

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com December 2022

Message from Ms. Maddy

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "AGUMCC's Community Service Project" and gave their spare change for the Pennies for Turkeys Drive. This is a simple way to help the children understand the need of others. The **Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry** also **greatly** appreciates your contributions. They will use the money to purchase turkeys for the Christmas Baskets, which will be given to families in our community. This year we collected **\$710. Yipee !!**



Each family will receive a "Family Heritage Information Sheet" this month. We can also work together to build a home and school relationships. Please complete and return it to your child's teacher. This project will help us learn more about your family and the traditions you may celebrate. If your family has a tradition you would like to share with your child's classmates, please tell your child's teacher or message them through the Child Pilot App. We hope everyone feels connected as we invite you to share your family traditions with us.

The children will be practicing for our **Christmas Program from Monday, December 12, to Thursday, December 15th, from 9:00 am to 9:45 am in the church narthex. Our Christmas Program will be Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6:30.** Children need to be in their classrooms by 6:15 to prepare for the evening. After the Christmas Program, there will be a Social in Criswell Hall following the children's performance. Please sign up to bring an item to share. We will also need help with set up and clean up.

Friday, Dec. 23, 22, we will be having a school-wide "Pajama Day." This is also a **Minimum Day. School closes at noon.** In addition, the school will be closed for **Christmas Break from December 26 to January 2, 2023, to observe New Year's Day.**

The results are in from our **Fall 2022 Family Survey.** Of all participants, 85.7% were very satisfied with the overall quality of this program. We are so pleased that 100% of the families surveyed felt their child was well cared for and that they are happy and enjoy participating in the program. Also, 100% felt the program promotes their child's learning and development and that the staff meets their child's individual needs. According to the survey, families choose our program for the age-appropriate curriculum, socialization, and location. Parent involvement is key to our school's success. Over 78% said they helped with laundry, 66% donated supplies to the school, and 66% participated in fundraisers. 100% of those surveyed, the most popular way families like to receive information is through Child Pilot. The next best way is in person. (See the attached summary for more details.) Thank you to all families who participated in the survey. Your feedback is constructive in our efforts to improve our program.

Dates To Remember

- **Friday, December 2- School Closes at 3:30, for Staff Development. It's SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY!** Show your school spirit and wear your AGUMCC t-shirt.
- **Thursday, December 15, AGUMCC Christmas Program 6:30 in the Sanctuary.** A Social will follow in Criswell Hall.
- **Friday, December 23 - Pajama Party Day and a Minimum Day.** Children get to wear their favorite pajamas to school. School will close at 12:00 noon. (No lunch that day.)
- **Monday through Friday, December 26, 22—January 2, 23** School is closed for Christmas Break.

Friends of the Children's Center CAMPAIGN.

Make a difference in a child's life with a "Year End Gift" or Monthly Pledge
Your donation is tax deductible.

Give two ways:

- Safe and Easy on line at <https://www.agumcc.org> and use the GIVE NOW button.
- Mail your donation to: AGUMCC
275 N. Halcyon Rd. Arroyo Grande CA 93420



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★ **BIBLE STORY AND GOODIE BEAR TIME** ★
★ **IN THE NARTHEX WED. DEC 7 AND** ★
★ **THUR. DEC 8, 2022** ★

★ **Bible Story:** "The Good News", from the *Be-*
★ *ginning Bible*, **Luke 2:8-20.**

★ **"Fruit of the Spirit":** Peace.

★ **Verse:** Isaiah 26:3

★ You will keep in perfect peace all
★ who trust in you, all whose thoughts are
★ fixed on you.



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Ms. Elvia & Ms. Andrea's TK Class

I hope all had a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving with all your loved ones. During November, children enjoyed various areas of the class. Children enjoy being doctors and nurses as they care for animals and people in our dramatic play area. In addition, children worked as a team to create castles, houses, and what they called "jumping houses" by stacking colored lids. Children had fun with the number of turkeys as they practice one-to-one correspondence and number recognition as they pinch the clothespins on the turkey to represent the feathers. On the other hand, during rainy days, children had free choice in class and did some cosmetic yoga to keep them moving, which they enjoyed. Also, the children took a peek through the window, and their faces showed they were amazed by how hard it was raining. Children also discussed what type (flowers, superheroes) of umbrellas they had and when they used them. During art, children created jellyfish. Some children made patterns on their jellyfish tentacles. They also made kites and talked about the shape (Rhombus/ Diamond) and its four diagonal lines.

For the month of December, we will be transitioning into pine cones.

We will focus on the letters M and N, don't forget to send your child with pictures that begin with those letters for sharing time, as they really enjoy coming up to the front and talking about their picture. We will introduce the star shape and discuss its many sides. We will be practicing writing numbers during our table work and writing our names. Lastly, the Bible focuses on "Peace" after hearing the story of the "Birth of Jesus."

We wish you and everyone a warm and safe Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. ~ Ms. Elvia

Ms. Daphne & Ms. Swati's Preschool Class

Happy Holidays! Can you believe it's already Christmas? This year has been new and exciting for our school family, and we look forward to celebrating the holidays together. As you know, we welcome our families into the classroom, and it has been a joy showing off our projects during pick-up and drop-off. We ap-

preciate everyone taking the extra time to adapt to the new procedures. Please continue checking your child's folder, cubby, and lunch shelf daily at pickup. Also, please double-check that your child has extra clothes in his/her cubby.

As the weather is beginning to change, please dress your child accordingly. Our area's climate can be cold, like, winter in the mornings, crisp spring at lunchtime, and the very warm summer in the afternoon. We always recommend dressing in layers for the colder weather for a successful day. This also allows us to work on zippers and buttons.

This month we have exciting plans for the Preschool classroom. We have transformed the dramatic play area into a hot cocoa shop where they can make friends a pretend warm drink to enjoy. This is a fun time for your child to explore their imagination with each other. The children will be creating a few special gifts for their families. The children love art time and making presents for their families. They are very proud artists.

We look forward to celebrating the Holiday Season with our preschool families. Keep an eye out for a notice on the child pilot and in your family folders regarding our holiday celebration. Happy Holidays and Blessings for a Happy New Year! Ms. Swati

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Cindy Bo's Toddler Class

We find ourselves at the end of another year. I always have a hard time believing that another year has flown by, once again. The month of December always flies by quickly, too, with all the business and preparations for celebrating with family and friends. We look forward to our celebration with you, our school family, as we get ready for our Annual Christmas Program and Social.

The Toddlers had a lot of fun in November, with lots of interactive activities such as dancing to the "Barnyard Boogie", joining hands to form our "Cumbayah Circle" and sharing our Family Photo Boards with each other. Many of the children engaged in sociodramatic and symbolic play activities such as serving up puff balls or dishes full of sand to symbolize various foods and mixing, mashing and rolling playdough to create "Pumpkin pies" and "cupcakes" as they worked with playdough. The Courtyard puppet



stage also became a drive-up ice cream shop that was operated by several different children and attracted many customers. There has also been a lot of block building, designing of and navigating through obstacle courses and development of problem-solving skills.

We will celebrate Christmas this month by having a little nativity set for the children to play with and introducing them to the gift of Jesus, as we share the story of His birth. If you have any special family traditions that you would like us to share or include in our time with the children, please let us know. May you have a blessed Christmas, surrounded by those you love. ~ Cindy Bo