

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

October

Message from Ms. Maddy

A great big THANK YOU to all the people who helped make the FAMILY FUN DAY a success. Your time, talents and donations were a blessing. There were close to 50 volunteers who helped with this event including staff, families and church members. Please check out our fundraising board in the entrance hallway to see a list of these special volunteers. Thanks to you, we were able to reach our goal and raise \$2,000 which will be used to purchase a new climber for the courtyard. *To see pictures of the event, check out our web page www.worshipweekly.com/080920.html*

I want you all to help us welcome our new staff member. Please give a warm welcome to Ms. Katelynn Arnold, who will be working in the Pre-K classroom this year. Katelynn is a graduate of San Diego State University, with a degree in Liberal Studies and a specialization in Human Development. She knows the importance of a successful preschool environment before children entering kindergarten; the necessity of following the Pre-K Guidelines set by the California Department of Education. Further, Ms. Katelynn has experience with a program used by our Pre-K and in other schools around the district with great success called "Zoo Phonics". (*"Zoo Phonics" fosters visually, auditory, and kinesthetic learning opportunities that benefit the whole child.*)

With sadness, Ms Stephanie last day was on September 25th. It has been a challenging time for her being pregnant, working and managing the needs of her family. She expressed her love to all the children and will miss them very much. We wish her well and all the best for her family on this new path they are taking.

It is Parent/Teacher conference time. Conferences are a great opportunity for building relationships between teachers and families. Also, they are an opportunity to share information about the children and to set goals for them to work toward in the months ahead. Please check with your caregiver/teacher to schedule your individual conference which will be approximately 30 minutes.

If you would like to meet other AGUMCC families and find out more about our growing program, stop by for a cup of coffee or tea at the next "Friends of AGUMCC" meeting, October 10th from 8-9 AM in the Mc Millen Room located off the courtyard.

Theme for The Month
"A Bountiful Harvest"



Fruit of The Spirit

Patience

"Be patient with everyone"
1 Thessalonians 5:14

School
Wish
List

- Volunteers to help with laundry
- Crib Mattress and/or Bean Bag Chairs for Cozy Spaces
- Toddler Riding Toys
- Gather books from the local library.
- Help with the

Mark Your Calendar

Parent /Teacher Conference Check with your child's Caregiver/Teacher to schedule a meeting time.

October 1 ~ "Paw Prints" are coming at 11:30 AM. Look for information in the Parent Information area on these special handprint keepsakes.

October 10 ~ "Friends of AGUMCC" meeting at 8 AM in the McMillen Room. There are two entrances for your convenience; one from the courtyard and another from the parking lot.

Ms. Maddy & Ms Katelynn's Pre-K Class

We had a great time, last month, exploring our apple collection and used them for many different math activities including counting, sorting, seriating, and weighing. The most fun the children had was weighing the apples. They used both a balance scale and a postal scale. We look forward to practicing some of these skills again with this month's collection of pumpkins. We had a great time meeting Cupcake, the pony, and the children enjoyed getting their turn to sit on her. Thank you to those who brought in their family photo collage boards and, for anyone who still has theirs, please feel free to bring them in when you can. As we move in to October, we will continue to work on our Pre-K math concepts. If you do not have the monthly list of these, please ask one of the Room 4 teachers. Thank you to all the families who helped make our First Annual Family Fun Day a success. We could not have done it without your support. We look forward to the Parent/Teacher Conferences this month. This gives us a wonderful opportunity to learn more about each other. Look for the "Conference Signup Sheet" located by the parent mail boxes in our classroom. Thank you!

- Ms Maddy

Ms. Nichole & Mr. Paul's Preschool Class

We have had a great time in the classroom exploring the "I Am Special" theme. We were able to learn about ourselves and each other. We had great time with Cupcake on pony picture day. We would like to thank everyone that helped during the Family Fun Day and to all that helped with the ticket sales. October's theme is "A Bountiful Harvest" and we will be exploring foods from the harvest including pumpkins, gourds and tomatoes (from our own garden). We would like to welcome Ms. Katelynn to the Pre K class.

- Mr. Paul

Ms. Lori's Young Toddlers

Thanks to all of you for your sympathetic support and understanding during the separation anxiety felt by the toddlers the first couple of weeks. Accepting this as a natural part of child development, does not spare us from seeing and hearing the cries and the big feelings felt by children as they acquire

skills for self soothing. Please continue to remind them that Parents always come back and that the teachers take good care of them at school. Last month we practiced class routines. We also enjoyed all the different ways to eat, drink and, cook apples, in applesauce, apple butter, apple juice, cider and baked apples. We are building relationships through kindness and patience by using *the Fruits of the Spirit*. New toddlers have joined our class. Welcome Michael and Elijah. The children are excited to meet new friends. "A Bountiful Harvest" is the theme this month. We will be counting pumpkins in our basket and learning about "small", "big" and "bigger" as well as the colors Black and Orange. If you would like to bring in real or artificial pumpkins for our collection, we will practice exploring the different textures and sorting them by size, and color. Look for a bat or two floating around the room to support science and nature learning as well.

- Ms Lori

Cindy Bo & Ms. Tierra's Toddlers

Both Ms. Tierra and I are enjoying the new group dynamics in Room 1. We have several new children and families who have already added something special to the mix. Many of the children who were themselves "new toddlers" in our program and are now modeling routines and welcoming those new to the "family". It is so wonderful to see how secure and confident they are and it is a perfect reminder of the assurance we can have that those who are still adjusting, will reach this point as well. Another example of this was observed on *Pony Picture Day*. Though most of our toddlers were willing to pet Cupcake's soft nose and stand close to her, with their teacher, for a group shot, most did not want to sit on top for an individual photo. Thank you for your willingness to help and participate with events like the *Family Fun Day*, creating your family photo collages, making sure to supply your child's cubby with needed items and all! This month we invite you to bring an item that represents "A Bountiful Harvest" (A pumpkin, gourd, vegetable from your garden, etc.) that we can explore as a group and in our classroom environment. Warmth and well-being to all!

-Cindy Bo