

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com October 2020

Message from the Director, Ms. Maddy

It was a wonderful start of school on the week of Sept. 21-25, 2020. The staff and I were so happy to have the children and families back in our program. We were all amazed how much the children have grown since we last saw them.

Thank you everyone for having patience with the new Drop Off and Pick Up Routine while getting used to signing in/out using the Child Pilot QR code. The children are also doing great with saying bye at the door. Remember to check your child's Message or Activities daily so you don't miss the fun your child is having at school. Also you can message your child's teacher or myself through Child Pilot.

Cupcake, the pony is coming on Wednesday Oct. 14 and Thursday, Oct. 15 at 9:00 a.m. for the toddler group, 9:30 for the Preschool Group, and 10:00 for the Pre K group. If you have a sibling at home, they too are welcome to come and have their picture with Cupcake. Also, family shots are ok too. Stop by the office and see last year's pictures. There is no obligation to purchase. Every child will get their picture taken and you can decide whether or not you'd like to purchase them, after you see them. If your child does not attend school on Tues. or Wed. you are welcome to come, and stay with your child, to have his/her picture taken.

- **30 Day Notice Policy.** If you need to change your "Child Care Agreement", it is required to give a 30 day written notice.
- **Parking Lot Speed Limit is 5 MPH.** This, is for everyone's safety.
- **Be cell phone free** when dropping off or picking up your child. This is important so that you are available to greet your child's teacher and help your child transition to or from school.

The First United Methodist Church Mission's Team is accepting donations to purchase supplies for the Children's Center. If you would like to give a tax deductible donation to this cause you can by dropping it off at the church office mail slot located on the door.

Can you help to stock our Emergency Preparedness Pantry ?

We Need: 3.25 lbs tub of Pretzels. 16 oz boxes of Saltines, 48 oz jars of peanut butter, 49 oz jar of jelly , 64 oz jar of mayonnaise , lg cans of chicken, 3 cases of individual fruit cups, boxes of raisin and oatmeal granola bars, 1 case of wipes, and hand sanitizer,

Other Supplies for the Classrooms: 2.5 gallons of drinking water, a large bag of flour and salt, a 5.75 oz container of cream of tartar, and hand lotion.

A **BIG** Thank you to the
Arroyo Grande Home &
Garden True Value



We appreciate their donation of PVC materials that we used to build table dividers for our Children's Center.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, October 2, - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY AND SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY. Wear your school T-shirt, to show your school spirit. **SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 3:30 PM.**

Wednesday Oct. 14 and Thursday, Oct. 15- PICTURE DAYS, WITH "CUPCAKE", THE PONY.

BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

We will read Mathew 14:13-21, "The Big Picnic", from the Beginning Bible. This story is about a boy who shared his lunch with Jesus when he preached to the multitudes. Our "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching is on **Kindness**. By focusing on the kind actions we see each other do help us to reflect on how being kind is showing God's love to one another.



Ms. Andrea and Ms. Rebecca's Pre K Class

Welcome to PreK! We are excited to see your children as they advance from preschool to PreK! Everyone is transitioning very well to using a mask or a shield on a regular basis! Occasionally they slip down, under the children's noses over the course of the day. We have not met any resistance to wearing a mask daily. We can tell that many of you have been practicing handwashing at home because we've seen lots of big bubble gloves. Also, some of the children are naturally counting to 20 or singing a song during handwashing. Everyone is remembering to put the used toys in the red bins for cleaning after they've been used and they understand that once a toy goes into the bin, it's not available again until it's back on the shelf. Overall, everyone is adjusting very well to the new processes related to the pandemic and staying germ free.

We reviewed the classroom rules, such as sitting on our bottoms during group, raising our hands for a turn to talk, and standing in line as we walk to and from the backyard or the bathrooms. We have delved into Zoo Phonics and are already up to the letter Dd. Ask your children what the hand signals are for Aa, Bb, and Cc, and they should be able to show you Allie Alligator, Bubba Bear, and Catrina Cat. We have also reviewed numbers 0, 1, and 2. Everyone has had fun playing with their astronaut sensory bins and coloring puzzle pieces for our School Family Puzzle.

Remember, Monday and Tuesday are Share days, your child can bring a picture of something that begins with the letter Dd, Ee, or Ff for the month of October. Also in October we will focus on the number 3 and begin our student assessments to prepare for Parent/Teacher Conferences in November. Be sure to check your Child Pilot App for pictures of your child and stay tune for fall artwork and the fun activities we have planned for the month ahead! *Ms. Andrea*

Ms. Elizabeth's and Ms. Swati's Preschool Class

Welcome to Preschool! It has been a great start to the 2020 2021 school year. You would think these children have been going to school for months with how easily they embraced the schedule. The class delights in the ability to care for themselves during our "new norm". They gladly pick a song to wash their hands. The ABC's is currently the standout favorite. Each child proudly displays their "bubble glove" which signifies a complete. When their hands are dry they

show everyone and let their friends know they are "all clean". It has become a joyous part of our day. It is much easier to do something when having fun. That is our goal; to learn while playing and having fun.

They have learned how to manage our toys so we aren't sharing too many materials and too many germs. They learned a new system of putting used toys in a red basket to be cleaned. All of the children have embraced the new changes, even wearing their masks to keep everyone safe. At lunch time, we even have "cool kid check" where I check their temperature.

We look forward to our first full month of instruction in school. Now that September has passed, we have become accustomed to our schedules, the class will focus more on art and the curriculum. In October brings about one of my favorite seasons, Autumn. We will explore the many changes in our natural world and how they relate to us. This becomes apparent to the children as the days are get shorter and we see changes in the environment. Be prepared for the chilly weather by dressing your children in layers. Weather can be unpredictable, I recommend a t shirt with a light jacket and heavier jacket if raining.

We will examine the changing of the season and talk all about Pumpkins!! As soon as possible, please provide a small real pumpkin for your child to bring to class. We will use it for comparisons and scientific observation in addition to an art project.

We will celebrate the end of the month with a special pajama day on Tuesday October 27th. Have your child wear their favorite pajamas for a festive day.

Thanks to all the families for making their Family Board. The children really enjoy pointing out their friends and family to each other and seeing pictures of themselves. I will continue to post daily updates between 1-2pm and check messages on ChildPilot at that time. We look forward to a festive Thank you and Happy Learning. *Miss Elizabeth Ann Key*

Cindy Bo's and Ms. Shirley's Toddlers

Hello Toddler Families, Ms. Shirley and I are so thankful to be back working with children again and are enjoying getting to know and getting reacquainted with our special group of toddlers. Those who were with us before the long break, have grown and developed so much. It is especially noticeable in their use of language. How wonderful it is to hear them use newly developed language skills to communicate their thoughts, needs and feelings. Our new children are quickly picking up on our school routines such as diapering and meal time routines. They are adjusting so well to being at school. Shirley and I are also learning to adjust to our new routines, all the extra cleaning and sanitation protocols and , learning to use the I-pad to communicate with you. Thank you for your patience as we learn and practice it all. As we look forward to our first full month together, we will be planning activities and introducing materials based on the children's interests. We will also find fun ways to highlight the color orange, the shape of a triangle and things associated with the fall season. Blessings to you all. *Cindy Bo*