

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com October 2025



Message from the Director, Ms. Maddy

Get ready for a visit from the pony 'Star' on **Tues., Oct., 21, and Wed., Oct., 22**. Pictures will be at 9:00 a.m. for the toddler group, 9:35 a.m. for the Preschool Group, and 10:00 a.m. for the TK group. Brothers and sisters are welcome to come and take their picture with Star too. See last year's pictures in your child's classroom or in the office. There is no obligation to purchase. Every child participating in this activity will have their picture taken will need a permission slip to release liability from the First United Methodist Church and Children's Center. Purchasing the adorable pictures are optionable. You can decide after seeing the photos. *If your child does not attend school on Wednesday or Thursday, you're welcome to come and stay with your child to have his/her picture taken.*

Spare Change for Turkeys: Start collecting your spare change for those in need. Since 2005, this **Community Service Project** has been a beacon of hope, raising \$5280.28. Last year, we raised an impressive \$841.66. Our goal this year is to raise \$500. The money we collect will be given to the Five Cities Christian Food Pantry to buy turkeys for the Christmas Baskets. Did you know that for every \$1 you give, it has a value of \$10 at the Food Bank? During November, look for the collection container in your child's classroom.

REMINDERS:

- **Check your Family Folder** in your child's classroom and **Childpilot** for daily Messages or Activities to avoid missing any information or pictures of your child having fun at school.
- **30-Day Notice Policy.** If you need to change your "Child Care Agreement," it is required to give a 30-day written notice.
- **Parking Lot Safety:** These reminders are for everyone's safety.
 1. Slow down in the parking lot and follow the 5 MPH. To help with traffic flow, please enter from Halcyon and exit onto Bennett St.
 2. It is unlawful to leave a child in your vehicle when dropping off a child or to leave your car running. vc 15620(a) and vc 22516.
 3. If assistance is needed during drop-off or for pick-up, please ask any staff person
- **Be cell phone-free** when dropping off or picking up your child for transitioning your child to and from school.
- **Instead of Halloween:** AGUMCC will have a Pajama Day on Thur. Oct. 31. Please save treats and customs for after-school fun.

GOODIE BEAR & BIBLE STORY TIME

WED. OCT. 1ST & THUR. OCT. 2ND.

We will read Mathew 14:13-21, "The Big Picnic," from the Beginning Bible. This story is about a boy who shared his lunch with Jesus when he preached to the multitudes. Our "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching is on **Kindness**. Being kind to others is a way of showing God's love to one another.

Mark Your Calendar

Friday, October 3, - STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY AND SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY. Wear your school T-shirt, to show your school spirit. **SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 3:30 PM.**

Tues., Oct. 21st & Wed., Oct. 22nd
PICTURE DAYS, WITH "STAR", THE PONY.

Toddlers @ 9, Preschool @ 9:35, TK @ 10

"Friends of the Children's Center Year End Giving Campaign for 2025".

Help make a difference in a child's life. You or someone you know can make a one-time donation or become a monthly sponsor by visiting www.agumcc.org, click the GIVE NOW Button, or use the QR



Thank You to Monthly Sponsors

Mary Thronson, Bob Underwood, Kerren Brown, Kent Unsworth, Jan Treat, Marjorie Ott, Elwood Hyde and Lucy Jacob. You too can be a sponsor; one time, several times, or monthly.

Ms. Swati's TK Class

September flew by with everything we did. I also enjoyed sharing with you, your child's development during teacher-parent conferences.

In September, the TK classroom was filled with learning and fun. We have now introduced the letters D, E, and F from our Zoo Phonics, along with the associated animals that children like because they ask if they can hold or hug them. Along with the letters, children learn the name, sound, and movement, and come up with words that begin with the letter we introduce. We also talk about whether it's an uppercase or lowercase letter, or a vowel or a consonant. Children have created many art projects, such as dinosaur marble art, name finger painting, and decorated an Elmer Elephant. In addition, we introduce the shapes, Sandy Square and Ricky Rectangle. Ask your child what shapes we are learning this month. The children's favorite game is a matching memory game with apple cards, which involves turn-taking, patience, counting pairs, and then deciding who has the most.

In October, we will be focusing on our Zoo Phonic letters G, H, and I. In addition, our theme for the class will be Pumpkins. We will also introduce sorting/classification using pumpkins. We will incorporate triangles into our art. Lastly, our moral teaching will focus on kindness. We will be reading kindness books during group time and point out when children show kindness towards others. Then, we will brainstorm ways to be kind to others.

If you would like to help let me know. I need help with laundry, making Play-Doh, and cutting out projects. ~ Ms. Swati

Ms. Liz and Sibyl's Preschool Class

Hello, Preschool families. Welcome to the fall season, it's finally here! We have all been eagerly anticipating the upcoming holiday season, which begins with this wonderful month of October. Our class is already excited and talking about how their families' homes celebrate Halloween. We will also be working on some fun and exciting art projects this month, which will include decorating pumpkins and even tasting pumpkin pie! We will have the children bring in a small-sized pumpkin that they can carry. We will use them as a counting activity, using pumpkin seeds, and utilize the inside of the pumpkin for our pumpkin pie.

We will also focus on pumpkin science this month, including the life cycle of the pumpkin. We will even be watching pumpkin seeds grow as a class to bring home and hopefully grow into plants. At the end of the month, we will explore our senses by carving a pumpkin together.

We are so lucky to live in an agricultural community, and many of us have gardens at home. Another one of our themes for the month will be a focus on growing and eating healthy fruits and vegetables. We will begin by introducing the different food groups and discussing what we enjoy eating. This is another way we can connect with families at home.

Additionally, in October, we will continue to ask parents to bring in items to share from home that start with the letters "D, E, F". The children were very excited to stand up in front of their peers and show them what they brought from home. They were also very proud

that they could tell the class which letter it started with and what sound it made! We had some very tasty apples and bananas to share this month. Thank you to all the parents who helped participate!

October is the month when we celebrate kindness and read "Jesus Feeds Thousands" during Goodie Bear, which will take place on October 1st and 2nd. The children will learn the song "Be Careful Little Eyes What You See," and we will be making binoculars to watch for acts of kindness within our classroom. We will also give out kindness awards to students who show acts of kindness towards one another.

Ms. Sibyl and I want to extend an extra special thank you to all our preschool Families. I greatly enjoyed meeting with you to discuss your child's development during our conference. As your child's teacher, it makes my job easier when we have such caring families who are so invested in their children's education.

Thank you for all your support, Love, Ms. Liz

Cindy Bo and Ms. Alicia's Toddlers

September was a busy month with all our apple explorations, parent-teacher conferences, and the Harvest Parade.

The toddlers enjoyed pretending to pick an apple from an apple tree as I held an apple by the stem above their heads. They really worked hard to reach it and then practiced their pretend eating skills, pretending to take a bite out of the apple, chomping down, and saying "Crunch" without actually putting it in their mouths. They also had a great time helping to make applesauce and gobbled up the warm sauce after taking a turn to mash the ingredients of apples, water, and cinnamon that they had helped prepare together. Some of our other apple explorations included examining the different colors and sizes, cutting them open to see the seeds inside, and tasting different varieties. What fun!

The children were also excited to release ladybugs into our play yards and gardens. They also had fun hunting for them on the days that followed. We are now spending time in our backyard again, so we have had many encounters with butterflies, lizards, and birds as we enjoy our outdoor time.

In October, we will move on from our apple explorations to explore pumpkins and gourds. There will be fun stories to read, songs to sing, and lots of things to talk about and discover during this beautiful harvest season.

Thank you to all our families who were able to join us for the Harvest Parade and who have met with or are planning to meet with Miss Alicia and me for your Parent-Teacher Conference. It is always such a joy to share these times with you and to develop a greater partnership in fostering your child's growth and development.

With joy spending with your precious children, Cindy Bo

Can you donate to our Emergency Pantry ?

We Need: Individually Packages of Pretzels, *Cheez-its, *Fruit/Veggie Pouches, *100% Fruit Gummies, *Trail Mix,