



## Preschool Newsletter

### March 8th, 2010

What an exciting week we had last week! The children were SO excited to explore their brand new HUGE classroom and loved every minute on their new (mud free!) playground. They were happy to see the familiar faces of Mrs. Hatch, Miss Betsy, Miss Sadie and the somewhat familiar face of Mrs. Upton and also were happy to meet a new teacher - Miss (Lauren) Moll, who is the director of the west campus.

Monday without a doubt was craziness, but that was too be expected with so many new things happening. The children settled in pretty quickly, though, and quickly settled in to their new environment.

I have LOVED being back! While I have dearly loved staying home with Barrett, I cannot deny that I have missed teaching and getting the opportunity to spend time with these wonderful three, four, and five year olds. I am so happy that I now get the best of both worlds - mornings with your children, afternoons and evenings with mine!

While only working part time is a huge blessing for me, I also understand that it brings challenges for you. Since I come in after most of you have dropped off your children and leave before lunch, communicating with me will be difficult. I would like to welcome and encourage you to give me a call anytime you have a question, concern or just a story you want to share! You may reach me on my cell phone: 360-990-2557. Please also feel free to talk to the assistant teachers and they can pass on any messages to me. Notes work also! I want you all to know that even though I will not be working on a full time basis, I am dedicated to serving your child to the best of my ability, and I know that I can't do that without you! I'm also planning to send home a weekly newsletter so that you are aware of what kind of activities in which your child is participating. It may take a couple weeks for us to get the communication flowing, but I am confident that we can make it work!

#### *Morning Stories*

##### The Pigeon Wants a Puppy by Mo Willems

The children were hearing a tale of a pigeon who wanted a puppy - if you're looking for a funny author who makes your child giggle, check out Mo Willems! His silly, simple books always make the classroom full of laughter.

##### Black? White! Day? Night! by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

A flip up book of opposites had the children engaged, predicting and getting their brains thinking.

##### Barnyard Banter by Denise Fleming

Ask your child what the word "banter" means - you may be surprised! Someone listening outside the classroom door may have thought the room was full of barnyard animals. They also loved taking turns putting up the story props - 13 different farm animals!

### *Small Group Time*

Preschoolers got practice with adding and taking away while using a dice and the Barrel o' Monkeys. Depending on the number they rolled, they figured out whether they needed to add monkeys in the "tree" or put them back in the barrel. They also enjoyed talking about the Olympics and choosing the Winter Olympic sport in which they would most like to participate. Flipping a "gold coin" (yellow button) onto shamrocks with various objects on them, had preschoolers test their beginning consonant knowledge. They did awesome!

### *Music*

Music time was more than just singing this week. The children had to use some self control when I handed out buttons, marbles and keys. While it would have been very easy to play with the objects, the preschoolers showed me they were ready for business by holding on to them with very little distractions. The song, "Who Has a Button?" had the children echoing my voice as they held up whatever object for which I asked. This song can be done with really any object - ask your preschool student to teach it to you!

### *Movement*

We were able to take advantage of the large middle area for movement time. While we were using it it looked more like a corral full of galloping horses! The children galloped in circles, back and forth around carpet squares, and even galloped looking for paper horses with letters on them. They blew me away with their galloping skills!

### *Bible Story*

Story: Jesus Brings a Dead Girl Back to Life

Words: Because I live you also will live.

Song: Jesus lives and so will I, so will I, so will I

Jesus lives and so will I, up in heaven!

(to the tune of London Bridge)

It is my goal each week to have the children able to tell the majority of this story - and on Thursday and Friday we take turns going around our circle telling various parts of the story. Please feel free to read the story that goes home each week along with your child - they will love the opportunity to share the wonderful love of Jesus with you! I know it's my favorite part of the week!