

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com May 2013

Message From Ms. Maddy:

We want to improve our communication and be better connected with all our families. Look for the "Parent Communication Board" in your child's classroom. These boards are for you to leave your child's teacher a note or attach an "Extra Care" request form. Also, in the entryway, there is a "Parent Network and Wish Board". On one side of the board, parents can post their business cards, a picture to share, items that need a new home or an item to sell. On the other side of the board, teachers post items they need or would like to add to their classrooms. If you see an item on the board that you would like to donate or purchase, take the item notice off the board and return the item to the office. We are always thankful for and appreciate the support we receive from our families!

The Children's Center Sunday event was a wonderful celebration of the children. We heard them sing and saw their beautiful art in Criswell Hall. Thank you to those who volunteered their help, to those who came and to those who brought items to share at social. You can see pictures from this wonderful event at www.worshipweekly.com.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Friday, May 10 at 1:00 PM. I'm looking for parents that would like to help with this special event for the staff. If you can help with providing food, decorating, set up and/or clean up let me know. There will be a Sign Up Sheet on the Sign In/Out table in the hall way.

Are you getting e-mails from me? If not and you would like to get monthly reminders about special events and upcoming deadlines, please put your e-mail address in the tuition box.

Do you know a family that is looking for quality childcare? We have openings in our program. Most of our new families come from the wonderful families that have already chosen our program. Thank you for your referrals.

May is 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 the Spring Survey. Our school strives to be the best it can be. The surveys let us know how we are doing and where or how we can improve our program (*The survey can be anonymous*). Thank you for your continued support in making this a quality program for the children and families we serve.

Show your School Spirit!

We are placing T-shirt (\$10) and sweatshirt (\$15) orders on **Friday, May 24.**

Don't delay! Children need their T-shirts in time for the "Promotion and Acknowledgement Program" on Thursday, June 13.

Fruit of the Spirit Focus for May

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 So-*

Theme for May



Dates to remember

May is the month for Parent-Teacher Conferences

Sign-up with your child's Teacher/Caregiver for your individual meeting date and time.

- Friday, May 10- **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** at 1:00 PM
- Sunday, May 12 - **Happy Mother's Day!**
- Monday, May 27- **School is Closed for Memorial day**
- Thursday, June 13 - **Promotion and Acknowledgement Program** will be in the United Methodist Church Sanctuary at 7:00 PM. All children and their families are invited to this memorable event. Children arrive @ 6:45 in their classroom.

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 Friday, May 10, 1:00 PM in the McMillen Room. A sign-up to help with this event will be on the Sign In/Out Table. If you can help providing food, decorating, set up and/or clean up call Ms. Maddy.

Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class

We had a lot of fun in the month of April. We finished up our series on "Meet the Masters", which was enjoyed by all. We also talked about the life cycles of butterflies and ladybugs and finished learning the letters of the alphabet. Thank you to all who attended Open House. It was great to see our current families as well as talk to some of our incoming families for the next school 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 Acknowledgment Program, which will be on June 13th. In addition, this month we will be conducting conferences. Be on the lookout for the sign-up sheet. I look forward to talking with everyone.

-Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Kassie and Ms. Shirley's Preschool Class

In April our class explored bugs, insects, and butterflies and their life cycles. We learned which bugs were insects and which ones were not. The preschool class would like to thank you for attending our Open House. We hope you enjoyed learning about our class. In May we will be moving on to "Down at the Pond". We hope to observe pollywogs changing into frogs. If any of you have a pond in your yard and could spare some tadpoles, it would be greatly appreciated. "Self Control" will be the Fruit of the Spirit this month. Tim and Lucy will have lots to say about that! We will review all shapes and numbers learned, and #8 will be introduced. Our focus colors will be the pastels pink, lavender, and yellow. As we finish out the alphabet this month and get ready for Pre-K, we will continue to use letters and sounds in review. We will challenge the children with learning to trace the letters in their name. Some of them are even ready to write their names by looking at them. In addition to all of this, we will be conducting parent-teacher conferences. Sign-ups will be in the classroom. Your children are growing so fast and we are so proud of them.

-Ms. Shirley

Ms. April and Ms. Kristel's Toddlers

In April, our class learned about "New Life" with a focus on chicks, lizards, insects, and bugs. We had a lot of fun playing with all sorts of stuff in our sensory tub: the messier the better! The children enjoyed some homemade felt board stories from Ms. April and we danced up a storm this month. We want to thank all of you who came to Open House and hope you enjoyed visiting with other attendees and checking out all the happenings in the classroom. Another thank you to all who were able to attend Children's Center Sunday. It was great to see the children sing as well as all the wonderful art the children created. In May, we will be moving on to "Down at the Pond". We will be learning about tadpoles turning into frogs, slithering like snakes, and various other aquatic animals. If any of you have a pond in your yard and could spare some tadpoles, we would greatly appreciate it!

-Miss Kristel

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

In April, we explored "New Life" as we began observing the metamorphosis of five little caterpillars as they formed their chrysalis' and will soon emerge beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies. The young toddlers will also be able to enjoy releasing them into their new habitat (Our Backyard). Many of the young toddlers showed great interest in our theme of exploring bugs. They pointed out pictures and play objects, found in the environment, that matched creatures we talked, read stories or sang songs about. I heard them singing "Shoo Fly" when they'd see a fly buzzing about or "I'm Bringing Home a Baby Bumble Bee", simply for the fun of seeing where the bee would sting them next (cheek? nose? shoulder,?). Thanks to those who were able to participate in our Open House and to those who participated in Children's Center Sunday as well. It is so nice to have families involved and to have the chance to get to know you better! In May we will be focusing on the theme "Down at the Pond". We hope to observe pollywogs changing into frogs, talk about the beaver's hard work ethic, the unique design of turtles, and more. There has been a lot of joy in outdoor discoveries, such as lizards, snails, and ladybugs that I'm sure will continue throughout this month as well. I look forward to our time together during parent-teacher conferences this month, too!

-Cindy Bo

TIME WITH PASTOR DAVID

This month, Pastor David and Goodie Bear (with Ms. Shirley) will share about Self Control. This special time will be on Wednesday and Thursday May 29 and 30, in the church narthex, at 9:30AM