

CCEP Newsletter

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

January 2011

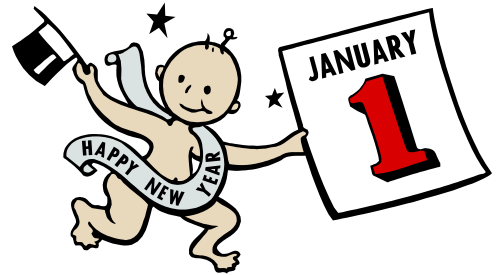
Volume 5, Issue 5

Happy New Year!

Although our school's "new year" begins in September, and the liturgical year begins on the first Sunday of Advent, the rest of the world marks it on January 1st, so we join with others in looking forward to a wonderful 2011. It is always interesting that the turn of the calendar page encourages us to make resolutions, or to face old tasks with new focus and energy. Truly, December 31st isn't a more or less important day than January 1st; nevertheless, we experience new hope that we can overcome obstacles, or tackle a challenge.

How wonderful that we receive these opportunities to improve ourselves so frequently. We can "turn over a new leaf" on our birthday, anniversary, special holiday, New Year's, or on any occasion that causes us to look ahead. God gives us lots of chances for new starts.

New starts abound in the preschool. For me, it is being named permanent Head of School. Although my tenure here began in the summer, the Board's decision to hire me on a permanent basis this week has given me an opportunity to renew my commitment to the school. It helps me to look ahead and to make resolutions on how I can serve the community in a better way. For our teachers, it's welcoming a small number of new



students in January—preparing a cubby and a place at the table, labeling a coat hook, and calling parents to answer their questions. It's drawing upon new energy to help a child develop a skill. For parents, it's encouraging independence in their children and spending more time with them—playing a game, reading a story, or building with blocks.

Another thing that is wonderful about having opportunities to start anew is that it allows us to forgive ourselves for not measuring up and to give ourselves a second chance to accomplish something or to reach a goal. A resolution made on January 1st and broken in a few weeks can be re-made on any day we choose. God will give us the strength we need to persevere.

So, as the New Year approaches, don't be afraid to make resolutions—and to add new ones or work to strengthen the ones we've allowed to lapse. A new year starts whenever you need it.

Jo Harney
Head of School

Re-enrollment for 2011-2012 School Year

Re-enrollment contracts will be mailed on Wednesday, January 12th, along with an adjusted tuition rate schedule. You will also receive a Letter of Intent to Apply for Financial Aid. If you wish to apply for financial aid, please return this letter with your contract. Re-enrollment contracts are due back in the school office by January 28th.

IMPORTANT JANUARY DATES

JANUARY 3, 2010
Welcome Back

JANUARY 5, 2010
Child Find
(for 3's and 4's)

Financial
Leadership Mtg

JANUARY 10, 2010
Womens' Dialogue
@ 7pm in
Commons Room

JANUARY 11, 2010
BOT Mtg @ 7pm

JANUARY 12, 2010
Parent Association
Mtg @8:45am

JANUARY 17, 2010
Martin Luther King
Day—No School
Holiday Camp Only

JANUARY 27, 2010
Moms' Night Out

JANUARY 28, 2010
New Applications
and Reenrollment
Deadline



A Message from the Rector

Epiphany is Thursday, January 6, when we remember the visit of the magi to the child born to be our King. When we return to school, our first chapel worship reminds us to seek God, as the wise men did.

You may put decorations away but I hope you can keep the meaning of Christmas alive with your children. The spirit I encourage you to sustain is

the blessing of generosity and a sense of wonder, the peace that comes with songs and candles as you tell the story of God's love born in a babe. In the dark of winter, light candles each night and say a simple prayer, asking God to light the way for peace, for joy, and for love.



Ruth Lawson Kirk



THANK YOU for your generosity and support of the CCEP Advent Doves Collection benefiting St. Michael's School and Nursery. During a time of year when we are pulled in multiple directions, your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. Together, we shared the spirit of season by giving gifts to forty children, who otherwise may not have had a gift to open Christmas morning.

Jinni Butz
Outreach Committee Liaison

Parents' Association News

Happy Holidays from the Parents' Association! Can you believe we are about to make the turn into the New Year? What a fun year we have had thus far and we are grateful for all the parent support at our events! Including Christmas Party 2010....Who knew what a little snow would do in just a few hours. This year's Holiday party that Jennifer O'Neal hosted felt like a family night at her house! The room was festive and the crafts, music and visit from Santa made the night special. We were sad not everyone could make this evening (including Chick-Fil-A) but as Alexandra Kirtley put it, "We made Lemonade out of Lemons." And a quick trip to Jansen's fed us all! I saw every parent involved with decorating cookies, siblings helping the younger kids do crafts and paper airplanes became the new hit! Ruth and her singing of Christmas Carols felt like Christmases of old! Did we mention all the gifts? Forty families participated in this year's advent dove project. I know we have put big smiles on little faces this



Christmas. Thank you again for your generous giving!

We have lots to look forward to in the coming months! Moms' night will be Thursday, January 27th. Sure to be a fun night out, so mark those new 2011 calendars!

Finally, our yearbook team is off and running. We have sold 30 yearbooks and

we need an additional twenty to help cover the cost! This will be a treasure of memories you will not want to miss. I can't think of a better Grandparent gift!

We wish you the best of the Christmas season and a Fantastic New Year! Hug your children close and soak up those great smiles and laughter!

Cheers!

Jennifer Raiford
Parent Association President

CCEP Annual Fund @ Work



Perhaps you noticed a new rug or dollhouse in your child's classroom, some new instruments that the children were enjoying in music class or a new balance beam in the gym? Throughout the first half of the school year and through the support of CCEP's Annual Fund, we have been working to fulfill our teacher's "wish lists" for their classrooms.

This is just one example of our CCEP Annual Fund at work. And you will see more this Spring as we unveil new signage and embark on further enhancement of our Outdoor Classroom. We would like to thank everyone who has generously contributed and pledged to the Annual Fund so far. And we would like to encourage those who have not yet done so, to please consider making a gift. You can pledge online by visiting www.ccepde.org/annual-fund or by contacting Denise Harris at 302-472-0021.

Valerie Wolslayer
Parent Association

IMPORTANT TIDBITS

New Financial Aid Procedure

CCEP will be using **School and Student Services**, associated with the **National Association of Independent Schools**, to process our financial aid applications this year. All information will be submitted to **SSS**, who will then provide us with a calculation of a family's ability to pay. Applications may be submitted online or the forms may be printed and mailed. Supporting documents, which include copies of tax returns, will still be submitted to the school, not to **SSS**. The web address for filing your application is www.sss.nais.org.

We've Earned our Second Star!

Delaware Stars, a quality rating agency for early childhood centers, has awarded CCEP a second star, based on standards we have met in the following areas:

- Qualifications and Professional Development
- Learning Environment and Curriculum
- Family and Community Partnerships
- Management and Administration



Our teachers have worked extremely hard to meet the standards and to complete all required professional development. We have already begun work on our third star by enrolling in classes which will help us to improve our classroom environments.

Parenting Classes

Our annual parenting classes will begin on January 27th. This year we are offering five classes for which you may register individually. The five classes will include these topics:

- Answering Your Child's Questions About God, by Ruth Kirk, Rector
- Alphabet and Phonemic Awareness, by Karen Coviello with *Reading Assist*
- Encouraging Your Child's Independence, by Yvonne Nass
- Two DVD and Discussion Sessions on Conscious Discipline, facilitated by Jo Harney

In order to defray the nominal expenses associated with these classes and to support CCEP's outreach projects for February and March, we are asking for a donation of \$10 per class. An informational flyer and registration form will be sent electronically with our weekly email this Friday. They are also available in the school office.

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

A Ministry of
Christ Church Christiana
Hundred

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Happy Birthday!

Chase Raiford—January 14th

Ava Simperts—January 14th

Carson Brown—January 19th

Thatcher Flynn—January 24th

Olivia Sashin—January 28th

Braeden Massett—January 30th

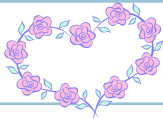
Benjamin Smolko—January 31st



Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday to you,
Happy Birthday
God Bless you,
Happy Birthday to you!

Tumblebus!

The Tumblebus is coming to CCEP! This is a traveling gymnastics bus outfitted with mats and equipment and staffed by qualified teachers offering kid-friendly gymnastics classes. A class is being offered to our full-day students on Tuesday, January 4th. All students must have a signed waiver form returned to CCEP in order to participate. We are hoping to have a gymnastics class in the afternoons once each month.



FEBRUARY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Yvonne Nass Parenting Class @ 7—9 pm	8 BOT Mtg	9 PA Mtg	10	11	12
13	14	15 Ruth Kirk Parenting Class @ 7—9 pm	16	17	18 In Service Holiday Camp Only	19
20	21 President's Day—Holiday Camp Only	22 Reading Assist Parenting Class @7-9 pm	23	24	25	26
27	28 Becky Bailey Parenting Class @7-9 pm					

