

Children's Center Chronicle

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

Message from Ms. Maddy

Happy New Year! We now have the results of our Survey. Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete it. Your responses will help us to improve our program. Overall, 85 % of the parents surveyed were "Very Satisfied" with the overall quality of our program and 15% were "Satisfied". 64% of the parents attended a parent teacher conference. Of those parents, they found it informative. 25% of the parents would like more volunteer opportunities to help with in classroom activities and 35% would like to help outside the classroom. 92 % of the parents chose our program for socialization and 78% choose it for the curriculum as well. 42% of the parents would like more information on guidance strategies, socialization, activities done in the classroom and take home activities. Thank you for adding your personal comments. Here are several we received: *"It would be nice to get a copy of the weekly activities so I can talk to my child about them."*; *"Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication."*; *"We really appreciate the teachers and the administration."*; *"We love the pictures from parent teacher conference."*; *"This school has been a blessing for our child, has been a positive, safe experience, providing support for your families as well as being filled with love and fun for your children."*; *"The staff knows my child well and can make judgments about what he needs."*; *"Nurturing and security for my child and respect for the parents are a plus."*; *"I never worry about my child while I'm at work."*; *"My child is very happy and excited to go to preschool."*; *"Thank you. I think you are doing a wonderful job."*

I am sure everyone who was able to come, see, and hear the children in the "Holiday Program" were amazed at how wonderful the children shared the joy of holiday cheer through traditional songs. **Many thanks to all** who made the Holiday Program a success! Thank you to the families who brought goodies to share after the program and to the staff for their dedication in helping the children prepare for this fun family event. I would also like to thank Jordan Henderson who ran the sound and slide show for the program. **We have two upcoming family fun events planned.** Both events will help the staff raise funds needed to attend the California Association for the Education of Young Children (CAEYC) conference in Sacramento. The first event is a **"Taco Bar Dinner and Regatta Painting Party"**, on Friday, January 28 at 6:30 PM. This event is to prepare for our "Rain Gutter Regatta Races" in February. The "Taco Bar Dinner" tickets are \$5 a plate and you can purchase your regatta boat, at the dinner, for \$5, as well. The dinner will start at 6:30 and the boat preparation and painting will follow. The evening will end about 7:30. Our second event will be the actual **"Spaghetti Dinner and Rain Gutter Regatta Races"** on Friday, February 25. This evening will also start at 6:30 with dinner and the races will begin around 7:00. These events provide our families another opportunity to have fun, build new friendships, and strengthen the heart of our school community.



Theme For The Month:
Discovering Our Winter Wonderland,
Arctic Animals and Weather

- ### Dates To Remember
- Monday, January 17- School is closed for Martin Luther King Day.
 - Friday, January 28 - Taco Bar Dinner and Regatta Painting Party Fundraiser at 6:30 PM
 - Monday, January 31- Scholastic Book Fair Orders are due.

Fruit of the Spirit Focus for the Month: Joy

We can have joy in the midst of a storm, as Nehemiah (8:10) reminds us that *"The joy of the Lord is your strength."* By assuring children that they are cared for and loved, by God and others, they can have confidence and joy, no matter what comes their way. We will be sharing stories such as *I Like Myself* and *Being Friends*. These stories illustrate the concept of joy through emotion and friendship.

Cindy Bo and Ms. Tierra's Toddlers

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

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a fun filled holiday season! Our December was very busy. The holiday program went well, we learned about all the different December traditions and celebrations. We would like to thank everyone who donated books to our classroom from the book fair, helped run the book fair and sold See's candy. Your support helps to make our classroom and our school a great place to be.

Our focus for the month of January will be our "Winter World." We will be talking about snow, winter animals and snow related activities. Our letters this month will be 'O', 'P' and 'Q'. We will continue our numbers with 15, 16 and 17. Also this month, we will begin a "Word Wall", since so many of our children are beginning to show an interest in reading. - Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Nichole, and Ms. Wasinii's Preschool Class

Hope you all had a wonderful safe holiday season! December was a very busy month with preparations for our holiday program as well as the anticipation of fun December traditions. Miss Nichole and I would like to thank everyone who participated in the See's Candy sales as well as the Scholastic Book Fair. We look forward to reading all of the new donated books that we have received.

Our theme for January is "Winter World" and our dramatic play center will be transformed into a Wilderness Lodge. We will be looking at Rhombus and Trapezoid, the numbers 9 and 10, and focusing on the colors blue and white.

Our class is very active in the sharing department and we encourage the children to bring in an item to share that goes along with our areas of focus. Thank you! - Ms. Wasinii

I hope that you enjoyed some special time with your families and that your children (and perhaps you too) are eager and ready to return to school. Thank you to those who participated in the Holiday Program. The children did a great job jingling their bells and looking adorable in their pajamas and special holiday outfits. We hope you enjoyed the slideshow, capturing the children, as best we could, dressing in costume and experiencing some of the joy and wonder of the season. Thank you to all who donated books to our classroom through our Scholastic Book Fair and to all who supported us through the sale of See's Candy. We appreciate it!

Even though rainy days at school can be challenging, with the children learning about winter weather, we will hope and pray for rain. It can be exciting to witness rain, as one of God's awesome wonders, and as we observe the rain with the children, we have many opportunities to learn about cause and effect. Though it's doubtful the children will experience snow here at school, we will, never the less, share about various types of weather conditions, arctic animals and how to keep dry and warm during the winter months. Blessings to all for a great new year!

- Cindy Bo

Many Thanks

Thank you to Chetisse Sweeney for organizing the Holiday Book Fair and to all the parents and staff that volunteered to sell books!

Thank you to Adeline, Cynthia and others who have faithfully been helping us with our never ending laundry!

Also, thank you to our Children's Center Chronicle Editor, Cindy Bo, who gives of her time and talent each month to make this newsletter possible.