

# CROSSROADS EARLY LEARNING CENTER

## Newsletter

### April, 2017

Spring is here and much welcomed! Winter was slow to arrive, but finished with a bang in March!

Young children learn more from what they see, feel and hear than sometimes what they have been told. A preschooler is influenced by his environment and highly sensitive to his world around him. If a child lives in a world that involves books, ideas and creative experiences, it is apt to stimulate him/her to be eager to learn to read reason and write. It is so important for adults in his life to model positive behaviors for him to copy. Crossroads strives for these goals and to help create a home/school environment that will foster continuous learning experiences.

April had been designated by the **National Association of the Education of Young Children** to be the **Month of the Young Child**. The goal of **NAEYC** is to see children as our future generation and therefore, the renewal of life. It is a time to acknowledge children for who they are and who they could be. They need to question, dream and discover their world around them.

Let us celebrate the essence of children and the dedication of those who care for your children each day!

Refer to the Special Events to see how you and your child can participate this month!

Have a blessed month!  
Miss Vivian



## INFANTS/TODDLERS

Miss Crystal/Miss Elsy

Miss Waheeda/Miss Tori/Miss Sarah

April is here and along with it comes spring and April showers. Showers lead to beautiful flowers and lush green grass – fun colors, textures and scents for our children to experience. Spring provides us with lots of opportunities to explore, observe and talk about. It is a fun time to enjoy the outdoors and all the changes that are occurring in our environment. Especially after the winter we have had!

One of the stories we will be reading is “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle. The children will be exposed to colors and what different foods taste like. We will also be reading “Very Busy Bee” by Jack Tickle and “Baby Bug” by Sue Graves.

### Young Infant Curriculum (2-8 Months):

Theme: Large muscles

Concept: Rolling over back and forth

Gross Motor Skills: Kicking different objects

### Older Infant Curriculum (9-12 Months):

Themes: Independence vs. dependence

Concept: Friends

Skills: Is it permanent?

Toy: Poppin’ Pals

Sense: Taste and vision

### Young Toddler Curriculum (13-18 Months):

Themes: Independence vs. dependence

Concept: Language Activities

Spring: Flowers

Skill: Social Skills

Sense: Vision

Song: “I’m a Little Teapot”

Nursery Rhyme: “Eensy Weensy Spider”

Throughout the month, we will also continue to work on our LAP (Learning Accomplishment Profile) skills. These are age specific skills that we work on in the classroom with the children. The LAP covers all areas of development: gross/fine motor, language development, cognitive ability, self-help skills, etc. Each month brings new goals for each child to master.

### Welcome to our Class!

Aubrey

Caylin`

James



## TWO'S

Miss Toni/Miss Trish/Miss Awatef

Miss Michele/Miss Shereen/Miss Stephanie

“Rain, Rain, Go Away, Come Again Another Day.” Let’s hope that we don’t have to sing “Rain, Rain, Go Away” too often this month! Especially, considering the winter we had this year!

Our Living in Faith curriculum will talk about Jesus forgiving us for our sins. Our character education word will be “honesty” and how it is important to tell the truth and say what you mean.

During April, our class will also be learning about the zoo. We will talk about different animals that live in the zoo and the sounds they make. We have so many zoo and animal songs to reinforce this theme.

The color of the month is purple and the shape is the oval. We will also be discussing and experiencing the sense of smell.

There are 2 special days in April - Earth Day and Arbor Day – will have us discussing recycling, and how we can take care of the earth. We will be using many recycled products for art this month. April is also the “Month of the Young Child.” Please pay particular attention to the Special Calendar attached for your reference.

We will be creating our own gardens in which we will try to grow our own vegetables. This project will help the children develop a sense of responsibility in order to maintain it.

### Happy Birthday!

Ryan 4/3

Gracie 4/14

Stephen 4/25

### Welcome to our Class!

Jeremy

Willow

### Special Events:

2's Easter Egg Hunt  
Thursday, April 13th

### Reminders:

Please check your child’s experience sheet daily for any classroom needs: (diapers, wipes, clothing and classroom news



## PRESCHOOL



**Miss Ellen/Miss Adriana/Miss Monica**

Happy Spring! We are very excited about the warmer weather coming after our very snowy winter! We will be learning facts about the earth and ways to take care of it.

We will be learning how our bodies work and what we need to do to stay healthy. The food groups will be discussed and we will learn which foods provide the most nutrients for our bodies. Different exercises will be introduced as we talk about fitness and how our muscles and bones grow and work. We will be exploring zoo animals as we create our class zoo.

For our nurturing character, we will be focusing on honesty and the importance of being trustworthy. Jesus was being trustworthy when He died on the cross for us! In our Living in Faith curriculum we will learn about Jesus dying on the cross and coming to life again, as we learn why we celebrate Easter.

The shape of the month is the oval and the color is purple. How many items in the world around us have an oval shape in them or are the color purple? The sense of the month is smell and our nursery rhyme is "Rain, Rain, Go Away." All the children are hanging up their coats independently! I am so proud of them!

### Happy Birthday!

Sofia B	4/15
Sebastian	4/20
Leah	4/29
Michael	4/29



### Special Events:

**Easter Egg Hunt  
Thursday, April 13th**

## PREK 1



**Miss Lynn/Miss Denuve/Miss Gail**

Happy Spring everyone! We are so looking forward to the warmer weather.

In our science area, we will promote environmental awareness by discussing Earth Day, as well as, Arbor Day. We will talk about the importance of recycling, reducing, and reusing in order to take care of our environment

for us and future generations. Talk with your child about the importance of recycling, reducing, reusing and what you can do as a family to help preserve this wonderful world that God created for us! There are many things we can all do to help. Here are just a few: separate newspapers, bottles, and cans for recycling; turn off lights when leaving the room to save energy; turn off faucets carefully (lots of drips add up to lots of water lost); try giving your old toys and clothes to someone who can use them (instead of throwing them away).

As we continue "Reading for Bookworms" in our class, please feel free to send in any of your child's books to share during story time. Please remember to put your child's name on the book so it will be returned to the rightful owner.

The nurturing character word for the month is honesty (telling the truth, being trustworthy, saying what you mean.) Take opportunities to encourage your child to do the right thing and make good choices just as we do at school. Reinforce love and kindness and ways you can be a good friend.

April is the "Month of the Young Child." As the song goes, "Jesus Loves the Little Children", so always remember to take time every day to thank God for your children! We all have so much to be thankful for. Please pay particular attention to the special events to see how your child can participate.

May God bless you all!

### Happy Birthday!

Ella	4/13
Parham	4/24



### Special Events:

**Easter Egg Hunt  
Thursday, April 13th**

### Reminder Please:

- Send in large detergent caps. We need them for a project
- Be sure your child has a complete change of clothes in his/her cubbie.
- Be sure your child has a small sheet and blanket



## PREK 2

### **Miss Sue/Miss Kathy/Miss Dana**

Hooray!! Spring has sprung! The PreK2 Smarties have come back from their outer space explorations and have been eagerly watching for signs of Spring. Our book about spring even said spring is a “season with weather” as evidenced by our early spring snow storm. But, being the Smarties that we are, we took advantage of the opportunity to have one more snow fling! It was fun!

Jesus time taught us the story of Philip and the Ethiopian, Jesus death on the cross and His resurrection! Finally, before going back to heaven, Jesus said his disciples should “go and tell” everyone about Jesus. We learned that we are Jesus’ disciples and we too should “Go Tell” the good news of our forgiveness!

As we look ahead, the Prek 2 Smarties will learn about different animals of the world and begin our study of lifecycles. There is so much to do!

I would also like to thank all of our Smartie families, who helped make our St. Patrick’s Day celebration so special!

### **Happy Birthday!**

#### **Needs of the Classroom:**

- Tide caps
- Tropicana OJ caps
- Icing containers with lids



### **Special Events:**

**Easter Egg Hunt  
Thursday, April 13th**

### **STAFF NEWS**

All of the staff just completed a new mandate for requiring us to take an additional 10 hours in Health and Safety, Mandate Reporting and Child Development. That means that all of the staff have double the training hours that the Department of Children and Families require!

### **NEWS FLASH**

April is called the Month of the Young Child. Refer to the calendar each day to see how your child can participate!

### **REMINDERS:**

There are many outstanding Universal Health Forms documenting physicals that were due in March and others are due in April. Please remit them immediately. Thank you!

### **THIS MONTH IN CHAPEL**



During Chapel in April, we will be celebrating Jesus dying and rising to give us forgiveness and life. This is really good news that gives us reason to be happy. It helps us worship the living God with confidence. Jesus died for our sins then He was alive again. When we confess the Apostle’s Creed in our churches we say, *The third day He rose again from the dead.* As we tell and listen to the stories about Jesus from the Bible, we hope the children learn what it means that He is alive for them. His dying and living again is the source of our life. It is the source of the forgiveness we have from God. It assures us that Christ with us here and now is a promise we can count on.

We worship a living Savior. I hope that you are enjoying the blessing of Christ’s presence in your life and family. It is my prayer for every Crossroad’s family that the promise of Easter encourages you to gather with God’s people where you will experience the living God through the Word and Sacraments of Jesus Christ.

God bless,

Pastor Smith