

CCEP Newsletter

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

October 2011

Volume 6, Issue 2

Growing Together

This is the time of year when I think about what flowers I'd like to have blooming in my gardens next spring. I receive catalogues with beautiful glossy photos of colorful flowers and descriptions that always guarantee that this bulb or plant is "foolproof" and will grow in all soil conditions. "Plant now for beautiful spring color!" the ads urge. I peruse the most expensive catalogues, choose from the cheaper ones, and always wait for the 2-for-1 specials that occur in October.

It takes an act of faith to put a brown bulb or a bare root into the soil in October, just as the leaves are falling, leaving barren trees and a monochromatic landscape. But if the soil is prepared, a little fertilizer added, and the weather cooperates, I'm always rewarded with spring growth. When the tiny green shoots appear, I celebrate the miracle of new life.

Parents and teachers alike are "planting" bulbs and roots right now as CCEP's children begin their year. We work to provide just the right environment for growing and blooming, knowing that we'll be rewarded with amazing growth throughout the school year. In particular, we are nurturing the social and emotional growth of our children. This is one of the domains of learning that we specifically address in our scope and sequence document that supports our curriculum. (Copies of these documents for each age group are available on the table in the lobby.)

One of the things that warms my heart the most is seeing the children make friends and treat each other with kindness and respect. They may hold hands while skipping out to the playground, invite another child to join them in building a block tower, or snuggle



up to a classmate while singing with Dr. D. or during circle time. Relationships are often fostered in our "dramatic play" areas where children don dress-up attire, take care of "babies," build cities, cook and serve a meal, and play complicated make-believe games, assigning each other to specific roles.

Children are learning to wait for a turn, share their toys, and practice self-control. They are developing a sense of humor and enjoy making one another laugh. Although we love to see the growth and development of individual children, we are particularly delighted when we see the growth of groups of children.

A single tulip or daffodil might be lovely, but a drift of color is even more beautiful. Keep your eyes on our students this year and you will see them bloom in the gardens of their classrooms and in the gym and on the playground. It's my expectation that we'll see some amazing color and dramatic beauty by spring, if not before.

Who plants a seed beneath the sod
And waits to see, believes in God.

Jo Harney
Head of School

IMPORTANT OCTOBER DATES

OCTOBER 5, 2011
Picture Day

OCTOBER 10, 2011
Columbus Day
Holiday Camp
Only

OCTOBER 11, 2011
BOT Meeting
7pm

OCTOBER 12, 2011
Parent
Association Mtg
8:45am in the
Commons Room
Speech Screening

OCTOBER 19, 2011
Morning w/ Dad
8:30am Sharp in
the classroom

OCTOBER 30, 2011
Trunk-n-Treat
5pm



Trunk-n-Treat



Sunday, October 30, 2011

5pm-6:30pm



Join us for a festive evening of trick or treating, food, fun and fellowship!

See the decorated trunks!

RSVP to Lynne Jensen by Wednesday, October 26th to ljensen@christchurchde.org

Out of the Mouths of Babes

Coming in from outside play, two 3 year old children were having a conversation about what they like and don't like. One of them said, "I like everything except beer and tomatoes."

Wonderful Wednesdays in Pre-K

Every Wednesday both Pre-K classes spend half their day together. We split each class in half for Spanish and Gym. Then, all the Bright and Shining Stars join together for pizza and recess. This time allows the children to continue to strengthen their friendships from last year and build new ones. Wonderful Wednesdays are extra special in

Pre-K!

We are looking for two parent volunteers from each Pre-K class the first Wednesday of each month to supervise pizza and recess. If you are interested please contact your child's class rep.

Pre-K Teachers

Gratitude from the Librarian

A Big Thank You for all of the books that were donated to our library for our Bring a Book Picnic! We received great new titles to add to our collection that our children will love to check out and enjoy! Enough books were purchased from Usborne, that we also received \$250 in FREE books - most of which will be added to our new Board Book collection for our downstairs library.

Library reading began this Thursday, Oct 6 - we had two fabulous volunteers go in to read to all of our students! A great time was had by all!

We are still in need of readers for upstairs Dec 8 & 22, as well as readers for both upstairs and downstairs during our spring semester. Please see the lists on the board across from Denise's office if you would like to sign up!



Kendall Massett
Volunteer Librarian

Tidbits

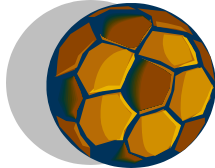
Here's a math problem to check your attentiveness:

Add the number of stop signs you must stop at on Buck Road on your way home from school to the number of speed bumps on Buck Road. Multiply by the speed limit. Add the number of painted crosswalks on the Christ Church driveways and divide by the number of parking spaces next to the Preschool entrance (not counting the handicapped spot). Submit your answer to Jo for a special treat!



If you've visited our website lately, you may have noticed a few upgrades and changes. We are delighted that we have moved the website to a much simpler platform and can do a better job of keeping it up to date and useful to our community. We will continue to work on improvements to the site over the next few weeks. You should note that already we have the calendar function up and running—something we were not able to do on our old site. Now, when you forget which day is Grandparents Day or speech screening day, you can check our online calendar!

Our full-day children have been enjoying soccer on Thursdays with Coach Mike of *M. I. G. Soccer*. We got to know Coach Mike during our summer camp program and are happy to have him return for five fall sessions. We have three more weeks of soccer and will then welcome Miss Donya of *On the Move Dance Company* for five sessions of creative movement. Stay tuned for more special enrichment activities for our full-day students.



Monday, October 10th is a school holiday. If your child is signed up for Holiday Camp that day, remember to pack a nut-free lunch.



Morning with Dad is set for Wednesday, October 19th. Please join your child in his/her classroom at 8:30 where you'll be able to play, do a joint craft, read a story, or otherwise share your child's special activities. Then join other dads for a light breakfast reception in Hall C (our "gym") at 9:00. Your children are so proud to have you visit their classrooms, see their favorite toys and activities, and meet their friends and teachers. We are looking forward to welcoming you!

Ages & Stages

Parents, for a helpful online resource, visit this website: http://www.myhealthychildsb.org/en/ages_and_stages.html. You can click on the age of your child to learn what to expect and how to nurture your child's growth and development at this particular stage.

Picture Day Thank Yous

Thank you to all the parents who helped escort children and cover classes while our children and teachers were photographed on picture day. Teachers noted that this was the smoothest picture day ever! Thank you, Kirstie Donohue, for organizing this day and for arranging for professional photography for all of our major events. The photos will be posted on Alessandra Manzotti's website soon. We will send you the link and password needed for viewing your child's pictures.

Christ Church Episcopal Preschool

A Ministry of
Christ Church Christiana
Hundred

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P.O. Box 3510, Greenville
Wilmington, DE 19807

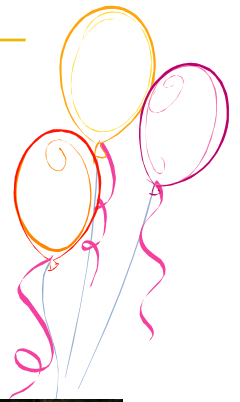
(302) 472-0021
Fax (302) 655-2259

Happy Birthday!

Evan Zakielarz—October 18th

Julia Steiner—October 22nd

Phebe Morris—October 29th



Pre-K on the Labyrinth

www.ccepde.org

NOVEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Faculty Mtg @ 8am in CR	9 PA Mtg Bishop Visit	10 Grandpar- ents & Special Friends Day	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Interfaith Potluck/ Service Event	21	22 Faculty Mtg @ 8am in CR	23 Half-Day	24 School Closed	25 School Closed	26
	Thanksgiving Holiday					
27	28 Holiday Camp Only	29 Holiday Camp Only	30 Holiday Camp Only	1 HC Only In-Service	2 School Closed	
	Green Show Week and Parent Conferences					