

# Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center [www.worshipweekly.com](http://www.worshipweekly.com) AUGUST 2013

## Message from Ms. Maddy:

**The Family Survey Spring 2013 Results** are in. 100% of the families surveyed felt that their child was well cared for and that their child was happy and enjoyed participating in our program. 64 % of the families were "Very Satisfied" and 36% were "Satisfied" with the overall quality of the program. According to the survey, the most popular reason why families chose our program was for the age-appropriate curriculum. Comments that the families wrote where, " Times available are good." "Great socialization skills and nutrition.", " Very caring teachers always available to communicate.", " My child has learned a lot in this preschool. We are able to integrate what he has learned in our interactions at home.", "Thank you for all you have done to make my daughters first school experience wonderful!", "We are happy that we found this program." The two most popular events that the families participated in last year were the Holiday Program in December and Regatta Race Event in February. 90% of the families, that turned in the survey, participated in Parent/Teacher Conferences. They found the conferences were informative and 90% of that group felt their child achieved his/her goals and was ready to move forward. The areas where families feel there can be improvement is in Parent Interactions, Parent Involvement and Cultural Activities. 90% of the families are aware that we are participating in the Self-Study for Accreditation through NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children).

Our "Back to School Night and Ice Cream Social" will be **Thursday August 8, 7:00-8:00 PM**. The evening will start in Criswell Hall at 7:00 and end in the classrooms. Ice cream will be provided by the school and families are asked to bring a topping or item to share. To help with this event, please see the "Ice Cream Social Sign-Up" sheet at the Sign In/Out Table. At this event, classrooms will be open for you to learn what is happening and ask questions about what to expect in the coming year. We will be sharing how shopping at Vons and Macys helps our school through the "E-Script" program. There will be information about how you can be involved with our **Sixth Annual Family Fun Day, on Saturday, October 19, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM**. This event helps provide funds to purchase classroom supplies. *Parent participation is the key to our school's success!!*

### AGUMCC WISH LIST BOARD

If you see something on the Wish List Board (located in the entrance way above the rocking chair) that you can help us with, take the posted note off the board and return the wished for item to the office.

#### A Few Current Items Include:

Extra Baby & Clorox's Clean up Wipes  
Container of Cream of Tarter

**THANK YOU** for bringing your ink cartridges for the staff to recycle. Do you have a computer at work or home? When you bring in your used cartridges, staff earn \$1 for every cartridge, up to \$20 per. month. This is used to buy various supplies for the classrooms. The container for the ink cartridges is located next to the Sign-In/Out table.

### Theme for The Month: "I Am Special"

- Help us to get to know your family better by completing your child's family collage. This is a wonderful activity that bridges the relationship between school and home. Please let your teacher know if you have not received your collage poster board.



### Important Dates to Remember

- Friday, August 2 - Staff Development School Spirit Day! Don't forget to wear green. **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3:30 PM**
- Thursday, August 8 - Back to School Night & Ice Cream Social 7:00
- Thursday, August 29 - Planning Meeting for Family Fun Day, 7-8 PM.
- Monday, September 2 - **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR Labor Day**
- Friday, September 6 - Staff Development. School Spirit Day! Don't forget to wear green. **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3:30 PM**

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

July has been an exciting month of getting to know all the families. The children have had a great time in dramatic play. They have gone on airplane rides around the world, train rides to grandma and grandpa's house, and trips in the car. In August, the theme will be "I AM SPECIAL" I will be sending home new poster boards for a new or updated family collage. The children will have the opportunity to share their collage with everyone in the class. We will



start working on our letters and the letters for this month will be 'A', 'B' and 'C'. We will also start working on "Number Recognition". I would like to remind everyone to read through your Pre-K information packets. It is full of

valuable information that could answer many questions you may have about our Pre-K program. I have also handed out a questionnaire called "ASQ". The ASQ helps me to get to know your child better and will be helpful in planning for parent teacher conferences in October; it is due by August 5 2013. Finally, always feel free to stop me or please email me, when you need to speak with me. This interaction is very important to me.

*-Ms Rebecca*

### Ms. Kassie and Ms. Shirley's Preschool Class

Welcome to the Preschool class. It was an exciting month getting to know each family. We had an exciting time exploring the world of trips and travels, in July. For the month of August it is "I Am Special" time. This month is about getting to know each child and celebrating their unique personalities and families. The children will learn about themselves and about their peers. We will be focusing on creative expressions of art that celebrate the perspective of what art is to the individual child. The focal point of our teaching will be on inspiring language development, creative expression, fine/gross motor skills, and self-esteem. Ms. Shirley and I look forward to all the exploration and excitement, in the month to come, with all our new families.

*-Ms. Kassie*

### Ms. April and Ms. Lisa's Toddlers

Welcome to Room 2! We have enjoyed getting to know all of the new families. The past few weeks have been full of adventure. We have gone to the zoo in our classroom. The children have enjoyed painting lion

manes and we read "Starry Safari" and pretended we were wild animals. Ms. April shared one of our favorite flannel stories, "No More Monkey's Jumping on the Bed". In August, we will be starting the theme "I Am Special". We will be starting a growth chart, talking about our pets at home and families. We will be asking everyone to bring in family and pet photos so we can put together a fun album. More information will be given at a later time. Thank you for sending water in your child's sippy cups. It is the best way to stay hydrated on these hot days. I have really enjoyed having the opportunity to bond with all of the children here at AGUMCC and getting to know the amazing staff as well.

*-Ms. Lisa*

### Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

What a wonderful way to start the new school year! With the low teacher-child ratios in the Young Toddler room, during the month of July, I had the opportunity to bond with and develop a special relationship with each of my current five toddlers. We look forward to Cohen Hall, joining us in September, which will add to our already special class group dynamics. As a way of getting to know each other better, our theme for the month of August will be "I Am Special". In addition to this focus on our similarities, differences and what makes us special, our group will be "Going to the Zoo". The children have already shown interest in animals (stuffed animals, books and posted pictures) and animal sounds so, this theme will help foster their natural desire to discover and learn. Once again, I am very thankful for the opportunity I have to spend time with your children and the privilege of developing a relationship with you, their families.



*-Cindy Bo*

### **The work day was a success on Saturday, July 27.**

**Thank you to Maile Doolittel for sanding and painting the new benches. Also, thank you to David Marshall for repairing the existing tables and Arica Marshal for painting them and renewing the arrows in the backyard and the courtyard. Check out the pictures in the parent info board in the hallway.**