

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

www.agumcc.org

April 2020

Message from Maddy

It is a difficult time in the United States and California due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. AGUMCC stopped providing care as of March 18, 2020 to comply with the Governors Shelter in Place order.

We are looking forward to our next school year starting in July 2020. At this time we have scheduled Visiting Days for Wednesday, July 1 and Thursday, July 2, 2020. The times will be two times each day for you to come and visit; 8:30 -10:00 or 10:30—12:00. Please contact, me, Maddy for what two times on the "Visiting Days" you would like to come visit with your child before he or she starts school. At this time the projected "First Day of School" will be July 6, 2020.

Now that current families have registered for our next session, to begin July 1, we'll be contacting families on our "Waiting List", for enrollment. Families not on our "waiting list" will be eligible to join us July 1 and July 2.

It is always good to plan ahead when looking for a quality program. We pride ourselves on having an educated staff, that have a love and commitment to the young children. Also, we work hard on creating interactive environments, both in the classroom and outside, that stand for quality by following the standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Our Pre-K program follows the Pre-K Guidelines, set by the Department of Education, which is designed to help children successfully enter Kindergarten. **Thank you to the staff, the families, the church and the board members, for all their time and dedication in making this a great program.**

**New Life &
Springtime Discovery**
*Things that slither, fly,
crawl, and hop. Oh my!*



DATES TO REMEMBER

VISITING DAYS: Wed. July 1 and Thu.

July 2 TIME: 8:30 -10:30 OR 10:30 -12:00

FRIST DAY OF SCHOOL: July 6, 2020

BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

Our story, from the Beginning Bible this month is "Jesus is Risen", from Matthew 28:5-10.

"Fruit of the Spirit" is Goodness. *"Do good and share with others is pleasing to God."* Hebrew 13:16

Ms. Maddy and Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class

Ms. Maddy and I will be rescheduling parent/teacher conferences for the month of April as soon as we are able to. Also, I will continue to work on the theme of "Meet the Masters". At the beginning of March, I introduced the children to the painter Claude Monet. I will be working with the children on our annual art auction item and hope that all the families will love it. We will continue to work on the skills needed for entering kindergarten. God bless everyone.
~Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Andrea and Ms. Elizabeth's Preschool Class

Spring is here! We made it through March! The school closures and social distancing affected us all but as a community we have remained strong. The school proudly stayed open and safe until the board determined it best to close. We will continue to practice our excellent daily cleaning and hygiene practices as our doors open again. Thank you to the families who also have remained diligent with handwashing and understanding. The children learned many valuable lessons this past month. Handwashing has become a fun activity that gives us special one on one time with each child. Covering our cough correctly, maintaining our personal bubble and staying home when unwell are other ways to remain safe and healthy at school. As schools reopen, we ask that everyone continue with these cleanliness practices and remain diligent at home as well as at school. Thank you to all the families who met with us for conferences. We will reschedule those that we were not able to have yet. It is exciting to discuss the children's amazing progress and spend some time sharing with you. This month we hope to be talking about change and to watch planted seeds grow. Remember to ask your children about the plants they proudly planted and they can share what they learned about how plants grow. This month we will also talk about bugs and insects, which is just as exciting. We have a wonderful natural example in our yard. There is a wall of Red Passion Flower vines that are home to hundreds of Painted Lady caterpillars and butterflies. Take a moment with your children to visit the butterfly wall in the back yard. We will discuss how useful insects are to the environment and how they are all God's creatures. We will discuss how each have their purpose and how we need to be gentle and not harmful to them. We look forward to this month spending time outside in our garden. If we are able to have our art show, we invite you to come and see the grandiose art your child will have been working on! Happy Learning.
~Miss Elizabeth

Ms. Shirley and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

Spring is in the air and the children are very aware of the changes in weather, and the new growth of plants. They have observed the strawberries start-



ing to grow in the courtyard, and the life cycle of the butterfly happening in the backyard. Water play has been a fun event also. They have been able to water plants, use the sensory table to wash toys, and also use water in the sandbox. In March we talked about Dr. Seuss by reading books and having activities planned around the books. For example, we read "Green Eggs & Ham" and then made green eggs with the children for them to try. The children enjoyed our Flower Shop in dramatic play, too. They arranged flowers and enjoyed using the cash register and the pretend computer to sell the flowers. In April, we hope to continue exploring plants and flowers by planting and watering our own plants. The dramatic play will be for gardening and exploring the wonders of planting some more. The children have been learning about gentleness and kindness in the story about the "Good Samaritan". A fun activity we did to highlight this story was Band-aid Art. We will be celebrating Easter this month and learning that "Jesus is Alive!" We as teachers have seen such growth in your children, and enjoyed telling you about them in our conferences. They are precious jewels, and a true gift from God. Have a blessed Easter.
~Ms. Shirley

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

In March, the Young Toddlers enjoyed their time painting with play vehicles, observing the cause and effect of their actions, as they rolled the paint covered wheels across their papers. The children also enjoyed time looking through books on their own and together. It was wonderful to see them leaning over to see what was on the pages of someone's book sitting next to them in the Cozy Space or on the floor in the middle of the classroom. With the school closing, we did not have the chance to transplant flowers and sugar snap peas in to pots, as I had planned. Hopefully we will be able to do this as well as add a few plants to our gardens, once we open again. We will look forward to working on fine motor skills and eye hand coordination, as we water our plants with spray bottles and sprinkler cans. We will also look forward to watching them grow, as we continue to care for them. The children will also work on their gardening skills as each child plants their own wheatgrass basket. April moves us into our celebration of new life, as flowers bloom and fruits emerge and, by Gods grace, we move out of this pandemic crisis. We hope to be able to see and taste tomatoes, strawberries, snap peas, etc. from our plants in the months ahead. This is also an enjoyable time to explore the smallest of God's creatures: lizards, bugs and insects. We will learn about a variety of critters as the children show an interest in them. We will also be exploring the process of metamorphosis: caterpillar to a butterfly as I include a butterfly habitat in the classroom. Happy Spring! He is risen!
~Cindy Bo

