There's so much fun to be had for these busy bees. Their classroom is filled with toys to be played with, dress-up clothes, dolls, and trains. Alphabet bingo is always a blast. Circle time with songs and stories makes each day special. Making owl masks and playing "I Spy" is exciting. Then there's the variety of going to Spanish, Fitness, Music, and Science. Never a dull moment.



Although it's Thanksgiving and we're focused on the holiday and all the fun that goes along with it, it's very clear that throughout the whole school year, there's so much for this special class to be thankful for.

# K i n d e r g a r t e n s

## Kindergartners Rule the School By Glenn Peirce

When Gabe walked into his Kindergarten classroom, he knew things were going to be different. Although he had attended Duke Memorial the year before, this new classroom offers lots of benefits that come with being the oldest kids in the school. First, there are the play centers (or just “centers” in the shorthand of the students) where the kindergartners get to play together. The 16 students (8 boys and 8 girls) use the centers in small groups, cooking in the kitchen center, conducting experiments in the science center, making crafts in the art center, and building anything they can imagine in the blocks center. As Mrs. Eva pointed out, the groups get mixed up from time to time so that the students can make new friends beyond their immediate circle.



Only 4 of kindergarten and Mrs. Per-Memorial. But guess which the air to

question about what is different for the kindergartners. Allie was the first to note that it was the first time they had experienced homework, an observation affirmed by everyone in the room. Then, with the same scheduling savvy of a high school student, the kids ticked off the different classes they get to take in kindergarten: music, Spanish, reading, computers, science, and fitness.

One more privilege Colby noted was lunch. The kindergartners get lunch every day, while the younger kids only get it if they sign up for Lunch Bunch. (Eliot quickly noted that they “don’t get lunch if the teachers have one of their meetings”.) Immediately after this, Jack pointed out one more privilege – the class got to do a play, and if you saw the Thanksgiving Play, you know this is no small matter.

However, the life of a kindergartner is not all privilege and luxury. Lucas brought up the other side of being the oldest. The kindergartners rattled off a litany of duties that come with their status as the big kids. From helping the younger kids back up if they fall down to redirecting lost 2-year-olds to their teacher (usually standing no more than 10 feet away on the playground), the kindergartners, in many ways, “are the police of the school” as Brynn put it.

It was offered that the privileges of being the oldest come with great responsibilities. Nobody disagreed.