

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

www.agumcc.com

June 2024

Message from Maddy

As summer approaches, we're preparing for fun outdoor activities! To ensure your child's safety, we kindly ask you to bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and comfortable shoes. Please note that flip-flops are not considered safe for school due to their potential to cause slips and falls during active play. We're also planning water play in the coming days and months, so it's important to check your child's cubby and ensure an extra change of clothes is available. In the event that your child doesn't have a change of clothing, we'll contact you to bring one as soon as possible, understanding that this may not always be convenient.

The Spring Family Survey Results for 2024 are in. All the families who participated in the survey were either very satisfied (50%) or satisfied (40%). 100% of families felt their child enjoys participating in the program, the program promoted their child's learning and development, and the staff meets their child's individual needs. Some comments received were: "We love you guys so much! Watching our child grow, develop, and flourish with you has been an amazing experience. We are grateful." "It's a great program with caring staff." "We love the program and our daughter has developed so much since joining." "We are glad our daughter is participating next year." Suggestions on how to improve our program were: "Staying open later would be helpful." "Extending your hours of operation would be helpful." To read the complete Spring Survey see the attached summary.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Thursday, June 20th. This day is not to be missed! School will close at 12 to host the Promotion Program for all the children. This event, held in the Sanctuary, is a significant milestone for our children and their families. It will be followed by a Social in Criswell Hall. Look for the Sign-Up Sheet to donate items for the social and help with set up or clean up. Also, remember the 'Visiting Days' from June 17-20. During this time, children will get a chance to visit their new classrooms from 9 -10 am, which will help them prepare for the new school year starting Monday, July 1, 2024.

The school will be closed for Summer Break from June 24 to June 28, 2024.

We're immensely grateful to the families who have been our ambassadors, sharing their positive experiences of our program. Your word of mouth is the most powerful form of advertisement, and we truly appreciate your support. As we prepare for our next session, we still have openings in the Preschool and TK Classes. If you know someone who could benefit from our quality childcare, we encourage you to share about our program. We take pride in our low child-to-teacher ratio and our dedicated, educated staff who are passionate about teaching and caring for children.

BIBLE STORY TIME & GOODIE BEAR

9:00 AM ON WED. JUNE 5TH & THURS.
JUNE 6TH IN THE SANCTUARY.

Story: "Mary and Martha", Luke 10:38

"Fruit of the Spirit": is "Self Control".

The bible verse is "For the grace of
God...teaches us ... to live self-
controlled, upright and a Godly live."

~ Titus 2:11-12

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, June 7- STAFF DEVELOPMENT School closes at 3:30
- Sunday, June 16—Fathers Day
- Thursday, June 20- Last Day of School. School closes at noon.
- Thursday, June 20—Promotion Program at noon
- Friday, June 21- School is Closed for Staff Development.
- June 24— June 28—School is Closed for Summer Break
- Monday, July 1- First Day of School for 2023-2024
- Thursday July 4—Independence Day

AGUMCC Staff Wish List

- ◆ Gallon jugs of Water
- ◆ Gallon bottles of Bubbles
- ◆ 5 oz drinking cups



AGUMCC Promotion Program

is Thurs. June 20 at Noon
in the First United Methodist Church.

Come celebrate with us. Each class will sign us a special song. A social will follow in Criswell Hall

Ms. Elvia's TK

First of all, I hope everyone had a wonderful Mother's Day! As the word "MOM" upside down spells "WOW," which all of you mothers are truly amazing! Time sure is flying. During May, the children learned about the lifecycle of butterflies and the body parts of a butterfly. So, ask your children about the four stages of a butterfly cycle. We learned butterflies taste with their feet, and the children were shocked. Many children said, "That's funny. What if we tasted with our feet?" In connection, the children created their own hungry caterpillars and painted symmetrical butterflies.

Children also learned about plants' life cycle, the parts of the plants, and how plants give us fruits and vegetables. The children will get to plant a seed and observe how things change and grow over time. Moreover, children have been enjoying the various areas in the classroom, like the sensory bin, which has kinetic sand, insects, flowers, and stumps. They named and matched the insects to an insect chart above the sensory bin. Children are also engaged in the science area in which they enjoy working with a frog, bee, and butterfly life cycle.

In the dramatic play area the children pretend to be cashiers and customers selling ice cream and order their favorite flavor. In the science area, we had a dragonfly, and children observe it using a magnifying glass. As they observed the dragonfly's wings they said, "They look beautiful, shiny, sparkly." Some said, "It looked scary."

For June, we will be learning about seashells and the ocean. The bible story and Goody Bear will focus on "Self- Control" and the story of "Mary and Martha." We will review numbers, shapes, and letters, such as number recognition and writing out the numbers, identifying shapes and sides/ corners, identifying letters/ sounds, and writing the letters. We will also practice our promotion songs to sing at the Promotion Program on June 20th. This will be a special day for all the TK children who will be transitioning to kindergarten. This will be an exciting time!

Ms. Swati's and Ms. Liz Preschool Class

In May, we worked on the letters X, Y, and Z, the Octagon shape, secondary colors, and number 10. Thank you to all the families for spoiling us with wonderful gifts, cards, plants, and special notes for Teacher Appreciation Week. It made my heart melt, and I felt greatly appreciated.

This month, we are getting ready for the big Promotion Celebration. Children will be practicing songs to sing during the event. We have been discussing the upcoming changes where children will transition into Ms. Elvia's classroom. During welcome week, children will visit their new classroom and familiarize themselves with the new environment.

Juniper's mom, Sara, and Moxie Mom Jenna will be helping the children tie-dye their shirts that they will wear for the Promotion. It will also be a wonderful keepsake for the children to have and remember the event.

It has been an incredible year, and it's hard to believe the school year is ending. Our children are all unique and ready to embark on their Pre-K journey. Some of them will move on to the Transitional Kindergarten with the district. I have cherished and enjoyed every one of them. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the families for their unwavering support in every aspect. I also wish all the dads, grandpas, and uncles a fantastic Father's Day! *"Dads are every child's first superhero in disguise."*

Ms. Shirley and Cindy Bo's Toddler Class

We hope everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day weekend and look forward to our last month together.



Though our sunny days were not as abundant as we'd hoped, during May, the toddlers still gravitated toward water fun activities. They asked daily to help water our backyard garden and use the spray bottles in the courtyard. They discovered the cause and effect of their actions as water filled empty spaces they sprayed into or dripped from the flowers they were spraying. They also observed that their water spray changed the color of a cardboard box or aided the wind in turning a pinwheel. There was such joy expressed in these simple discoveries.

The toddlers have been engaging in a lot of cooperative play and have even called on each other to help or join in play. It has also been a time to learn how to negotiate conflicts as they continue developing their social interactive skills. We have been helping them to communicate things like "I'm using it," "I would like a turn," "When I'm done," and "I want it back," etc., as an alternative to grabbing, hitting, etc. Rather than asking them to say, "I'm sorry," we ask them to notice the effects of their actions, then ask how they can help, and agree to play safely and respectfully so they can continue to play together.

It is hard to believe that this is our last month with many of our toddlers and with Miss Shirley as a primary toddler teacher. We have shared a lot of memorable moments together. Miss Shirley and I truly appreciate the uniqueness of each child in our group and the special relationships we have developed with them and their families. All of you will be greatly missed in the toddler room. I would also like to acknowledge the blessing of having Miss Shirley as a team teacher these past few years. Thank you for being such a kind and gifted co-worker! Miss Shirley will continue to work at the school in a Floater position, so there will be lots of opportunities to say "hi" or offer a hug in passing. Most of the toddlers will be transitioning to the preschool room. We will enjoy visiting our alums from the courtyard window. The children have formed special friendships, and visits to their new classroom during the "Week of Welcome" will help them transition to the new classroom. We will miss Liam and his family as Liam will leave AGUMCC to attend school with his older brother. We wish Liam and his family well.

Thank you for allowing us the privilege of partnering with you in your child's care and learning.

Many blessings always! Cindy Bo