



# CCEP Newsletter

## Unchanging Values

We sometimes think of change as a good thing, usually when it brings improvement in efficiency, attitude, or standard of living. Sometimes we regret change, as we see favorite traditions abandoned or people moving away. Just as your individual lives change, so does the life of a school. We say farewell to teachers and students over time, and welcome new ones into the community. We change the curriculum or classroom arrangement. We even reassign teachers to new teaching partners. This kind of change is inevitable in a school and we learn to cope with or accept the losses, and to celebrate the gains.

It is important, though, for a school to have some things that don't change—its values and the traditions that are built on founding principles, its mission and vision. For CCEP, the mission guides all major decisions and we constantly ask ourselves whether we are fulfilling that mission. Are we educating, honoring, and nurturing children and are we building community? Are we offering our program in the Episcopal tradition? Our vision statement ensures that we provide developmentally appropriate

lessons which are play-based and literacy-rich. We seek to foster the children's intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth.

As I come to school every day, greet families, walk the halls, visit classrooms, and check in with teachers, our values and traditions are always on display. Here are some examples:

- ♥ In the ways that families greet and support one another
- ♥ In the ways that teachers promote kind words and actions
- ♥ In circle time, when children learn how to listen, take turns, and speak up
- ♥ In chapel, when we sing, learn, and pray, and celebrate birthdays
- ♥ In nature walks, where we learn about and appreciate God's creation
- ♥ At meal time, when we say grace and have polite conversations with friends
- ♥ In the kitchen, where our cooker ladies prepare healthy foods with love
- ♥ On the playgrounds, where we exercise our bodies and play with our friends
- ♥ In music class, where we sing, move, and play instruments
- ♥ In the outdoor classroom,



where we explore the woods and create dramatic scenarios

- ♥ In the ways that we practice inclusivity, remembering that Jesus taught us to "Love one another."
- ♥ On library day, when grandparents, guests, and friends come in to read to our children and to make books available for borrowing
- ♥ In parent conferences, when we share our hopes and dreams for each child, and collaborate in the most effective ways to serve them
- ♥ In the responsible ways in which we conduct business
- ♥ In the laughter we enjoy all day long

This is a partial list and I'm sure you could add more from your own experiences. Nevertheless, I hope this sampling helps you to remember what we value here and what makes us distinct. As parents, grandparents, board members, vestry, or friends, your commitment to our school and our mission keeps us focused on the unchanging tenets of a CCEP education.

*Dr. Jo Harney  
Head of School*

**Christ Church  
Episcopal Preschool**

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FEBRUARY 2017

### Points of Interest:

- ☺ Don't forget to sign up for holiday camp 2/17 & 2/20.

### FEBRUARY DATES

FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Andrew's Place

FEBRUARY 3, 2017

New Applications &  
Reenrollment Contracts  
Due

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Family Chapel

FEBRUARY 9, 2017

Parent Assoc. Mtg

FEBRUARY 14, 2017

BOT Mtg

FEBRUARY 17, 2017

In Service  
Holiday Camp Only

FEBRUARY 20, 2017

President's Day  
Holiday Camp Only

FEBRUARY 23, 2017

Moms' Night Out

## Fun with Food

As mothers ourselves, we know how hard it can sometimes be to get your kids interested in the food you serve them at home. Try cutting sandwiches into a variety of shapes! We alternate mini and big triangles, mini squares and rectangles, and, best of all, circles! Circular cookie cutters work wonders on a boring sandwich! Or try any cookie cutter you may

have: a heart shape in February and a shamrock in March!

Having trouble getting them to eat the vegetables? Time to try a dip! Kids love dipping raw (or even cooked) cut veggies in Ranch dressing, but they also like hummus and yogurt based dips. You can find a mild Tzatziki in the refrigerated section of the gro-



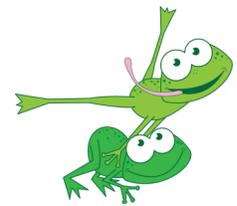
cery store. Good luck!

Nancy Freeborn & Xannie Morris  
Food Coordinators/Cooker Ladies

## Leapfrog Challenge

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for the many generous gifts we have received for our Annual Fund. We have received donations from parents, grandparents, parishioners, alumni families, faculty members, vestry members, board members, family foundations, and friends. We are hoping for 100% participation by all of our constituents! To that end, we are launching our Leapfrog Challenge for the month of February. Which group will have the largest percentage of participation? Here are the current numbers:

Vestry – 12%  
Board of Trustees – 37%  
Faculty – 29%  
Current Families – 24%  
Grandparents – 45%



This is not about the dollar amount of your gift—just your participation. Help your group “leapfrog” over another. Our lobby display will keep you informed about the progress of our challenge. Make your gift of any size *today* by clicking here: [Annual Fund](#)

## Cinco de Mayo

Plans are underway for the best party in town—CCEP’s Annual Spring Gala! Our theme matches the date this year—Cinco de Mayo on May 5! Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Amazing food and drink, entertaining music, fabulous silent auction items, and

the liveliest live auction you’ve ever seen, will all make for a fun evening for a great cause. We are seeking sponsors to cover the cost of the event so that all of our proceeds can support CCEP’s educational programs. If you would like to be a sponsor (or donate an auction



item), please click here: [www.ccepde.org/gala-2017](http://www.ccepde.org/gala-2017)

Tickets will be available soon and we encourage you to not only attend, but to bring a friend.

# Star Life

Winter is upon us, and although we have not had much snow yet, the Star class has enjoyed reading stories about snow, making marshmallow snowmen, and, in our "science lab", creating snowflakes with borax, hot water and pipe cleaners. Dr. Harney has invited our class to be responsible for filling the bird feeders on both of our playgrounds. We are becoming junior birdwatchers and enjoy looking for and identifying the winter birds that come to the feeders. We are also learning about our solar system. We have borrowed scientific books from the library that have wonderful pictures taken by the Hubble Telescope and Voyager that give children an opportunity to see

what objects in "space" really look like. They have created their own astronaut helmets and painted rockets. They designed their own planet and alien. We created patterns using pictures of Planet Earth, the moon and a rocket ship.

Winter weather has created a lot of "indoor" recess time. Nevertheless, we are getting our exercise. Our class baked a gingerbread man and just like in the story, he ran away. We had to search the entire building to find him. We got to meet so many of the people who work in our church school and the church and they were able to give us clues to help us find him. We found him napping in our classroom. And just like the fox in the story, we gobbled him up! We

also participated in the Peace March, honoring the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. We made doves and wrote words of peace on them. We carried them from our room to the third floor and to our chapel. We took our painted rockets to the "big room" and had a launch. Our rockets traveled "to infinity and beyond." We also had an indoor snowball fight using fabric snowballs. Although these indoor activities are fun, we still love those days when we can get outside, see the sun, and run and run and run! We are looking forward to Valentine's Day and a unit about the Rain Forest.

Mari Schubert, Janet Spring,  
Annie Williams  
Pre-K Teachers



PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL

# Moms'

NIGHT OUT

FEB 23 • 7-9PM • TOSCANA

*includes light bites from the parent association  
cocktails available for purchase*

1412 North duPont Street  
Wilmington DE  
302.654.8001

**RSVP TODAY: [dgilliam@christchurchde.org](mailto:dgilliam@christchurchde.org)**



# 2017 Annual Fund Donations as of January 31st

## **Visionary**

Curran Foundation

## **Leadership Society**

## **Golden Ram Society**

John Buonocore

Jennifer and Brian Hopkins

Ericka and Michael Hynansky

The Kookaburra Foundation

## **Shield Society**

Cady and John Burris

Katherine and Scott Burris

Vicky and Matt Martelli

Suzanne Smiley

## **Patron**

Marianne and Christopher Archbell

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Kellie and Warren Smith

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Wells Fargo Matching Gift Program

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Mitzi and Blake Rohrbacher

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Randy and Murray Sawyer

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Kuwon and Yeonjin Suh

Marsh and Alan Uebler

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Sheryl and Michael Ford

Carl German

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Jill Kolody

Jean Lee

Lauren and Vincent Madaline

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Julee and Dan Schwieger

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Cecilia and Dominick Trapasso

Katie and Jason Van Druff

## **Donor**

Madaline Cullen

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Jane and Ray Steele

Lisa and Robert Tuleya

Annie and Ian Williams

## Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

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Fax (302) 655-2259  
ccep@christchurchde.org

A Ministry of  
Christ Church Christiana Hundred



[ccepde.org](http://ccepde.org)

## February Birthdays!



Layne R.—February 8  
Jake P.—February 17  
Jack S.—February 25

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

Shop Amazon Smile at [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com). Choose Christ Church Episcopal Preschool as the charitable organization. Amazon pays us a small percentage of your sales at no extra charge to you. Make this your Amazon bookmark and we'll always benefit.

## MARCH 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Family Chapel	8	9 Morning w/ Mom	10	11
12	13	14 BOT Mtg	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Spring Break—Holiday Camp Only						
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Spring Break—Holiday Camp Only						