



# PRESCHOOL NEWS



ST STEPHEN PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

May 2018



## DATES TO REMEMBER

May 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> **Reptile Family Visit**

May 28<sup>th</sup> **Memorial Day**  
(SCHOOL CLOSED)

June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> **Last Days of School**  
& **School Picnics**  
(NO KIDS' CLUB)

June 12<sup>th</sup> **Summer Camp Starts**  
**HOORAY!!**



## **SAVE THE DATE** **SCHOOL PICNICS**

June 7 and 8 will be our last days of school. You and your family are invited to join us for our "End of the Year" school picnics from 11:00 am 'til noon. Look for more information in the June Newsletter.

## **A FOND FARWELL**

Congratulations and the best of days to come to Miss Betsie Warren as she retires after 29 (!) years of devoting herself to our St. Stephen Preschool family.



To all who have experienced her many exceptional talents in both the classroom and as a

mentor, friend, and tireless advocate, we know that you join us in wishing her days that are filled with fun, adventure, and dreams come true. "Thank you" is completely inadequate to express our forever gratitude and love. Bon Voyage Miss Betsie!!

Our heartfelt thanks go out as well, to Miss Kyle Colavitti, who has enthusiastically dedicated her expert knowledge and creativity as our Mommy & Me teacher. After 4 years of donated voluntary service, she has welcomed dozens of families and

their toddlers to our preschool. Kyle gave them the most fantastic start and introduction to the wonders of St. Stephen. We wish her every happiness in all her future endeavors. We will miss you Miss Kyle!

## **This Month . . . . .**

Dear Parents,

This month we will learn about different cultures of the world and the cultural environments of other nations. We will learn about customs, foods, and share children's heritages through family memories. Please feel free to share your family's heritage with your child's class. Audrey Wood is our author of the month and our artist of the month is Joan Miro. The yoga pose is jet plane and the composer of the month is Joaquin Rodrigo.

Love,

Ms. Sue, Ms. Selene, Ms. Vickie, Ms. Christine, Ms. Maria,  
Ms. Jeanie, Ms. Betsie, & Ms. Ana

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## **IS YOUR ENROLLMENT COMPLETE?**

### **Fall Enrollment is Now Due**

Your child's enrollment for next fall is **not complete** until all the papers are filled out and returned to the office. Also, a registration/earthquake fee of \$160 and a last month deposit equal to one month of tuition must be paid by the end of this school year to reserve your child's spot.

Returning students have four forms to complete:

- (1) Enrollment Agreement (last page of the Parent Handbook),
- (2) **A new** emergency card
- (3) An ID and Emergency Information form.
- (4) Updated Immunization Records

If you think you may have misplaced them, the office would be more than happy to supply you with your missing pieces! Your cooperation is *much appreciated*.



## \*SUMMER\* \*CAMP\*

**June 12th – July 5th**

**Tues/Wed/Thurs**

**9:00 am – 12:30 pm**

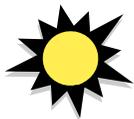
**(Early Birds Available-NO Kids Club)**

**Week One: Into Outer Space**

**Week Two: Digging Dinosaurs**

**Week Three: Oceans of Fun**

**Week Four: Wild West (Celebrating America)**



### SUNSCREEN

Don't forget to put sunscreen on your child before school. On these cool mornings and warm afternoons, you might dress your child in layers. By doing this, as the day gets warmer, your child can take the top layer off in order to be more comfortable. If you would like us to reapply sunscreen, please fill out the sunscreen permission form. **Hats are also helpful and protective.**



### NO TUITION DUE IN JUNE!!

Remember that May tuition is your last tuition payment for this school year! The security deposit that you paid at registration will be applied to June's tuition. You may have

an unpaid balance, so feel free to stop by the preschool office and we can let you know. Added days, Kids Club and Early Bird fees are additional charges. Check your email for your final, end of the year INVOICE.

## NO JUNE KIDS' CLUB

Please note that there will be **NO** Kids' Club on June 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. All children should be picked up at 12:00 noon on those days. The last day for Kids' Club will be June 6th.



### Preschool Blog:

#### Summertime Safety & Fun

Summer is just around the corner. This is a great time to have fun, spend some down time and enjoy the outdoors with your child. Here are some summertime safety tips as well as fun ideas to try with your child:

#### Water Safety

- Take your children on a bathroom break before they get into the water.
- Change swim diapers often and do it away from the water.
- Make sure your child wears a flotation device that is labeled "U.S. Coast Guard approved."
- Teach older children (ages six and older) to use the "buddy system" when swimming with friends.

#### Sun Safety

- Keep children under 6 months old out of the sun.
- Apply a thick layer of SPF 15 or higher to every area of your child's body including shoulders, nose, thighs, ears, etc.
- Apply sun block 30 minutes before your child is exposed to the sun. Reapply sun block every few hours.
- Remember a hat, loose clothing and sunglasses for your child as well.

#### Insect Bite Safety

- Use a product that is approved for children.
- Follow the instructions and age restrictions on the container.

- Wash off the insect repellent when you return indoors.
- Cover your child's skin with a long sleeve shirt, long pants, socks, hat, etc.
- Avoid using any scented soaps and lotions on your child – they may attract insects.
- **Fun Summer Activity Ideas for You and Your Child:**
- Share some family photos with your child. Invite them to write a note to a family
- Take your child to get a library card. Create a personalized bookmark and pick out a summertime reading list of books together.
- Cut pieces of various textured paper into squares and paste them in a quilt pattern with your child.
- Prepare a meal with your child.
- Sit outside under a tree. Have your child tell you a favorite story. Retell them the story as you heard it. Take turns doing this.
- Cut the ends off the fingers of old gloves. Draw faces on the fingers with felt tip markers, and glue on yarn for hair. You now have finger puppets. Make up a fun story.
- Create a fun game with your child. Have a scavenger or treasure hunt, design a board game or make up a play or skit.
- Find community service activities that can include you and your child.
- Plant some seeds. Weed and water your garden. Look for cool bugs.
- Play some music and dance together.

<http://www.childtime.com/parent-resource-center/parenting-articles/summertime-safety-and-fun/>

## CLASSROOM NEWS

### Bumble Bees

We have been really busy gardening and planting. We planted zinnia and cosmo seeds and have watched



some sprout. We also received our Painted Lady butterfly larvae and watched them harden into chrysalides. One of our butterflies emerged and we're anxious to see the other one and release them into nature!

As this is our last newsletter of the year, we'd like to thank you for sharing your beautiful, fun-loving children with us. We loved watching them grow and form friendships with their peers. What a fun year! We will miss them as they move on to their next class. Happy Summer  
Love Ms. Vickie & Ms. Christine

### Dragon Flies



April was a joyful month and we were busy experiencing the wonders of nature and learning about plant and animal life cycles. During May we will be waiting expectantly for our painted lady caterpillars to emerge from their chrysalises as butterflies.

A visit from the "reptile family" is sure to be fun and exciting. Some of the delightful critters that we expect to see are snakes, lizards, tortoises, and a Chinese water dragon. There is a special bond between children and animals, and we enjoy sharing the children's joy when they meet new creatures.

We've almost finished up, "Letter of the Week" and are now moving onto numbers. Remember, you can practice counting anywhere you are!

While we celebrated Earth Day in April, we continue to remind the children that we need to take care of our earth every day. We've been singing "We've Got to Recycle All We Can."

***"We've got to recycle all we can"***

Sung to "He's got the Whole World in His Hands"

We've got the whole world in our hands.  
We've got the whole, wide world in our hands.  
We've got the whole world in our hands  
We've got the whole world in our hands

We've got to recycle all we can.  
 We've got to recycle all we can.  
 We've got to recycle all we can.  
 We've got to take care of our world.  
 \*Repeat first verse\*

Love, Ms. Maria & Ms. Jeanie



### The Monarchs

As we compose the last newsletter of the school year, we are astonished at the speed with which the last eight months have passed. In short six weeks we will be saying “*so long*” to you and your children. This has been a year of incredible growth and fabulous fun and so these good-byes will most certainly be hard.

We continue to guide your children towards Kindergarten readiness by making sure we are offering a vast array of activities to stimulate and educate them. They are becoming adept at listening and following directions, attending to tasks, and yes, even cleaning up. These are much needed in the Kindergarten classroom and we want them to be their most successful selves!

We plan to offer more cutting experiences, as well as open-ended art, where their true creativity shines! They are engaged with the wonders of nature, as we watched our caterpillars become chrysalises, our silkworm eggs develop into munching-crunching worms, the planted garden starting to grow, as well as all the bugs they have collected, observed and want to take home! They

are natural scientists, architects, engineers, and artists and we are so grateful to have been able to share some of our knowledge with them (and you).

Our door is always open if you have any concerns, ideas, or just want to talk. Thank you all.

Love, Miss Betsie and Miss Ana



### Outdoor Classroom

Spring is in full bloom on our yard! This month we will be focusing on all the plant and insects that live all around us. We are especially excited to release our butterflies once they have fully matured.

This month we will also be focusing on our garden. We will be planting more plants and the children will be able to water and care for them as well as observe the progress of their growth. We will also enjoy the beautiful, sunny weather with lots of water play. Please be sure to put sunscreen on your kiddos before school.

Love,  
 Ms. Selene

