

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com. January 2022

Message from Ms. Maddy

Happy New Year! Several families expressed how they missed having our traditional Christmas program, so we decided to have the Children sign Christmas Carols in the courtyard on the minimum day, Friday, Dec.17, before Christmas. We hope you enjoyed this special activity and time together visiting with the other families of our program. THANK YOU to the staff and the children, who spent many days practicing their songs, preparing for this fun activity.

We feel blessed to continue serving families and providing the best of care and early childhood education to the children in our program. We extend a heartfelt "THANK YOU" to all the families that have chosen our program. Our staff participates in the "Quality Counts" program provided through the San Luis Obispo Child Care Planning Council as a quality childcare program. This program offers our staff continued education opportunities and stipends for their continued professional and educational achievements.

Do you need extra care from time to time? If so, fill out an "Extra Care Form" and give it to your teacher or me. It is helpful to give 24-hour notice to make sure space is available.

Do you need to change your child's contract? We understand that changes occur for families. However, we do have a 30-day written notice policy that is required for families needing to make changes regarding their child care needs. There is always movement in childcare, and spaces for children in our program are limited. With this policy in place, when space does open up for another family, AGUMCC has ample time to notify a new family so they too can join our program.

Would you please check to make sure your child has a set of Extra Clothes? Also, this is a good time to evaluate if the extra clothes your child has still fit if the ones that are in his/her cubby have been there since July.



December was a whirlwind! We hope that everyone had a blessed Christmas with your friends and family. We also hope that your time off with your child(s) was filled with laughter and love. Thank you all for the thoughtful gifts.

As we look forward to a new year, Ms. Andrea and I will be observing the children uncover the many interests they have so that we can continue to incorporate them into our curriculum, along with our kindergarten readiness curriculum.

We are moving forward with our Zoo Phonics introducing Oo, Pp, and Qq. We look forward to your sharing of pictures for these letters in the weeks ahead. Our moral teaching for the month is Joy, so we will also spend our time talking about the things that bring us joy, such as our families and friends and Jesus and his love for all of us. Happy New Year! ~ Ms. Rebecca

<u>Ms. Swati & Ms. Elizabeth's Preschool</u>

Happy New Year! We welcome 2022 with open arms and high hopes for a successful and fulfilling year. Thank you to all the families who joined us for our informal Christmas celebration in the courtyard. It was so much fun watching all of our friends singing Christmas songs together during the encore. We hope this new year will bring many more activities that include the families.

This month we begin our focus on winter weather and the changing of the seasons. Although we don't have snow here, we will discuss winter weather in a warmer climate like ours, where we get rain. We will also enjoy the many leaves that fall from the tree in our backyard and talk about how the plants change in the colder months. As we explore these topics, you may start hearing about new concepts from your child, like hibernation.

<u>Reminder</u>: Please walk your child <u>into</u> the classroom to complete the Morning Drop-Off Routine. For the new year, we are adding something new. After you sanitize your child's lunch and water containers and put both in your child's lunch cubby, please help your child find his/her name card for him/her to place at a spot on one of the tables. We hope you enjoy this activity, as it reinforces the skill of your child identifying his/her name. Then walk your child outside to greet either myself or Ms. Swati. Also, remember at school, <u>only adults open doors/gates</u>. This practice and policy that keeps everyone safe at school.

As we have started the new year, this is a good time to restock extra clothes in your child's cubby. You may find that your child is out of clothes or he/she has outgrown the clothes he/she has. Also, please have your child dress in layers to keep them warm because of the cold months ahead. Thank you to all cherished Preschool Families as we look forward to another amazing year. In love, light, and learning.... ~ Ms. Elizabeth

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Cindy Bo's Toddlers

Happy New Year! Cindy Bo and I hope you had a blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year. December was a very busy month as we learned about Baby Jesus, the greatest gift of all. The children enjoyed playing and re -enacting the story of Baby Jesus through the nativity set and flannel board. Their imagination soared as they used candy cane necklaces to decorate the Christmas tree in our classroom. We introduced them to Goody Bear this month as we came together with other classes and heard the Christmas Story. This is the first month that we have come together as a school since the pandemic started. We sang Christmas songs all month as we celebrated the reason for the season.

In January, we will be putting scarves, mittens, and hats in the dramatic play area as we ring in the winter of 2022. Polar animals, pine cones, and other winter items will also be brought into the classroom. We look forward to watching your children continue to grow as we head into the new year. Blessings to everyone. ~ Ms. Shirley



AGUMCC Wish List Bird Seed Laundry Helpers Clorox Wipes Baby Wipes Containers of One Gallon Drinking Water