

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

www.worshipweekly.com

Message from Maddy

February is "Friends at School and in Our Community" month. We will have several special visitors throughout the month; the AG Fire Dept, AG Police Dept, SLO Ambulance Service, Vision Screening from Dr. Hile, Pastor David, and our very own postal worker. Be on the lookout for notices of these special visitors. If your child does not regularly attend on the day of a visit, you and your child are welcome to come, during the scheduled visit time, to take part in these special events. If you would like to share your occupation with the children, please contact your child's teacher.

Rain Gutter Regatta Race Day is coming soon. This FUN FILLED event will be held on Saturday, February 27. Do you have your boat? It's not too late! You can still purchase a boat for just \$5. Check your family folders for information on helping to sell lunch tickets for this BIG event. Baked Potato and Salad Bar tickets are being sold for \$5 per plate. The event will start at 11:30 AM with lunch and the Regatta Races will begin at 12:00 noon. Please sign up to help out on that day as well, if you can. The success of every event, here at AGUMCC, is made possible by the support of all our wonderful volunteers. Also, watch for the Regatta Bracket weekly up-dates. There will be three classes; the 'Under 5' class, '5- 18' class, and the 'Open' class.

Mark your calendar; "Love and Logic" is back!!!! This five week course is for parents and caregivers. Love and Logic teaches positive guidance techniques that include offering choices, setting limits, and logical consequences. www.loveandlogic.com. Love and Logic will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Arroyo Grande, in Criswell Hall. It will be open to all members of the community. This course will be every Tuesday in March from 6:00 to 8:00 PM. The instructors of the course are Matt and Tracy Regusci. Their educational background is in Child Psychology and Organized Leadership. Registration is \$50 per person or \$95 per couple. Childcare will be available for \$5 per child. Registration includes dinner and a handbook. The Love and Logic handbook has simple and practical ways to change lives by reducing stress and offering fun, while raising responsible children.

THANK YOU to everyone who gave to "The Five Cities Christian Women's Group". The Penny Drive for Turkeys raised \$301.87 and there were 66 items of food donated to the "Food Pantry".

Theme for The Month:

Friends at School and in Our Community

Fruit of the Spirit Focus for the Month:

Love

Love is something that we can not touch but we express it and experience it in our interactions with God and others. At school, we are learning to grow friendships with one another through loving actions and words.

"A friend loves at all times" Proverbs 17:17

Dates to Remember

- Friday, Feb. 5 - **STAFF DEVELOPMENT** School will close at 3:30 for in-service
- Selected days in February - **FRIENDSHIP DAY** - Please check with your child's teacher for more details
- Saturday, February 27 - **RAIN GUTTER REGATTA Race Day** Lunch will be at 11:30 AM and the Regatta will begin at 12:00 noon.
- Monday, Feb 15 - **SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY**

Upcoming Event

- March 2- 30 (Every Tuesday in March) **LOVE AND LOGIC -A positive guidance workshop for parents and caregivers.** Dinner will be at 6:00 and sessions will be from 6:30 - 8:00. **Registration is required.**

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

This month we are looking forward to the many visitors that we will be having and to learn about their important jobs in our community. If anyone would like to share his or her occupation with the class, let me or Ms. Nichole know so we can add it to our calendar of events. This is a great way to have parent participation in the classroom and it will be a lot of fun. One of our visitors will be a postal worker who will be picking up the mail from our classroom. For this visitor please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope so your child can send you a letter from school to home. In addition, with this activity, we will be helping your child learn his/her address. We will be sending home a postcard that we will need to be returned so that we can create a graph of cities represented in our classroom. This month is also our "Friendship celebration" on Friday Feb. 12. We will be having a class luncheon. There will be a sign up to help with this special event, which will make it both successful and fun. Parents are welcome to come and have lunch with the children on this very special day. Look for details to follow. Our letters this month will be 'O', 'P', and 'Q' and our numbers will be 14, 15, and 16. We can't wait!



- Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Anna and Mr. Paul's Preschool Class

Burr! Although the January weather was mostly sunny, we learned a lot about snow and animals that live in the Arctic Regions. We learned that all snowflakes have six sides, that they are made from ice crystals clinging to dust in clouds and that they melt in spring to create puddles and rivers. We also learned fun new songs like *Chubby Snowman*, *Peter Penguin*, and *I'm a Little Snowman*. The children enjoyed marshmallow math, perhaps because after adding and subtracting marshmallows they got to eat one! Last month I introduced pieces of *Zoo Phonics* and in February we will continue *Zoo Phonics* recognizing letter sounds and the letters in our name, tracing and writing letters in our names, and talking about what sounds the names of items around the classroom start with. Instead of Valentine's Day, we will hold a "Friendship Day" where Room 3 parents are invited to join our classroom for a Potluck Friendship Lunch (Date TBA). We will be discussing love, friendship and how to be a kind friend. The curriculum theme for the month is "Community Helpers" so let us know if you are interested in sharing information, with the class, about your career. Also, the children are very interested in story-telling and sharing personal items with



their peers, so please feel free to let your child choose one appropriate item to bring to school for sharing time each day! Remember to sign up and attend the Rain Gutter Regatta for a family afternoon full of friends, food and fun!

- Ms. Anna

Ms. Lori and Ms. Tierra's Toddler Class

Learning about polar animals and arctic weather was so much fun. We learned about Alaska, sled dogs, the famous Balto, Pippins and much more. We waddled like penguins and hibernated like grizzly bears. Our hands froze with the icebergs and we wanted to free the whales frozen inside them. One more month of winter and soon it will be over until next year. We will miss the snowball toss and falling to the ground like snowflakes.



Next it is "Community Helpers" month, with many community helpers visiting the school in February. This means the class routine may look different. We will be preparing the toddlers by talking about the firefighters, police, ambulance and mail persons and how they are helpers in the community. You, as parents, may help by talking about them at home as well, how they are safe and school is a safe place. This is always an exciting month. There will be lots to see and do and a few keepsakes like coloring books, stickers and hats. The other great theme is "Love". All the toddlers will be sending love notes to their parents. PLEASE bring in a stamped self-addressed envelope, as soon as possible, for them to use for this activity. Thanks for your support. - Ms. Lori

Cindy Bo's Younger Toddlers

During the month of January, God provided wonderful opportunities to learn about winter weather. The younger toddlers were able to listen to the rain and thunder right outside the classroom! We later imitated the sounds with our hands. They watched as the light rain made spots on the ground and as the heavier rain completely soaked our yards, leaving wetness and puddles behind. We sang a song about the many things the rain got wet and watched out the window as the rain helped blend the colors on our powder paint pictures. I look forward to continued tangible and relevant learning experiences for our group, this month, as we have visits from special and meaningful people in our community. Please bring in a self addressed stamped envelope so your child can mail a special something to you during our visit from our local postal worker. We will also be having a "Friendship Breakfast" this month. I will send out more information about this special day planned for Wednesday, February 10. Love to all!



- Cindy Bo