

# Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

August 2008

## Message from Ms. Maddy

Welcome back Ms. Melissa who will be transitioning to the preschool room with our toddlers this fall. The line up for the fall teaching staff is as follows: Cindy Bo and Ms. Tierra will be with children who are two years of age by September in room 1; Ms. Lori will be in room 2 with the young toddlers (children who are not 2 by September); Ms. Melissa will be teaching with Ms. Nichole on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and with Mr. Paul on Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 3; Ms. Diana and Ms. Stephanie will be teaching the Pre-K program together room 4; Ms. Pam will remain our indispensable Snack Coordinator and Floating Teacher. I am looking forward to a great school year with a wonderful staff, excited children, and great families.

August is the time of year for children begin preparing for the fall. Our currently enrolled children will have three scheduled visits to their new classroom before their official move in the fall. The first visit will be in the morning for choice time and snack at 9:30 AM. The second will be in the mid morning during outdoor play in the courtyard and for music and movement in the classroom from 10:30 AM. The last visit will be again in the morning for circle time, choice time, snack at 9 AM—Please be sure that your child is here before 9 AM on that day.

School Improvement Day— Saturday, August 16, 2008. We will be "Power Washing" the courtyard and entry way, painting, and planting new flowers. If you would like to join in on the fun, there will be a Work Day Sign Up Sheet on the Sign In/Out Table. AGUMCC will provide lunch for those who help improve and beautify our school.

Parent orientation Meeting - Thursday Night, August 21, at 7:00. We will start in Criswell Hall to go over updated information regarding the AGUMCC Program. Afterwards, the parents will follow the staff to their child's classroom to hear the highlights and an outline of what to look forward to this next school year. This is a night you don't want to miss.

End of the Summer Pot Luck Picnic - Wednesday, August 27 at 12PM in the courtyard. Bring a dish to share (see the sign up sheet in our entrance hallway), a blanket to sit on and enjoy a meal with family and friends. **School will be out at 12 PM that day—please, so be sure to sign your child out before lunch. Remember once you have signed out your child, they are your responsibility, so be sure to keep a watchful eye on your child after he/she has eaten.** The backyard playground will be available for you to watch your child run off any extra energy before you go home. **Don't Forget: School will be closed on August 28-29 for staff development and fall preparation.**

## Summer Theme

### "Trips and Travel"



Each of the classes will take "trip" and "travel" with our imaginations. We will go to *the Beach, to the Zoo, and on a Camping trip.* We want to hear about your summer trips—bring your pictures and souvenirs to share with us.



## Mark Your Calendar

August 16 School Improvement Day  
9 AM—2 PM (lunch included)

August 21 Parent Orientation  
7 PM -8 PM

August 27 School is out at 12 PM.  
Join us for our *Annual End of Summer Picnic & Potluck at noon.*

August 28/29 No school  
Closed for Staff development

## Ms. Diana's Pre-K Class

The count down has begun. The children are TOTALLY excited to be making their way to kindergarten. It has been a year that I will never forget!

Some of the exciting things we have planned this month are a field trip to the yogurt shop for Ms. Diana's birthday (August 1st), a picnic in the courtyard, teacher for a day, and the children's last day of pre-school.

This month we will be studying animals and taking a pretend trip to the zoo.

It has been a blessing to be a part of your family for the last year. Thanks for all you do for your children and sharing them with us!!

## Ms. Stephanie, Ms. Nichole, and Mr. Paul's Preschool Class

Going *camping* was such a blast! The children loved hiking to our *campsite*, sitting around the *fire* and singing campfire songs. They even gathered the *wood* from *the forest* for our *fire*.

We are now going to visit the zoo. We are looking forward to long safaris and meeting new animals! We are sure that we all will fit right in! We will also have a sharing day that will give the children a chance to share their own zoo experiences as we explore yet another new adventure! One *WILD* month left and then off to Pre-K we go!

## Ms. Lori's Transitioning Toddlers

This month we will learn about *camping*. The children will make birdfeeders using old bread, seeds and peanut butter. They will be also construct a first-aid kit complete with bandages, cotton balls and medical tape.

We will also be learning how to respect plants and animals including insects. The children will have opportunities this month to participate in activities that will empower them to think things through and to problem solve.

Lastly, we will preparing for preschool by visiting room 3. We have been talking about the visits during and now we are looking forward spending time with the big kids.

## Cindy Bo and Ms. Tierra's Toddlers

The toddlers really enjoyed "going to the beach" this last month. They had so much fun learning about ocean animals and how they move through the water. During that time, we sang the "Slippery Fish" song, a lot! We had fun with it and changed it to include new ocean animals. Near the end of the month we had fun reading pirate books and then pretending to be pirates who sailed the seas in search of treasure.

This month we are packing our bags and going camping and on picnics. We will be talking about the different modes of transportation for traveling such as boats, planes, trains, and cars.



# AUGUST

## WISH LIST

- Laundry Volunteers
- Crib mattress or small mattress
- Bean Bag Chairs for Cozy Spaces.

**Be sure to check out our teacher's individual wish list for their classroom on the bulletin board in the entrance hallway.**

