

# Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center [www.worshipweekly.com](http://www.worshipweekly.com) May

## Message From Ms. Maddy:

We want to improve our communication and be better connected with all our families. Look for the "Family Communication Board" in your child's classroom. This is where you can find an "Extra Care" request form. Once you fill it out, hand it to your child's teacher so she is aware of your request. Then, she will give it to me for approval. I will make a copy of it and return the original back to you. Then place the Extra Care Form in an envelope with your payment. Also, in the entryway, there is a "Family Network and Wish Board". On one side of the board, families can post their business cards, a picture to share, items that need a new home or an item to sell. On the other side of the board, teachers post items they need or would like to add to their classrooms. If you see an item on the board that you would like to donate or purchase, take the item notice off the board and return the item, with the note, to the office. We are always thankful for and appreciate the support we receive from our families!

The Children's Center Sunday event was a wonderful celebration of the children. We heard the children sing and saw their beautiful art, in Criswell Hall. Thank you to those who volunteered their time, to those who came, to those who brought items to share at the social, and to those who purchased the classroom masterpieces. We raised \$285 to purchase items from the "Wish Upon a Star Board". See pictures of this wonderful event at [www.agumcc.org](http://www.agumcc.org)

**Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Friday, May 8 at 1:00 PM.** I'm looking for family members that would like to help with this special event, for the staff. If you can help with providing food, decorating, set up and/or clean up, let me know. There will be a Sign-up Sheet on the Sign In/Out Table, in the entryway.

**Are you getting e-mails from me?** If not, and you would like to get monthly reminders about special events and upcoming deadlines, please put your e-mail address in the tuition box for me.

**May is Parent-Teacher Conference Time.** This is an excellent opportunity for your child's teacher to share with you, the many experiences and milestones your child has had throughout the year. After attending your conference, please return the Spring Survey. Our school strives to be the best it can be. The surveys let us know how we are doing and where or how we can improve our program (*The survey can be anonymous*). Thank you for your continued support in making this a quality program for the children and families we serve.

## Show your School Spirit!

We are placing T-shirt (\$10) and sweatshirt (\$15) orders on **Friday, May 15, 2015.**

**Don't delay!** Children need their T-shirts in time for the "Promotion and Acknowledgement Program" on Thursday, June 18, 2015.



Theme for May: Down at the Pond

## TIME WITH PASTOR DAVID & GOODIE BEAR

Pastor David will read "The Promise", from Genesis 18:10-15, in the Beginning Bible. "Goodie Bear" will share a "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching on "Patience". Ask your child about this wonderful time we will be sharing together, on **Wednesday, May 6 & Thursday, May 7 at 9:15 AM, in the Church Narthex.**

## Dates to remember

- May is the month for- Parent-Teacher Conferences; Sign-up with your child's Teacher/Caregiver, for your individual meeting date and time.
- Friday, May 8- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon at 1:00 PM
- Sunday, May 10 - Happy Mother's Day!
- Monday, May 25- School is Closed for Memorial day
- Thursday, June 18—Minimum Day (School Closes at 12) **End of the Year Pot Luck Lunch**
- Thursday, June 18 - Promotion and Acknowledgement Program will be held in the United Methodist Church Sanctuary, at 6:30 PM. All children and their families are invited to this memorable event. Children arrive @ 6:15 PM in their classroom.

### TEACHER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

This is a fun, annual event that our school families enjoy doing, each year, for the staff. This year, it will be held on Friday, May 8, 1:00 PM in the McMillen Room. A sign-up, to help with this event, will be on the Sign In/Out Table. If you can help providing food, decorating, set up and/or clean up please call Ms. Maddy.

#### Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Tresha's Pre-K Class

April was so full of fun! Learning about seeds, planting and watching our seeds grow. We planted flowers, pumpkins and tomatoes. We would like to thank all the families who brought in seeds and plants to help make our school beautiful! The children learned about the artist Kandinsky with a video showing all the different kinds of art he created. We then created an art piece inspired by him, which was sold at our Art Auction. We would also like to thank all the families who came to Open House. The children really enjoy getting to show you around their classroom. This month we will be talking about pond life but, because the children have been so interested in pets, we have decided to explore this topic as well. We have also finished the Zoo Phonics Alphabet and we will now be working on review. Finally, be on the lookout for our conference sign-up sheet and be sure to sign-up for your final conference.

~Ms. Rebecca

#### Ms. Kassie and Ms. Shirley's Preschool Class

In April our class explored bugs, insects, butterflies and their life cycles. We learned which bugs were insects and which ones were not. The preschool class would like to thank you for attending our Open House. We hope you enjoyed learning about our class. In May we will be moving on to "Down at the Pond". We hope to observe pollywogs changing into frogs. If any of you have a pond in your yard and could spare some tadpoles, it would be greatly appreciated. In April our class explored bugs, insects, butterflies and their life cycles. We learned which bugs were insects and which ones were not. The preschool class would like to thank you for attending our Open House. We hope you enjoyed learning about our class. We will review all the shapes and numbers we've learned. Our focus colors will be the pastels; pink, lavender, and yellow. As we finish out the alphabet, this month, and get ready for Pre-K, we will continue to use letters and sounds in review. We will challenge the children with learning to trace the letters in their name. Some of them are even ready to write their names by looking at them. In addition to all of this, we will be conducting parent-teacher conferences. Sign-ups will be in the classroom. Your children are growing so fast and we are so proud of them.

~Ms. Shirley

#### Ms. Claudia and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

April was a very busy month. Our Heritage Potluck was a huge success. Thank you to all the families who brought dishes to share. Also, thank you to the McMillan family for doing our classroom laundry for the month of April. We need more families to help with laundry so, please let us know if you can help out in the months ahead. For our April sensory activity, the children explored soil filled with worms. They loved exploring them. We also had caterpillars, in the classroom and the children learned about the life-cycle of the butterfly. It was fun to see the caterpillars make their chrysalis and emerge as butterflies. It was lovely to meet all the families who came to Open House and explored our classroom. In addition, it was fun seeing all the families at Children's Center Sunday, enjoying the Ice Cream Social and Art Show. What a yummy treat!! May is parent-teacher conference time. The sign-up for conference times, will be on the Family Communication Board. If you are needing a different time, than those listed, Ms. Claudia and I. We will be more than happy to work with you. Our Staff Appreciation Lunch is on Friday, May 8th of at 1:00, in the McMillen Room. Let Ms. Maddy know if you can help with this event. Last, but not least, Cheers to all the moms—HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!! *"Being a full-time mother is one of the highest salaried jobs... since the payment is pure love". ~Mildred B. Vermont*

~Ms. Swati

#### Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

In April, we explored "New Life" as we began observing the metamorphosis of four little caterpillars, as they formed their chrysalis' and will soon emerge beautiful Painted Lady Butterflies. The young toddlers will also be able to enjoy releasing them into their new habitat (Our Backyard). Many of the young toddlers showed great interest in our theme of exploring bugs. They pointed out pictures and play objects, found in the environment, that matched creatures we talked, read stories or sang songs about. Thanks to those who were able to participate in one or all of the many events that took place in April (Heritage Pot-Luck Picnic, Open House, and Children's Center Sunday). It is so nice to have families involved and to have the chance to get to know you better! In May we will be focusing on the theme "Down at the Pond". We hope to observe pollywogs changing into frogs, talk about the beaver's hard work ethic, the unique design of turtles, and more. There has been a lot of joy in outdoor discoveries, such as lizards, snails, and ladybugs, that I'm sure will continue throughout this month as well. I look forward to our time together during parent-teacher conferences this month, too!

~Cindy Bo