

# Children's Center Chronicle

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

## Message from Maddy

May is time for our Fifth Annual Spring Children's Center Sunday BBQ and Book Faire on May 22. This day will be filled with fun for everyone. The day will begin with the children performing at the 10:30 AM service singing "Hip-Hip-Hip-Hippopotamus." To help the staff plan for the children's performance, please remember to return your invitation response. Both the invitation response to church and the BBQ tickets are due back by May 17. The BBQ/Book Faire is open that day from 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM. This community event is open to the public so, be sure to invite your friends and family. We are hoping to raise \$3,000 to purchase more woodchips and sand for the backyard play area and other program necessary improvement. There will be two planning meetings this month in preparation for this event—May 5 and May 17 at 6:30 PM in the McMillen Room. *Child Care will be available in the Preschool Room 3.* **We do need volunteers to make this event a success—Here' how you can help:** pick up donated items, go shopping, help with preparation for the event on Saturday and help with the actual event on Sunday. **There is a job for EVERYONE!** Come to the meeting and see what you can do. We are also glad to welcome the California Highway Patrol who will be offering a "Drive-Thru Car Seat Safety Check" from 12—2 PM.

May is also Parent-Teacher Conference time. This is an excellent opportunity for your child's teacher to share with you the many experiences and milestones your child has had throughout the year. After attending your conference, please return your survey to our preschool office. Our school strives to be the best it can be! These surveys let us know how we are doing, as well as where and how we can improve. *Surveys can be anonymous.* Thank you for your continued support in making this a quality program for each child and the families we serve.

### Show School Spirit!

We are placing our T- shirt and sweatshirt order on

**Friday, May 13.**

**Don't delay!** Pre-K children need their T shirts in time for the "Promotion and Acknowledgement Program" on Friday, June 10.

### May's Theme Down at the



### Pond

## Fruit of the Spirit Focus

### Self-Control

*"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" Galatians 5:23*

There are several favorite children's books that we will read to remind the children of how they can learn to control themselves when dealing with strong emotions, including *When I Was Little* by Jamie Lee Curtis and *When Sophie Gets Angry-Really, Really Angry...* by Molly Bang.

## Dates to Remember

May is Parent-Teacher Conference Month  
Sign-up with your child's Teacher/Caregiver for your individual meeting date and time.

- Thursday, May 5 - BBQ Planning Meeting
- Sunday, May 8 - Happy Mother's Day!
- Thursday, May 12 - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon at 12:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 17 - BBQ Planning Meeting
- Tuesday, May 17 - BBQ Tickets/\$s and Invitation Response due
- Sunday, May 22 - Children's Center Sunday BBQ and Book Faire
- Monday, May 30 - School Closed - Memorial Day
- Tuesday, May 31 - Book orders due.
- Friday, June 10 - Pre-K Promotion and Acknowledgement Program in the United Methodist Church Sanctuary at 7:00 PM (Children are to arrive @ 6:45)

## Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

This is a fun, annual event that our school families enjoy doing each year for the staff. This year, it will be held on Thursday, May 12, at 12 noon in the McMillen Room. A sign-up sheet to help with this event will be on the Sign In/Out Table. Greta who is chairing this event, needs for help with providing food, decorating, set up and clean up. Questions call Greta at 550-3615.

### Ms. Lisa and Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class

We had a lot of fun in the month of April. The children loved the visits from the pig, goat and baby chickens. We also learned about which bugs are insects and which ones are not. We also talked about the life cycles of the butterfly and the ladybug and finished learning the letters of the alphabet. Thank you to all of you who attended Open House. It was great to see our current families as well as talk to some of our incoming families for next year.

The month of May promises to be just as exciting, as we explore the world that surrounds the pond. It is also going to be a busy month as we begin preparing for our Promotion and Acknowledgement Program, which will be on June 10th. In addition, this month, we will be conducting conferences. I will be having my conferences during the first two weeks of May in hopes of finishing them before going on maternity leave and Miss Rebecca will be having her conferences during the last two weeks of May. Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets in the classroom.

Finally, my baby is due at the end of the month. My maternity leave is scheduled to begin on May 20<sup>th</sup>. We will begin preparing the children for my leaving starting at the beginning of the month. I want to thank you all for the opportunity to teach your children this year. I have had a lot of fun and hope to be able to attend Promotion and Acknowledgement Program in June. I wish you all the best of luck over the summer and to those starting new adventures in kindergarten.

~Miss Lisa

### Ms. Prue and Ms. Wasinii's Preschool Class

In April, we learned about "New Life", with a focus on insects, bugs, and life cycles. With the birth of two babies (Ms. Nichole had a baby girl named Jensyn and Isabella became a big sister to Penelope) as well as the anticipation of the birth of other babies, the children have been very active with learning about babies. We want to thank all of you who came to Open House and hope you enjoyed the child scavenger hunt tour. In May, we will be moving on to "On the Pond". We will be learn-

ing about tadpoles turning into frogs, slithering like snakes, and various other aquatic animals. We will continue to work on our letter sounds and writing. In addition to our letters, we will be focusing on our number writing and pronunciation. We will focus on the double digits that can sometimes be a little confusing to the children at this stage of their development.

~Miss Wasinii

### Cindy Bo and Ms. Kristel's Toddlers

In April, our class learned about "New Life". We talked about bugs, insects and the life cycle of butterflies. The children also enjoyed having snails in the sensory tub and looking at them with magnifying glasses. A "Class Story" was introduced called "How to Line up to Go Outside". This has been a great visual aid for the children. It is helping them learn how to line up to go outside during our classroom to backyard transition. The children really love seeing their pictures in the book and they always remind "Miss Kristel" to stand on her ball!! Cindy Bo and I are thinking of other topics for the creation of more "Classroom Stories" for the children to enjoy and to help make learning important skills fun. Each week, fine motor skill activities are available in the classroom. One of the recent activities was putting small puff balls in a jar with pinchers. This was great for the children, helping them build their fine motor skills. Other recent classroom activities included tasting a Pomelo ( It is like a grapefruit but it is bigger), dancing (A favorite song of the month was "I Wanna be a Dog"!!!!) and, tagging on to our farm theme from March, the children got to interact with a baby goat, a baby pig and a few baby chickens that visited the school

In May we will be focusing on the theme "Down at the Pond". We hope to observe pollywogs changing into frogs over the course of the next few weeks. There has been a lot of interest and joy in outdoor discoveries that I'm sure will continue through the month as well.

### CONGRADULATIONS NEW BABY ARRIVALS

Ms. Nichole's baby, Jensyn Jean Cardoso was born March 21, and weighed 7lb 13oz, and 20 1/4 " long. Congratulations to Nichole and her husband Jerick!

Isabella's sister, Penelope Emme Irion was born April 4 at 7lb. 6oz. and 20 1/2". Congratulations Isabella, mom Mary and dad Trevor!

Ms. Tierra's baby, Edea Francis Tomiln was born April 16, and weighed 5 lbs and 6 oz and 18 1/2 " long. Congratulations to Tierra and her husband Colin.

A belated congratulations To the London and the Avila Family, on the birth of baby sister Stella Jean, on Jan. 29. To Kayla and the Thompson- Lochhead family, on the birth of body brother Alexander Paul on Dec. 17.