

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com. January 2021

Message from Ms. Maddy

Happy New Year! I am sure everyone who saw and heard the children's Christmas Videos were amazed and delighted at how wonderful the children shared the joy of Christmas cheer. THANK YOU to the staff and the children, who spent many days practicing their songs, in preparation for this fun activity.

2020 was eventful and a challenging time. We feel so blessed to reopen and serve families once again. We extend a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to all the families that have chosen our program. It is our mission to provide the best of quality care to children by offering a low child to teacher ratio in an environment that is enriching, both inside and outside the classroom. The "National Association for the Education of Young Children" (NAEYC) sets the standards of quality, which we follow and it guides our staff. Also, we are participating in the "Quality Counts" program, provided through the San Luis Obispo Child Care Planning Council. This program offers our staff continued education opportunities, as well as stipends for their continued professional and educational achievements.

Do you need extra care from time to time? If so, fill out an "Extra Care Form" and give it to your teacher or myself. It is helpful to give 24 hour notice to make sure space is available.

Do you need to change your child's contract? We understand that changes occur for families. However, we do have a 30 day written notice policy that is required for families needing to make changes regarding their child care needs. There is always movement in childcare and spaces for children in our program are limited. With this policy in place, when a space does open up for another family, AGUMCC has ample time to notify a new family, so they too can join our program.

Did you remember to bring a new set of Extra Clothes for your child? Before the Christmas Break, the teacher sent home your child's extra clothes that were in his/her cubby. It is good to evaluate if the clothes your child has, possibly since September, still fit.

OOPS: I did not send out the Fall Survey in November through Monkey Survey. However, the survey did go out through Child Pilot as a Google Form in December. Please take a few moments to let us know how we are doing. Your input is very important by Jan. 8th. The information you provide also helps us for grant writing proposes. Let me know if you missed receiving the survey and I will give you a hard copy or resend it via Childpilot.

BIBLE STORY TIME

Bible Story: "**Fish for Breakfast**", from the Beginning Bible, John 21.

Song: **Joy, Joy, Joy**

The Fruit of the Spirit" message will be about "**Joy**".

Bible Verse: "**The joy of the Lord is your strength**". Nehemiah (8:10)



Dates To Remember

Fri. Jan. 1, 21 - School is closed for New Years Day.

Mon., Jan. 18, 21. - School is Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

This is also the last day to order Scholastic



THANK YOU to those who gave Gifts and/or Pledges to the "Friends of the Children's Center" in 2020.

First United Methodist Women
Dick and Patti Melsheimer
Connie and Mike Clark
Dave and Dorine Bolterman
Bud and Betty Johnson
Robert and Sandy Underwood
Robert and Mary Thronson
Derek Harding
Val and Eva McClure
Santa Maria Harvesting

First United Methodist Missions
Kristin and James Bernard
Wayne and Cecile Huggins
Betty and Don Gugeler
Betty Glenn Perriguet
Ruth Mandac
Dr. Alice Addison
Burk and Pace
Laurie Ford
Craig Ford

First United Methodist Men
Joel Anderson
Judith Atwood
Adeline Bottorff
Jan Treat
Judy Leonard
Doremus Family
Keller Family
Hermreck Family
Robert Ruiz



Ms. Andrea & Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class

December was a whirlwind! We hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas with your friends and family. We also hope that your time off with your children was filled with laughter and love. Thank you all for the thoughtful gifts. As we look forward to a New Year!

Ms. Andrea and I have discovered that many of the children have an interest in how the body works. So we will be incorporating this interest into our curriculum along with our kindergarten readiness curriculum. We are moving forward with Zoo Phonics introducing the letters Ll, Mm, and Nn and look forward to your share pictures for these letters in the weeks ahead. We will also continue to practice working with scissors and using our sensory bins filled with snow. Our moral teaching for the month is Joy, so we will also spend our time talking about the things that bring us joy such as our families and friends, as well as Jesus and his love for all of us. Happy New Year! ~ Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Swati & Ms. Elizabeth's Preschool

Welcome 2021! What an unprecedented year 2020 was. We all welcome brighter days on the horizon. Last month we enjoyed many celebrations in our class and grew closer together sharing the special times. Thank you to all the families for embracing the Christmas spirit. The children delighted in decorating our classroom until it glowed with stockings, Christmas trees and angels. They worked extra hard on their jingle necklaces and songs to send a special video greeting.

We are excited to return to school after our break to share the fun times we had with our families. As we start the new year we would like to connect more with you at home. One way that we can do this is to begin sharing days in the classroom. Covid-19 has created a "new norm" for our school life. We can not have items come back and forth, but we can still have share days. On your child's designated share day they have an opportunity to talk in front of the class and share pictures instead of items. The pictures may be provided by you physically or sent through the staff email at agumccstaff@sbcglobal.net.

The children enjoy being the storyteller in class and this will be an exciting way to explore concepts. Share pictures will be in re-

lation to a theme: color, number, letter, or concept reflective of our learning in the classroom.

Our themes for January will be Joy and the signs of winter. In addition, we will explore the letters L l, M m, and N n. Our shape this month is crescent and the colors are black and white. We look forward to making 2021 memorable for our preschool families and children! In love, light, and learning.

~ Ms. Elizabeth

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Cindy Bo's Toddlers



We welcome the New Year with open arms! Thank you to all our families as we have worked together through many challenges in 2020!

The children really enjoyed December's activities in the classroom. In dramatic play they worked together putting candy canes on our Christmas tree. They sang Christmas songs with bells ringing everywhere in the classroom. They used the manger scene pieces to reenact the Christmas story over and over again. The joy of the Lord really shined through as they celebrated Christmas.

Sensory bins were filled with materials to make goop. They poured, mixed, and felt the goop go through their fingers. They continue to enjoy all the sensory activities that are available. In January we will find different sensory activities that will enhance their learning.

The weather is changing so we will talk about winter hibernation along with polar animals. The children are really settling in and getting use to the routine of our daily schedule. It is such a joy watching them interact more with each other and with us. May 2021 bring happiness and joy to everyone!

~ Ms. Shirley

AGUMCC Wish List

- AAA Batteries
- Laundry Helpers
- Clorox Wipes
- Baby Wipes
- Containers of One Gallon Drinking Water