

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com December 2021

Message from Ms. Maddy

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "AGUMCC's Community Service Project" and gave their spare change for the Pennies for Turkeys Drive. This is a simple way to help the children understand the need of others. The Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry also greatly appreciates your contributions. They will use the money to purchase turkeys for the Christmas Baskets, which will be given to families in our community. Did you know that every \$1.00 we contributed is equivalent to \$10.00 at the Food Pantry?!

This month, each family will receive a "Family Heritage Information Sheet". This is another way we can work together to build the relationship between home and school. Please complete and return it to your child's teacher. This project will help us to learn more about your family and the traditions you may celebrate. If your family has a tradition that you would like to share with your child's classmates, please make sure to tell your child's teacher or message them through the Child Pilot App. We hope everyone feels welcomed and connected here as we invite you to share your family traditions with us.

We are selling See's Candy for the Holidays. Don't stand in the long line at the store; order your see's candy Online through SEE'S CANDY YUM-RAISING. The last day to order is FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3. The candy you order will be mailed directly to the address you provide. This Fundraister will help purchase supplies for the classrooms. If you are not familiar with ordering on line please contact the school office at 805-481-2223.

Friday, Dec. 17, 21 we will be having a school-wide "Pajama Day". This is also Minimum Day. School closes at 12:00 noon. In addition, school will be closed for Christmas Break Dec. 20-24, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021 to observe New Years Day.

The results are in from our Fall 2021 Family Survey. Of all participants, 96.4% were very satisfied with the overall quality of this program. We are so pleased that 100% of the families surveyed felt their child was well cared for and that they are happy and enjoy participating in the program. Also, 100% felt the program promotes their child's learning and development and that the staff meets their child's individual needs. According to the survey, families choose our program for these reasons: the age appropriate curriculum, socialization, and low child to teacher ratio. Parent involvement is key to our school's success. Over 40% said they helped with laundry, 46% donated supplies to the school, and 7% participated in fundraisers. The most popular way families like to receive information is through Child Pilot, which was the preference for 92% of those we surveyed. The next best way is in person. (See the attached summary for more details.) Thank you to all families who participated in the survey. Your feedback is incredibly helpful in our efforts to improve our program.

Dates To Remember

- <u>Friday, December 3</u>- School Closes at 3:30, for Staff Development. It's SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY! Show your school spirit and wear your AGUMCC t-shirt.
- Friday, December 17 Pajama Party Day and a Minimum Day. Children get to wear their favorite pajamas to school. School will close at 12:00 noon. (No lunch that day.)
- Monday through Friday, December 20-24 School is closed for Christmas Break.
- Friday, December 31 School is closed to observe New Year's Day

Friends of the Children's Center CAMPAIGN.

Make a difference in a child's life with a "Year End Gift" or "Monthly Pledge". Your tax deductible contribution can secure the future of the AGUMCC program.

Give two ways:

- 1. Safe and Easy on line at https://www.worshipweekly.com/giving.html
- Mail to: AGUMCC
 275 N Halcyon Rd
 Arroyo Grande, CA 93420



BIBLE STORY TIME

IN THE COURTYARD: WED. DEC 1 AND THUR. DEC 2, 2021

☆ Bible Story: "The Good News", from the Beginning Bible, Luke 2:8-20.



☆ ☆

"Fruit of the Spirit": Peace.

★ Verse: Isaiah 26:3

Hello Pre-K Families! The holiday season is upon us already, and our students have become so overjoyed with all that this time of year brings! Last month we discussed what it means to be thankful and celebrate with those we love, and we plan to continue that same message throughout December. Daily we talked about what it means to be a Super Friend, including taking turns, letting other children join in our games, and being kind and respectful to one another. The children have been working very hard to embrace this concept as they play games together outdoors and share popular classroom toys, such as the train set and restaurant, indoors. We will continue recognizing Super Friends throughout December as we did in November.

Please continue to send your share pictures on Mondays and Tuesdays so we can fill up our Alphabet Share Book. For the month of December we will only introduce the letters Mm and Nn, since it's a short month. Also, we would love if you would be willing to share pictures of your family enjoying your special holiday traditions so we can share them with the class. We are blessed to have a diverse group of children and I'm sure everyone will find it fascinating to see how each family celebrates in their unique way. We will be happy to take photo copies of your pictures so you can keep the originals.

We are so grateful for all of your support and look forward to new adventures in 2022! Have a blessed and safe holiday season whether here at home or traveling. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

~Ms. Andrea

Ms. Elizabeth & Ms. Swati's Preschool Class

Happy Holidays! Can you believe it's already Christmas? This year has been new and exciting for our school family and we look forward to celebrating the holidays together. As you know we are able to welcome our families into the classroom and it has been a joy showing off our projects during pick up and drop off. We appreciate everyone taking the extra time adapting to the new procedures. Please continue checking your child's folder, cubby, and lunch cubby daily at pickup. Also, double check that your child has

an additional set of clothes to remain at school just in case the need arises.

As the weather is beginning to change, please dress your child accordingly. In our area our climate can be cold like winter in the mornings, crisp spring at lunch time, and then very warm summer by the afternoon. We always recommend dressing in layers for the colder weather for a successful day. This also gives us the opportunity to work on zippers and buttons.

This month we have exciting plans for the Preschool classroom. We have transformed the dramatic play area into our own hot cocoa shop where we can make friends warm drinks to enjoy. This is a fun time for your child to explore their imagination with each other. We also have a few special presents for our families that we will be creating. The Preschool loves art time and making presents for their families. They are very proud artists.

We look forward to celebrating the Holiday Season with our preschool families. Keep an eye out for a special notice in regards to a holiday celebration. We will be sending notices on Child Pilot in regards to an end of the year celebration. Happy Holidays and Blessings for a Happy New Year! In love, light, and learning...

~Miss Elizabeth Ann Key

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Cindy Bo's Toddler Class

It is hard to believe we are coming to the end of another year. In November we reflected on the many things we have to be thankful for, including family and friends, and we are looking forward to continued celebrations with family and friends during this special end of the year holiday season. Now that families are coming in to the school with their children again, the toddlers are becoming more familiar with the other members of their friend's families. Miss Shirley and I are so happy to be able to have more in person interactions with all of you, as well!

The children have been spending a lot of time in our dramatic play area lately. Since we took out most of the play foods, it has encouraged more imaginative and symbolic play, using one object to represent something else, such as using bead necklaces or puff balls to represent foods. We also have several stainless-steel bowls, pans, utensils, etc. that have provid-

ed a wonderful opportunity for exploring sounds. It can get a little loud at times! Some of the children have shown interest in learning how to set a simple place setting, as we extended our dramatic play table and added more seating, as well.

We will celebrate Christmas this month by having a little nativity set for the children to play with and by introducing them to the gift of Jesus and the story of His birth. If you have any special family traditions that you would like us to share or include in our time with the children, please let us know. May you have a blessed Christmas, surrounded by those you love.

~Ms. Cindy Bo