

# CCEP Newsletter

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

November 2010

Volume 5, Issue 3

## What We Can Learn From Our Children

Fall is not my favorite season. Although I find moments of joy in the beautiful fall foliage and the crispness of the air, I also see my garden beginning to die, leaves falling, revealing bare tree trunks, and the water birds all leaving the lake in my backyard. I am reminded of death and of the stark, monochromatic season of winter approaching. I try to remind myself of the necessity for this period of time—dormancy, hibernation, and migration—so that I can look forward to what follows. Spring always comes, but not without this span of desolation and loss.

Just as I am beginning to feel the downward pull of the season, I hear children singing about pumpkins and jack-o-lanterns; I see the Lambs all trooping outside to take a class picture in front of their adopted tree; I hear the excitement about Halloween approaching. The children ooh and aah over the brilliant red tree across from the preschool entrance. Spring is not on the minds of our students! But what a lesson we can learn from the children who are enjoying each day of fall. They are excitedly planting pansies and mums to enjoy now; they are not thinking about how the plants will have to endure the winter before coming back in the spring. They are enjoying the songs about fall, pumpkins, and scarecrows. They are even showing off a



new jacket worn for the first time on one of the cool mornings we've had.

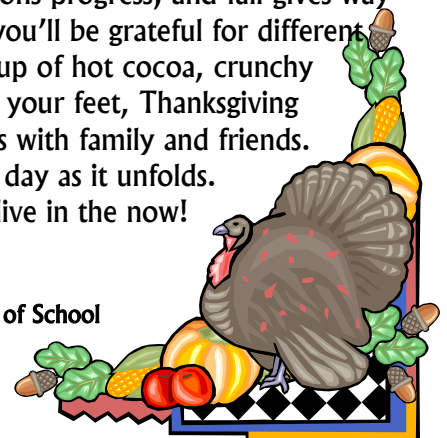
To enjoy each day for what it brings—what a reminder our children give us that we do not always have to look ahead! It's

worth stopping your car to enjoy a beautiful tree, sitting on the front porch to admire the rising moon, tasting a crisp, fresh apple from a local orchard, or singing a song about the earth's beauty, like *For the Beauty of the Earth* or *All Things Bright and Beautiful*.

Take time to be grateful for what you have right now, or what you are experiencing at this moment. Looking into the future can sometimes make us concentrate on what we *don't* have, but hope for. It's good to plan for the future, but not at the expense of gratitude for the present.

As the seasons progress, and fall gives way to winter, you'll be grateful for different things—a cup of hot cocoa, crunchy frost under your feet, Thanksgiving celebrations with family and friends. Enjoy each day as it unfolds. Be sure to live in the now!

Jo Hamey  
Interim Head of School



### **IMPORTANT NOVEMBER DATES**

**NOVEMBER 4, 2010**  
Grandparents &  
Special Friends Day

**Vestry & Board  
Open Mtg @ 5:30pm**

**NOVEMBER 8, 2010**  
Womens'  
Dialogue—7 pm

**NOVEMBER 9, 2010**  
BOT Mtg @ 7 pm

**NOVEMBER 10, 2010**  
Parent Assoc Mtg  
@ 8:45am

**Bishop Visit**

**Picture Day for  
Stars, Lions & Lambs**

**NOVEMBER 11, 2010**  
Picture Day for  
Doves, Butterflies,  
Angels & Cherubs

**NOVEMBER 14, 2010**  
Interfaith Potluck/  
Service Event

**NOVEMBER 24, 2010**  
Thanksgiving  
Holiday  
12:30 Dismissal

**Nov. 25 & 26, 2010**  
Thanksgiving  
Holiday  
School Closed

**NOVEMBER 29, 2010**  
Green Show Week  
School Closed  
Holiday Camp Only

### **New This Year: The CCEP Yearbook!**

**A wonderful keepsake for you and your family.**

**Order forms are located in the school reception area on the table outside  
Denise's office. Order yours today!**



## Off And Running

The 2010-2011 Annual Fund is off to a great start with close to 10% raised already! The 2010 - 2011 Annual Fund goal is \$28,000 with 100% participation. The

Annual Fund bridges the gap between moderate tuition and the essential elements of our *outstanding* preschool program.

CCEP is committed to enriching the lives of the children we serve. Essential elements of our superior preschool education include dedicated teachers, enrichment opportunities such as our new outdoor classroom; the advancement of our library, art and music programs; and the establishment of our endowment fund. Please give to the Annual Fund today. It's simple, it's effective, and it is the one opportunity for each and every member of our community - parents, faculty, alumni, grandparents, board members, and friends - to unite and support our Mission. *Every gift makes a difference for our students!*

### HOW DO I MAKE A GIFT?

- **PLEDGE:** You are welcome to pledge now and pay later. To make a pledge, simply complete your pledge card from your Annual Fund mailing or pledge online. Donors are welcome to make pledge payments in any

number of installments. If you are interested in setting up an installment plan with the Development Office, please contact Denise Harris at (302) 472-0021.

- **MAIL:** Complete the card contained in your Annual Fund mailing and mail check to Denise Harris, Annual Fund, CCEP.
- **ONLINE:** Please visit [www.ccepde.org/annual-fund/](http://www.ccepde.org/annual-fund/). All transactions are secure. (*We accept Visa or MasterCard.*) You may also set up an automatic monthly payment online.
- **MATCHING GIFTS:** If you are interested in securing a matching gift from your employer, please contact the appropriate personnel at your workplace to determine the procedure. Once your gift is made to CCEP, we will be happy to confirm the contribution with your employer.

If you have any questions about the Annual Fund, please do not hesitate to ask this year's Development Committee Chairs, Valerie Wolslayer Abel or Margaret Simpers.

Margaret Simpers  
Board of Trustee Member & Parent

## Message Board



### Why Are We Closed for Green Show Week?

The Green Show is a long-standing (57 years!) tradition at Christ Church. The Parish Halls and classrooms are transformed into a Christmas wonderland, offering gifts, gourmet foods, crafts, and, of course, greens! The Green Show raised \$77,500 last year and was able to make donations to over 30 different charities. We are happy to support this important part of the church's outreach. It takes the full week before the Green Show to set up this event in the building and because our classrooms are used, we do not have school from November 29 to December 3. We do ask you to schedule your parent-teacher conferences during that week, as our teachers will be on hand for that purpose. Teachers will also be completing some professional development that week to help us learn more about Observation and Assessment. Holiday Camp is available November 29 to December 2.

### A Nice Gift

The Quilt raffle tickets are available in the school office. Single tickets are \$5 and 5 tickets are \$20. Stop in Parish Hall A to preview.

### 12th Annual Interfaith

#### Thanksgiving Baskets Project & Potluck Dinner

CCEP is collecting food for Thanksgiving baskets to be distributed to those in need by agencies in our community the week of November 8th. This great family event has had a big impact in our community. You are invited to participate in this outreach community project. **Look for the flyer with more detail.**

## Parent Association: Off to a Busy Start



What an exciting and busy fall we are having! We could not ask for better weather! The kids are having the best time outdoors enjoying all that fall brings to our beautiful campus! The Parents' Association is also busy with fall and holiday plans. We held our first meeting on October 13<sup>th</sup> with a great turnout of parents. Thank you to all those who attended! The meetings are a great way to catch up on all things current with the school and a chance to hear an update from Jo Harney. Lynne Jensen gave an update on events the church is hosting. They include a movie night in January and an afternoon of Music, food and fun in February!

Our October activities included our Morning with Dad. It was a huge success and we want to thank Xannie Morris and her team for putting together a great reception for all the Dads and special Friends. Our next sponsored event is **Grandparents Day on Thursday, Novem-**

**ber 4<sup>th</sup>**! It is a wonderful and very special morning where Grandparents and special friends can spend the morning with their grandchildren in the classroom, followed by a coffee reception in Parish Hall A/B with Jo Harney. Laura de Ramel and Alexandra Kirtley are our wonderful co-chairs again for this special event. We know it will be great!

Finally, mark your calendar for our next **Parents' Association Meeting on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**, immediately following drop off in the Commons Room on the lower level. We look forward to seeing and hearing from you! We welcome new ideas and feedback. If you are unable to attend a meeting, be sure to review the meeting minutes, which are circulated each month by Denise Harris.

Jennifer Raiford  
Parent Association President

## Library News

Our Library has moved!! Please go to the upper hallway and check out our new library location AND feel free to check out a book while you are there!

We have had 3 weeks of library reading and what a great experience it has been so far! The kids absolutely love having someone new come in and read to them and it is just as enjoyable for the reader. Thank you to Paige Draper and Tori Gravuer for serving as our guest librarians during the month of October. We are always looking for library reading volunteers! Library is for the 3 upper classrooms on Thursdays from 9am - 10am, unless we have a special occasion on that Thursday. Then it will be on the Friday of that week. If you are interested in sharing in the enjoyment of reading, please contact Kendall at 302.798.0807 or [kendallays@yahoo.com](mailto:kendallays@yahoo.com) to get on the schedule!

Kendall Massett

## Lamb & Lion Guidelines to a Successful Day

The three to four year old is a complex individual. For most, autonomy has been achieved and you see it every day; your child might want to dress him or her self, insist on not doing exactly what you say or suddenly decide that a long time favorite food is "yucky." The child who once went with the flow may now forcefully express individual wants and needs! Although all of this may be frustrating. It is a good thing and completely develop-

mentally appropriate. Some easy advice on what can be done to deal with this phase is to give your child choices whenever possible. This gives your child a feeling of control over his or her environment. When you let your child choose breakfast, or one of two outfits or whether to go to the park or the walking trail, you are giving him or her safe and positive choices to make. This empowers the child and lessens the opportunity for arguments

when the situation is a non-negotiable one such as being buckled up in the car seat, going to bed, bathing or coming to school.

Choices are a big part of what we do everyday. There is room for negotiation, sharing, compromise and using our words to tell our friends how we are feeling. Choice and compromise are huge concepts to grasp this year.

Nancy Borda, Rebecca Crompton,  
Barb Simon & Annie Williams  
Primary Teachers

## Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

A Ministry of  
Christ Church Christiana  
Hundred

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## Happy Birthday!

**Samuel Perny—November 4th**

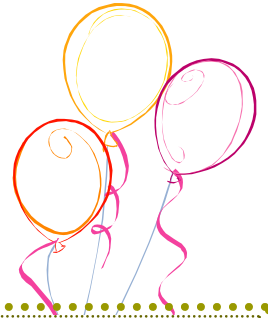
**Mia Vattilana—November 8th**

**Kevin Dolan—November 14th**

**Blake Erkenbrecher—November 23rd**

**Lilly Hebert—November 29th**

**Jay Setting III—November 30th**



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

## A Hearty Thank You

Thank you, parents, for providing a wonderful birthday breakfast for our teachers to celebrate all the September birthdays. We enjoyed it very much!

Our teachers with September birthdays are  
Chrissy Alcarese, Nancy Borda, and Nancy Schluter.

# DECEMBER 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Green Show—No School Holiday Camp Only	2	3 School Closed	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 BOT Meeting 7 pm	15 PA Meeting 8:45 am	16 Christmas Party	17	18
19 CCCH Christmas Pageant	20	21	22	23 No School H. Camp Only	24 School Closed	25
26	27	28 Christmas Holiday—No School Holiday Camp Only	29	30	31 School Closed	