

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com/agumcc.html MARCH 2024

Message from Ms. Maddy

Spring is coming, and it's time to renew our gardens. Children will be involved in this process by cultivating the ground, bringing plants to plant, and watching them grow. *The gardens are an essential part of our learning experience here at AGUMCC.* The children learn to care for and appreciate the wonders of life and the delicate balance of nature. The garden also provides science at its best, with the budding of foliage, the buzzing of insects, the blooming of flowers, and the harvesting of fruits and vegetables. New plants are always a great addition to our play yards. Please check with your child's teacher to find out when their class will have a special planting day. Also, make sure you bring only a non-toxic plant for your child to plant.

WORKDAY, Saturday, March 23rd. We will need help to add new woodchips to the backyard. There will be a sign-up for volunteers.

It's Enrollment time!! Now that currently enrolled families have registered. It is time for families on our Waitlist to sign up. **We have openings!!** Please share our program with your family and friends.

March is Parent/Teacher Conference time. Conferences provide an excellent opportunity for teachers and families to spend about 30 minutes together to share information about your child's growth and development since the fall. It is also a time to review goals and reflect on achievements.

Parking Lot Safety: Please ENTER from Halcyon and EXIT to Bennett St. This will keep traffic flow safe for everyone arriving and departing from our parking lot. Also, please 5PMH drive slowly and be alert for small children and pedestrians of all ages.

The Customs House in Avilla Beach is hosting a fundraiser for AGUMCC on Sat. April 6, 9-11 am. Tickets are \$10 for pancakes, eggs, sausage, hashbrowns, orange juice, and coffee. To purchase your tickets, please stop by the Children's Center office. AGUMCC gets %50 of the proceeds. Our goal is to raise \$1,000. We ask each family to sell or buy at least 5 tickets to reach our goal. Please share this community event with family and friends. The proceeds will help the staff attend the California Association for the Education of Young Children's Conference in Pasadena on April 18 -21, 24.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE IMPORTANT UP COMING EVENTS

*** FAMILY CONFERENCE TIME***

March

- Friday, March 1- Staff Development and Spirit Day. Wear your school T-shirt to show your school spirit. There is no "Extended Care" on this Day. School Closes at 3:30 PM.
- Saturday, March 23 - "WORK DAY" We will be getting new woodchips for the backyard. 9:00 - 12:00 noon.
- Wednesday, March 27th - This is a MINIMUM DAY. **School is closed at noon.**
- Thurs. & Fri., March 28 & 29 - **School is closed for Holy Thursday and Good Friday.**
- Sunday, March 31—Easter
- April Thurs. 18 & Fri. 19th—**School will be closed for staff development.**

Thank you to our March Friends of the Children's Center Sponsor

Robert Underwood

*Founding Paster of the Arroyo Grande
United Children's Center that opened in
July of 2005.*

BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

Bible Story from the Beginning Bible is: **"The Good Samaritan"**, Luke 10:30-35,

Fruit of the Spirit teaching is **"Gentleness"**.

Bible Verse: "Let your gentleness be known to all" (Phil. 4:5)

Song: "Be careful little hands"

At school, children are often reminded the importance of being gentle with things and each other.

TK Class

February was a fast month, but we accomplished quite a lot in a short amount of time. The children have been working hard on making special portfolios for you to see at our Parent/Teacher Conferences. Some of the items they worked on were their cutting skills, alphabet knowledge, writing their names, and number concepts. We also spent some time talking about what it means to recycle and what things we put in the recycling. We have also talked about what kinds of foods are considered healthy. During this month, children made various Valentine's crafts and a special one to give to their families. We also talked about what friendship is and how we can be good friends since Valentine's is the day we celebrate love and friendship. Children came up with great ideas, and I wrote their ideas in a big heart template. Moreover, the children had an amazing time at our Friendship Party. For instance, they enjoyed moving to various Valentine's movement songs, having a parent/child dance, and the various yummy foods. Thank you to all the parents for all your support and time. It's greatly appreciated!

Coming up in March, we will be doing our Zoo Phonics lessons on the letters Uu, Vv, and Ww, as well as continuing to work on patterns and introducing some rhyming word activities. Keep bringing in your pictures of the letters we are learning for our Share Book! Plus, spring is soon upon us, so we look forward to spending more time outside and learning about the life cycle of plants and butterflies.

I look forward to meeting with you to talk about your child's progress, the next steps in their development, and getting them ready for kindergarten. Keep an eye out for conference sign-up sheets during drop off and pick up and through Child Pilot.

Preschool's Class

We had a fun-packed month of February, celebrating our Friendship Party, exchanging little Valentines, and learning about friendship and love. The class had fun making a variety of fun Heart projects. We talked about Martin Luther King and the Chinese New Year. I really appreciate the parents and all your support for the class's Valentine's Party.

Moving into March, the children have been interested in learning about space through stories and educational videos. Children are enjoying the music and movement time with various space songs where they use their imagination of being on rocket ships and exploring space. They have enjoyed putting on Astronaut costumes. They are learning how to take turns using a timer and putting their names on a list. We will be learning about things around us that we need to be gentle with and opportunities when we have shown gentleness



throughout the day. We will be doing some fun art activities for St. Patrick's Day.

March is Parent/Teacher Conference time. We look forward to meeting with you, if we have not already. Conference time is a wonderful opportunity to meet one on one to discuss your child's growth. At this conference, we can see how much your child has mastered in their areas of strength and the areas they are working on. We offer two ways to meet with you: in person or via FaceTime. Each conference is about 30 minutes. We will have a sign-up sheet available with dates and times that we are available to meet. For updates, please look to Child Pilot and in the classroom. Thank you for all of your patience and understanding.

In light, love, and learning Ms. Liz and Ms. Swati

Toddler's Class

Spring has sprung, and our classroom is in full gear to start this month and get ready for the Easter Celebration. In February, the children used tongs in several ways. One way was putting hearts into bags in their sensory bins. The other way was to pick up puff balls. They also strengthen their fine motor skills by using scissors to cut playdough. For art, children had fun putting stickers on hearts and writing a "Love Letter" to you that you received in the mail. In the group, they practiced handing a flower to a friend and saying "Happy Friendship Day" as we got ready for our Friendship Breakfast Celebration. It was a fun-filled month, as you can see.

Thank you for all your help at our Friendship Breakfast. It truly was a blessing to see all the families that attended. The children were so excited to have their families join them on this special day.

As we move into March, the weather should be warming up. We still ask that your child bring a sweater or a jacket as it may be warm, but the fog tends to roll in and make the day chilly. March will be the time for the Conference. Make sure you sign up to meet with Cindy Bo or myself to reflect on what your precious little one is doing and what they can work on. We, as teachers, are excited to sit down and talk with you in a more private setting away from the distractions in the classroom.

Have a blessed Easter, and remember, "He is Alive." Blessing to all our families, Ms. Shirely.

AGUMCC Wish List

- 100% natural grass seed for sensory play
 - Six Packs of Flowers or Veggies.
 - Bubbles
 - Gentle Foam Soap Bottles
 - Paper Towel Rolls
 - Sanitizing Wipes