

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

WWW.WORSHIPWEEKLY.

March

Message from Maddy

The Rain Gutter Regatta was a great success. Check out the pictures at www.worshipweekly.com/090213.html. Thank you to the staff and parents who volunteered their time to help make the event fun for everyone. The money raised will help the staff attend the CAEYC Conference in Long Beach, April 8-9, 2010.

This month's theme is "How Things Grow and Exploring Farm Life". Spring is coming and it's time for renewing our gardens. Children will be very involved in this process as they cultivate the ground, bring plants to plant, care for them, and watch them grow. We have two areas in the courtyard that we will be reviving with new flowers. We will also be planting a new crop of vegetables in the backyard garden. The gardens are an important part of our learning experience here at AGUMCC. The children will learn to care for and appreciate the wonder of life and the delicate balance of nature. The garden also provides science at its best with the budding of foliage, the buzzing of insects, and the blossoming of flowers.

."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 in Criswell Hall. It is open to the community. This course will be held every Tuesday in March, 6:00- 8:00 PM. Registration is \$50 per person or \$95 per couple. Childcare will be available for \$5 per child. **The registration fee includes dinner each night 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.

Theme for The Month: "How Things Grow and Exploring Farm Life"

We invite you to bring a plant to be planted in one of our gardens. Any non-toxic flower or vegetable you would like to bring will be a great addition to our play yards. Please bring your plant by Wednesday, March 17th.

Fruit of the Spirit Focus for March: **Gentleness**

The children are often reminded of the importance of being gentle with things and each other here at school. We will have a special focus on gentleness as we care for plants and talk about farm animals this month. We are encouraged in the book of Philipians to "Let your gentleness be known to all men" (Phil. 4:5)

Are YOU registered with the Vons or Spencer's eScript Program? We earn \$\$\$\$s with every purchase you make using your registered eScript card! Our school # is 500020780. Please return your Vons Registration Form to the folder located on the Parent Information Board so you can start supporting the school with every purchase you make. If you have any questions or need a new VONS card, see Ms. Maddy. You can find out other merchants who participate in the script program at www.escrip.com.

Mark Your Calendar for Important Up Coming Events

March

- Every Tuesday, Starting March 3rd - LOVE AND LOGIC: Dinner, at 6:00, is included and sessions will be from 6:30 -8:00 PM. Registration is required. Childcare is available for \$5 each child, per session. RSVP 481-2223.
- Thursday, March 11 and 25- PLANNING MEETING for Children Center Sunday BBQ, 6:30 -7:30PM
- Wednesday, March 31, 2010- MINIMUM DAY for Spring Pot Luck and Easter Break.

April

* Summer and Fall Enrollment Month! *

- Thursday and Friday, April 1 and 2, - SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR Easter Break.
- Tuesday, April 6 - AGUMCC OPEN HOUSE 6:30 -7:30 PM
- Thursday and Friday April 8 and 9 - STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL IS CLOSED (Staff will attend the CAEYC conference in Long Beach.
- Sunday, April 11-CHILDREN'S CENTER SUNDAY, BBQ & BOOK FAIR, 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM



**CHILDREN'S CENTER BBQ
& SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2010.**

We are looking for volunteers to make this **HUGE** event a success. Come to the planning meetings on Thursday, March 11 and 25, to find out what help is needed. Event volunteers will earn a voucher to be used at the **BOOKFAIR** or **BBQ**.

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

During the month of February, the children enjoyed meeting all the community helpers and learning about safety. They also enjoyed writing and mailing letters to home. It was great seeing the families having fun at the Rain Gutter Regatta too. Last, but not least, thank you to all the families that helped make our Friendship Party a success. In March, we will begin to explore the magic of springtime by discovering how plants grow and growing our own cups of grass. The letters we will be learning about are 'R', 'S' and 'T'. Our numbers this month will be 17, 18, and 19. We will be working on patterns, measuring (longer, shorter, same length, etc.) and identifying and naming solids.

Ms. Nichole

Ms. Anna and Mr. Paul's Preschool Class

Thank you to everyone who made community helpers month and our Friendship Potluck a huge success! I am so thankful to have such amazing children, and their generous parents aren't so bad either! In addition to meeting local firefighters and spraying the real fire hose, we got to sit in Scott the postal worker's truck and have our eyes checked by Dr. Hile, a local optometrist. We had crazy hair day in honor of Ashlynn's mom, Tanya, who told us all about being a hair stylist. She even brought wigs to show different hairstyles and the tools she uses to make people look good! Anya's mom, Margaret, who is the director of the children's library in SLO, also came to talk to us about being a librarian. It was great to see the children excited to see emergency vehicles but to see that their own parents are important community helpers is so special! In March, we will be farmers as we grow plants in our classrooms and our school garden and discuss how things grow on the farm. We have been practicing writing our names and many of us can do it on our own! We will continue so-

liding this skill in March as well as recognizing letters and numbers by sight and counting to 20 (right now we get to about 14 and then make it up!) I am so proud of our class as they are growing socially, emotionally, and are so intelligent! I cannot believe it is already March, as it is my first year at AGUMCC. Thanks to you and your children, I frequently feel so thankful to have found a program like AGUMCC, with families like yours—time flies when you're having fun! Room 3 is having fun...and learning too!

Ms. Anna

Ms. Lori and Ms. Tierra's Toddler Class

The children greatly enjoyed the time they spent with all the wonderful community helpers that came to visit us last month and would like to thank them all for volunteering to spend time teaching us all about how they help people every day. Thank you also to all the families who donated items for our Friendship Lunch and to all those who attended; we hope you had as much fun as we did. March is a month of learning all about plants and animals. We will be learning where all the farm animals live, what they eat, and how they grow. We will also be talking about how plants grow.

Mrs. Tierra

Cindy Bo's Younger Toddlers

Thanks to all who contributed food for our Room 2 Friendship Breakfast. To those family members who were able to join us, the children and I really enjoyed that time with you! In February, our youngest toddlers were surprisingly curious and interested in meeting the special visitors who came to share about the part they play in serving our community. What a thrill it was for them to be able to climb up in the big fire truck. Some were even daring enough to spray the powerful fire hose! This month we will be exploring farm life. In addition to learning to identify farm animals, the children will be able to show off the animal sounds many of them are so proud to know already. In keeping with the theme, we'll also be planting seeds which will also transition nicely into our April celebration of Easter and new life.

Cindy Bo

REMINDER: It is required to give a 30 day notice to change your child's monthly schedule. If you have any questions, see Maddy. *Changing your schedule without written notice can result in a \$25.00 Fee.*