

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

www.agumcc.org

April 2018

Message from Maddy

Spring is here and it is "The Month of the Young Child". Our school will host our annual "Open House", Thursday, April 12 at 6:30 PM. This is a community event, so please invite your family and friends. This is a time for the staff to share the importance of the play, exploration, and learning, that occurs each day at our center. In addition, you will have an opportunity to see the many learning activities and areas of interest both in and outside the classroom.

Sunday, April 29, we will have our annual **AGUMCC Children's Center Sunday Celebration**. Families are invited to come and hear the children sing at the 10:30AM church service and attend our fabulous **Art Show and Ice Cream Social**. The Art Show will include wonderful group art projects, one made by each classroom, that will be auctioned off through "Silent Bidding". Check out your child's classroom project, that will be displayed starting April 12. To get a bidding number, so you can bid on your child's art piece, please see me, Maddy. We also need volunteers to help make home-made treats to share at this event. The sign up sheet will be on the Sign In/Out Table.

Now that current families have registered for our next session, to begin July 2, I will be contacting families on our "Waiting List", in regard to enrollment. Families not on our "waiting list" will be eligible for enrollment starting as of May 1. We look forward to welcoming new families to our program. Most of our new families start with us in the toddler groups. However, some families will join us in the Preschool or Pre-K groups, as well.

It is always good to plan ahead when looking for a quality program. We pride ourselves on having an educated staff, that have a love for and commitment to young children. Also, we work hard on creating interactive environments, both in the classroom and outside, that stand for quality by following the standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Our Pre-K program follows the Pre-K Guidelines, set by the Department of Education, which is designed to help children successfully enter Kindergarten. **Thank you to the staff, the families, the church and the board members, for all their time and dedication in making this a great program.**

Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Thursday, May 10, at 1:00 PM, in the McMillen Room. If you can help with this special time, for our staff please let me know.

**New Life &
Springtime Discovery**
*Things that slither, fly,
crawl, and hop. Oh my!*



BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

Our story, from the Beginning Bible this month is "Jesus is Risen", from Matthew 28:5-10. "Goodie Bear" will share a "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching on "Goodness". Ask your child about this wonderful time we will be sharing together, on **Wednesday & Thursday April 4 & 5, at 9:05 AM, in the Church Narthex.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL

- **Friday, April 6** - School Spirit Day and Staff Development. There is no Extended Care on this day. School closes at 3:30.
- **Thursday, April 12** - OPEN HOUSE, 6:30 -7:30 PM
- **Thursday & Friday, April 19 & 20** - School is Closed for Staff Training.
- **Sunday, April 29** - CHILDREN'S CENTER SUNDAY. Children will sing at the 10:30 Service, followed by an Art Show and Ice Cream Social 11:30 -12:00.

MAY

- **Friday, May 4** - School Spirit Day and Staff Development. There is no Extended Care on this day. School closes at 3:30.
- **Thursday, May 11** - Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 1:00 PM, in the McMillen room.

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

Thank you for conferencing with us. We enjoyed talking with you and having the opportunity to share with you, all the progress your child has made. Kindergarten round-up is coming. Have you checked with your school to find out when that is? The children have already started talking about the school they will be attending for kindergarten. We will be making a graph of the schools, so that everyone will see who is going where. During the month of March we were learning about various artists and creating work inspired by them. We learned about Monet and Picasso. We have also started working on our art auction item for this year. I hope everyone will makes a bid on our class project and wonder who will take it home this year. It's Open House time and we look forward to having your children show you around their classroom. It's also a good time to start bidding on the art auction item. I hope everyone had a restful and blessed Easter.



~Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Jayna and Ms. Tresha's Preschool Class

I am amazed, each time I write this newsletter, how quickly this year keeps passing. As we enter into April, we are excited for all the changes we will be experiencing. As new life blooms all around us, we will be exploring the changing season. From the life cycle of plants, to tadpoles, to butterflies, our class will have an opportunity to have a first hand look at each. We will explore them through hands on science experiments, art, and literature. I would like to say a huge thank you to all of our families for your overwhelming support of our school through your generosity and participation in our social and fundraising events. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming Open House. It's at events such as these that make me proud to be a teacher. Each of our students has made great progress this year and I am confident they will continue to make great strides at each stage of their life. Blessings, ~Ms. Jayna

Ms. Shirley and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

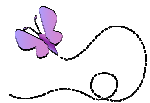
We seem to finally be enjoying some warmer weather. "April Showers bring May Flowers!" This month we will be taking time to discuss all the changes in the weather. The children will also be watching and learning more about the process of growing plants. In March we talked about different things that plants need to grow, like sunlight, water, soil etc. Our children strengthened their growing muscles as they spent time climbing, running, playing ball and

jumping. Children have been enjoying riding trikes in the courtyards, too. Even some of the children have learned how to pedal! Everyone had a great time exploring the large and small cardboard boxes. They were using their creativity and imaginations as they explored the boxes in different ways. They have also been enjoying playing in the sand box with our new shovels and trucks. In our dramatic play area the children pretending to make different flower arrangements to decorate the classroom. Also, they have shown a lot of interest in building with connectors and blocks. During meal time the children have been asking about the different fruits and vegetables we eat and wondering where they come. This has inspired wonderful discussions. In April we will introduce the children to different kinds of bugs and talk about new life. We will be using books, songs and outdoor experiences to learn about these different insects and their life cycles. They will also have the opportunity to learn about fine art as they work on a collaborative piece, inspired by Monet. They will use tissue paper to collage a piece depicting Monet's Water Lilies, which will be displayed at the Open House. Get your number and participate in the Silent Auction at our Children Center Sunday Art Show. We will be preparing our classroom for Open House any help from our families will be appreciated. We thank all our families for your continued support of our many ongoing projects like making playdough and doing class laundry.

~Ms. Swati

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

In March, the Young Toddlers enjoyed their time planting their wheatgrass baskets and adding a few plants to our gardens. They especially had fun working on their fine motor skills and eye hand coordination, as they watered our plants with spray bottles and sprinkler cans. We look forward to watching them grow, as we continue to care for them. Now we move into our celebration of new life, as flowers bloom and fruits emerge. Hopefully we will see and be able to taste tomatoes, strawberries, etc., from our plants, in the months ahead. This is also an enjoyable time to explore the smallest of God's creatures : lizards, bugs and insects. We will learn about a variety of critters as the children show an interest in them. We will also be exploring the process of metamorphosis: caterpillar to a butterfly as I include a butterfly habitat in the classroom. Make sure to note the various dates of special events that will be taking place this month. There are many. Happy Spring! He is risen!



~Cindy Bo