

Tanque Verde Lutheran Preschool and Kindergarten

February 2010

Newsletter

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday. We had some wonderful Christmas Chapels. I was so proud of the children! I am excited to be into the second semester of school. We are anticipating a lot of exciting events in February.

We start out with 2010-11 registration on Monday, February 1st. On Sunday, February 7th we will celebrate Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday. Our children will participate in the 11:00 a.m. service.

The Giraffes/Owls and Geckos will enjoy a story time with Mr. Bill from the Bear Canyon Library in celebration of "Love of Reading" week. The third week of February continues to be filled with fun and excitement as finally we reach the registration day for new families on Monday, February 15th. Then later that week, we invite our "Moms" to join us for "Muffins with Mom."

We end our month with a Tucson tradition, Rodeo Break on Thursday and Friday, February 25th and 26th. For those of you new to Tucson, we will have these 2 vacation days instead of President's Day.

I have so enjoyed getting to know each of your children. They are truly a joy!

Registration Days:

Monday, February 1st - Current Families/Church Members 4:00 p.m.

Monday, February 8th - Former Families 7:30 a.m.

Monday, February 15th - New Families 4:00 p.m.

If you know of someone who is interested in enrolling their child in TVLP, please let them know which registration day is open to them. Registration forms are available in the office. Please have both the registration form and the emergency "blue card" completed at the time of registration. The registration fee will be due at the time of registration. If you will be enrolling more than one child in the preschool this year, there is a discount of \$10 off of the second, (third, etc.) child's registration fee and a \$15 discount off the monthly tuition of the second, (and third, etc.) child.

Kindergarten registration forms are being accepted in the office. Please let us know by February 10th whether or not you are still interested in joining our Kindergarten class of 2010-11. With this notification we need payment of the \$125 registration fee.

Preschool/Kindergarten Sunday, February 7th

Please join us to celebrate our 31st anniversary with balloons and cake. The children will sing in the 11:00 service so they need to be here by 10:45 in the Kids' Club room (room 3).

"Love of Reading" week - one of the many ways we will be celebrating reading this week is by inviting Mr. Bill from the Bear Canyon Library to read to the Giraffes/Owls, and Geckos

Muffins with Mom

Please refer to the teacher's newsletter at the end of this newsletter to see the day and time for you child's celebration. We are excited to welcome you into our class to celebrate our Moms!

From Mrs. Rovner and Mrs. Upson

February is a month of Love, Love, Love, that's what it's all about! We'll focus on God's love for us and our love for each other.

First, we want to thank you for attending your child's conference with us. We appreciate your support tremendously. We hope we answered all your questions and concerns.

Our themes for February are: Transportation, Valentines and Love, Mothers are Great, Rodeo and Ocean, Sand and Shells.

Mark your calendars for February 7th, the day we'll celebrate Preschool Sunday. Your families are invited to attend our 11:00 am service in the sanctuary. All of our friends at TVLP will be singing several songs we've been working on. Drop off is at 10:45 am, look for us in Rm. 3.

To celebrate Valentine's Day, we'll have a valentine exchange on 2/10 (M/W class) and 2/11 (T/Th classes). Please bring in 10 valentines M/W and T/Th AM class. The T/Th PM class should bring in 8. Please remember to only sign the back of the valentine and write nothing on the envelope, it will make delivering them much easier.

Muffins for Mommy is scheduled for February 17th for the M/W class and February 18th for the T/Th classes. Join us at 10:45 a.m. for muffins and lemonade. Then we have some songs to sing to honor you!

Four of our little Lambs will be celebrating their 3rd birthdays this month: Aidan and Gavin Johnson on the 15th (M/W class), Brandt Bober on the 9th and Jairus Walker on the 23rd (T/Th am class).

We'd like to welcome Libby Keeports to our T/Th pm class. She's a great addition and is making friends already!

From Mrs. Bachman and Mrs. Meiner

Wow! What a wonderful job our bunnies did at our Christmas chapel this year. They were so enthusiastic and full of love as they sang about the birth of our Savior. We were very proud of them and the great job they did! We want to thank all of you again for the lovely Christmas gifts and cards. It was so thoughtful of each of you to appreciate us in such a special way!

In January, we learned about winter animals, snow and snowmen, jungle animals, our pets and ocean life. We introduced the first seven letters of the alphabet and their sounds and will continue them in February. Each day during circle time we brainstorm words that begin with the letter of the day and it is so exciting to hear the children's enthusiasm as they become more aware of the world they live in.

We want to encourage you to continue to do cutting projects at home. This is an important skill for them to master this year. The children are making great progress in school with their cutting skills. We also began sharing about our experiences with the classroom bunnies and the children

get so excited when it is their turn to take the bunny home for the weekend.

February will bring lots of fun activities in our class as we talk about God's love and our love for each other. We will learn new songs and finger plays about love, healthy bodies and teeth, dinosaurs and the Rodeo days here in Tucson.

On February 11th we will celebrate Valentines Day. Please have your child bring in 18 valentines that day without names on the outside envelope. This makes it easier to distribute the valentines in each child's "mailbox". We would like to ask you to remain 10-15 minutes at the beginning of class to help your child deliver their valentines.

We also will have our first "Muffins with Mom" party on February 18th. This will replace our Mother's Tea in the spring. We will look for you at 10:30 for our AM class moms or at 2:30 for our PM class moms. The children are busy preparing for that special day with their mommies. They can't wait to show you how much they love and appreciate you!

A big thank you to all of our parent volunteers during December and January. A hip, hip horray to Tiffany Gallego, Shannon Lee, Jean DiMaria, Wendy Hanna, Alison Keeperts and Kimberly Cock. We love having you come into our class to help us and we would encourage all of you to take the opportunity to visit our classroom at any time. Also, if you have a profession or special talent that you would be willing to share with us we would love to have you do so. Another hip, hip horray to our mommies that volunteered extra hours at home on special projects this month. Thank you, Andrea Schalk, Jessi Coleman and Melinda Bridges.

We really enjoyed visiting with all of you at our school conferences this month. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to share with you just how special your children are! Our families are the reason our school is so exceptional and we appreciate everything you do for us as teachers and our school.

We will be celebrating preschool Sunday here at TVLP on February 7th and we hope all of you can join us. The children will be singing that day at the 11:00 a.m. service and we will be serving refreshments. More details to follow.

God blesses us more each day that we have the privilege to spend time with your little ones and to teach them about his love. May this next year be filled with happiness and blessings for all of you.

In His love

Bunnies - From Mrs. Casolari and Mrs. Grimwood

February is a wonderful month for hearts, valentines and the reminder of God's love in our lives! We look forward to seeing each of you at Preschool Sunday on February 7th, with your child, at the 11am service. Come see your child's artwork and be part of the celebrations. To hear the children sing really touches your heart! Come join our celebration!

February is the perfect month for hearts and remembering how much God loves each of us. Healthy bodies and teeth will be our first unit for the month. The art project will be painting with a toothbrush. As we talk about God's love and our love for each other. We will have a classroom valentine exchange on Thursday the 11th. **Please bring 18 valentines without names on the outside of the envelope.** This makes delivering valentines in each (school made) "mailbox" much easier. If you could plan to stay 10-15 minutes on that Tuesday morning, you can help your child deliver their valentines. *Please be aware we are a "no peanut/peanut butter school" if you add any extra treats in your child's valentines.* Thanks!

This is the month we learn about dinosaurs, a favorite with preschoolers. "Muffins with Mom" will be a special time to celebrate our wonderful moms. Please plan to join your child on February 18th at 10:30. We'll have fun talking about rodeo/cowboy life at the end of the month. Remember, no school on the 25th for Rodeo break. The bunny classes will be designing hearts to decorate the preschool building. This is intended as a family project to be done at home. Have fun with it! Mark your March calendars for the Preschool Carnival on March 18th from 9:30-11:00.

A special thanks to Ms. Abbott for spending some time with us at small group with her chapel activities. Remember, you are always welcome to come into the classroom to share a profession, hobby or interest. We have some fun themes this month! This is a great class of eager learners and listeners. The bunny journals are starting their way to everyone's homes. The children like hearing the fun adventures bunny had over the weekend. Thanks for supporting this project.

Seems we seldom have enough opportunities to thank all of our wonderful parents. We appreciate the time you spend attending

conferences, helping in the classroom and your patience with dismissal when a preschooler wants to "do it by myself." As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you for taking the time to read your newsletter and calendar each month. It's the best way to stay informed with all the exciting things happening at school! This month's bible verse:

"Let us love one another, because love comes from God."

With God's blessings and love

From Mrs. Braucksick and Mrs. Meiner

We appreciate all of the parents who were able to attend our parent teacher conferences. The children have made a lot of progress since August. It's just nice to sit down and talk with you.

January 20th we had visitors from "Creatures of the night." This is a program put on by the Desert Museum. **On Monday, January 25th**, the docents from Sabino Canyon visited our school. They brought puppets in to introduce some of the desert wildlife. The children went on a special hike with them on our campus. The children may talk about camouflage and the predator and prey game we played. Mrs. Meiner brought in her in a stuffed javelina for the children to view on our science table.

February 7th is our Preschool Sunday. All of the children from the preschool are invited to come and sing at the call to worship at the **11:00 service in the Sanctuary.** Take your child to our Kids Club room to rehearse at about 10:45.

Please mark your calendar for our valentine exchange on Friday, February 12th. Each child needs to bring in 19 valentines for the AM class or 18 for the P.M class to exchange. Your child can sign the back of their card, but do not put any name on the envelope. **Please remember we have nut allergies in both classes.** If you put any valentine candy in the bags, check the ingredients. Parents check your child's bag too.

Muffins for Mom will be on Friday, February 19th at 10:30. We will have a muffin and fruit snack. The children will sing songs, and give a special gift to Mom. If Mom cannot come, please see if Grandma or a special friend can come, so each child has someone. Please remember parents you

can visit our classroom anytime. Just sign in on our volunteer sheet up in the preschool office. You will not need to sign-in on the Muffins with Mom day.

AM Class News: We appreciate the Wilhelmson's sharing about desert wildlife with our class! Thanks to Mrs. Meiner for bringing in her stuffed Javelina to share with us. Mrs. Torok visited and shared with the children about working for the Forest Service, and desert life. A big thank you to her!

PM Class News: Please welcome Perry Rodgers to our classroom! He started at the beginning of January. His parents are friends with the Thompson family. Special thanks to Mrs. Lloyd for helping out on January 20th with our Locomotive day.

May you experience God's love each day!

Bunnies - From Mrs. Casolari & Mrs. Grimwood

February allows us to share love, hearts, valentines and our bible verse, "Let us love one another, because love comes from God." (1 John 4:7) We look forward to seeing you at Preschool Sunday on February 7th, with your child, at the 11am service. Come enjoy the fun, as the children sing, show-off their artwork, and celebrate our preschool.

Our rock and minerals unit will be a combination of art and science projects. Half of the fun is discussing why another one of Mrs. Casolari's experiments didn't work. This class asks a lot of great questions! During the month we have fun with valentines. We will have a class valentine exchange on February 12th. Please send your child to school with 18 valentines. Your child may sign the inside card. *We ask for no names on the outside envelope.* This makes delivering valentines in each "mailbox" much easier. If you choose to add any treats, please remember *we are a no peanut butter/nut school.* Thank you!

We will celebrate the love of reading. Mr. Bill, the children's librarian at Bear Canyon Library, will come to visit the classroom on Monday, the 8th. Yummy foods and our mommies will a theme for the middle of the month. Plan to join us on February 19th for our "Muffins with Moms". It will be a time to celebrate our very special moms!

Rodeo week allows us to be a cowboy or cowgirl, at least for the week. Remember, no school on February 26th for Rodeo break.

Everyone is doing a great job with the alphabet bag! If you have a hobby, collection or even a fun book you would like to share with the class, come join us!

On a final note, we want to thank everyone for taking the time to attend conferences. We have a fantastic class of eager learners and we enjoy bragging about them! Thank you for your support. If any questions or concerns arise after conferences, please let us know.

Thank you for taking the time to read your newsletter and calendars, each month. Reading them is the best way to stay informed about all of the exciting things happening at school.

See you at Preschool Sunday!

With God's blessings and love

From Mrs. Pinelli

Happy 2010 to all. I hope you had a wonderful holiday!!

We had so much fun this month. We began the new calendar year with several fun projects. Our first unit covered "cold weather animals". We read "The Penguin Who Wanted to Fly" and constructed an adorable toilet paper tube penguin. Next, we made a cute polar bear puppet from a Styrofoam cup. We finished up the week reading "The Little Red Sled" and made Clifford the Big Red Dog riding a saucer shaped sled.

Next, we "got ready for winter". We read the book "Froggy Gets Dressed" and turned a paper plate into a frog! We designed a new snowsuit for the book "Thomas' Snow Suit". Finally we decorated mittens after reading "The Mitten". We finished our winter theme decorating snowflakes.

Our final unit was "All About Me." The monkeys made a paper bag puppet, easel painted a self-portrait and answered the question "My favorite thing about me is...."

Next month we will be getting ready for Valentine's Day, windy days and Rodeo Days. Hope to see you there.

Please remember:

- You can sign up for Kids Club on any day of the week

From Mrs. Pacheco and Mrs. Stat

It was great to meet with all of you for conferences. I enjoyed talking with you about your little ones!! I am very blessed to have the opportunity to work with them on a daily basis.

As we move into February there are lots of fun things to look forward to. We will start off with bugs and move into love and Valentine's Day and then on to Rodeo. On the 11th we will be celebrating Valentine's Day. The students can bring in signed Valentine cards for all of the students in the class. Please do not address the cards to individual students just have your child sign their name. We welcome you to come in at the beginning of class that day to help your child distribute the cards.

On the 18th we will be having Muffins with Mom! This fun gathering will begin at 2:30 in our classroom.

There will be no school on the 25th for Rodeo. We would like to thank you for making the effort to drop off and pick up on time. It is so important for the children and we appreciate your continued effort.

As always, you are welcome to drop in anytime. We will have many fun things going on and would love to share some of it with you. Thank you for sharing your little ones with us!

From Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Walrath and Mrs. Curnalia

This has been an exciting month! Everyone came back from break rested, taller and with fewer teeth. The first day back we put more stickers on our tooth chart than all the previous months combined!!

We also gained a new student: Ethan DeMarco! Ethan appears to fit right in and we now have a completely full class!!

We have discussed Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks and other heroes. Our community service project for this semester is a canned food drive. We were hoping to bring in 100 cans to coincide with our 100th day of school celebration. Our families have been so generous that we are at 126 cans on our 100th day!! What a remarkable group!

We also explored the polar regions of our world and discovered every snowflake is unique; just like all of our *Geckos*!!

We asked each student how he or she was unique and they said:

Ciara " I like doctor things."

Jaden "Me and Cole don't play with the same toys."

Kayla "I like all different sports."

Isabella " I like to play Barbie's."

Hayden " I don't usually wear long sleeve shirts."

Rosio " My voice is different."

Serena " I am a Chinese girl."

Yiannis " I like soccer."

Bodhi "I like baseball."

Andrew " I can jump with my scooter."

Jack "I like to run around with my friends after school."

Ethan "I like to play trains after school."

Caleb "I can run super fast!"

Kyla " I am good at riding my scooter."

Mari " I like animals."

Alli Rae " I am a cowgirl."

Ava " I like lots of things."

Unique and wonderful!!

Thank you from the *Gecko* class.