



## **CROSSROADS EARLY LEARNING CENTER**

### **Newsletter**

### **May, 2017**

We are near the end of Spring with Summer fast approaching and another school year has flown by. It seems like just yesterday, the teachers were organizing their classrooms and getting ready for the school year.

The children have matured, learned many new things and new skills have emerged over the past year. Pre-K children have been prepared for Kindergarten: letters, numbers, writing skills, science, math skills, some sight words, listening skills, following directions and have absorbed discussions about various themes all year.

The Toddler's, 2's and Preschoolers have been developing social skills, stretching their attention span, manners and ways of learning how to get along with each other. We have been engaging in a lot of music and movement activities, which is a pre-requisite for development of their brain. Sorting and matching are activities that they enjoy. Language has started or has emerged, giving them another tool for communication. They have learned about many themes and how to manipulate materials for art, play, science or other activities.

Many of the Infants and Waddlers have learned how to feed themselves, cruise, crawl, walk, and follow directions. They have learned about different senses and to trust our environment. Some of them have learned to communicate through words or by actions. They have become very social and know what the routines are each day. They love going out and participating in circle time, art activities, story time and gross motor activities.

Among all of the classes, tremendous problem solving and critical thinking skills have emerged. We have given them knowledge and hope. Through this knowledge, they have developed a sense of morals, values and aspirations. We have encouraged self-confidence, self-discipline and a cooperative spirit in which to take with them through their future.

We have been laying the foundation of knowing Jesus and developing a relationship with Him through prayer. At Crossroads, we thank Him for our food at meals, we learn about Him and pray to Him during "Jesus Time" and we ask for forgiveness when we've made a poor choice. We hope that the children will continue to develop this relationship throughout their lives!

Miss Vivian  
Director

## INFANTS/TODDLERS

Miss Crystal/Miss Elsy

Miss Waheeda/Miss Dana/Miss Sarah/Miss  
Tori



There were many April showers, and now we are seeing May flowers pop out of the ground. May is here and hopefully, so are the warmer days, unlike the crazy weather we had in April! As we take walks, we will be looking for signs that Spring is here and talking about the many colors, feel and smell of flowers.

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 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.

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

Theme: How to use small muscles  
Concept: Reaching and grasping  
Skill: Finger/thumb prehension  
Sense: Touch  
Toy: Touch and feel objects

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

Theme: How to use small muscles  
Concept: Spring  
Skill: Finger/thumb prehension  
Sense: Touch  
Toy: Things with wheels

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

Theme: Things that grow  
Concept: Spring  
Song: World is a Rainbow  
Sense: Touch  
Skill: Being creative  
Book: "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"  
Nursery Rhyme: "Jack be Nimble"

### Older Toddler Curriculum (19-24 Months)

Theme: Things that Grow  
Concept: Family  
Skill: Problem Solving  
Song: "Wheels on the Bus"  
Book: "The Very Hungry Caterpillar"  
Nursery Rhyme: "Jack be Nimble"

Classroom Needs: Please....

- Dress your child weather appropriately each day.
- Provide sunscreen
- Provide a hat

Have a wonderful  
Mothers' Day!



## TWO'S

Miss Toni/Miss Trish/Miss Awatef  
Miss Michelle/Miss Shereen

April showers bring May flowers –hopefully! In the month of May, the children will be growing their own plants. They will observe how a tiny seed grows into a plant, which will bud and then flower! They will be responsible for watering them and seeing that they get enough sun.

We will also be discussing different types of pets and wild animals – some they see in their environment at home and at school and others they will read about. They will be learning the sounds that they make and where they live. We are hoping that the children with pets will share pictures of their pets with us! We would like to put them on our wall. We will also be talking about different ways we care for our pets at home. (feeding, giving them water, walking them, giving them baths, etc.)

Our "Faith Alive" curriculum talks about how "God made all things and gives me things to care for." Our nurturing character word is "responsibility" which involves making good choices and doing our best.

During this month, we will be focusing on the color blue and 2 different shapes: the rectangle and star. We will be working on the sense of touch and developing our "feely surprise box", where the children have to put in their hand and feel the different textures. We will then pull out the item and describe how it feels.

We will also be talking about different insects that we see in our environment and observing them under a magnifying glass.

Happy Birthday!

Gabriella 5/19



## PRESCHOOL

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

Welcome to May! We have many activities and learning opportunities for this month! We will be learning about how seeds become plants and we will be growing our own plants. We will learn about what makes up our universe and how to take care of it through recycling. This will tie into discussions about our environment and pollution.

Different pets will be discussed, as well as, farm animals/farm life. The 2 shapes of the month will be the rectangle and star. Our color is blue and the number we are focusing on is “9”. The sense will be “touch”. Our songs this month will be “We Love because” and “He’s Got the Whole World”, along with many other favorites. Our nursery rhyme is “Little Jack Horner.”

For our “Living in Faith” curriculum, we will talk about all the wonderful things that God has blessed us with. Our nurturing character will focus on the concept of responsibility – making good choices, keeping our word, doing our best and following through.

Show and share can be based on the letter of the week, color shape or sense of the month.

**FYI:**

Please have your child wear sneakers or closed shoes to school for safety reasons.

As the weather gets warmer, please make sure your child has a seasonal change of clothes in their cubbie. Thank you!!!

Happy Mothers’ Day to all of our wonderful moms!

## PREK 1

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

A great time was had by all during the Month of the Young Child! We had fun participating in many wonderful activities and enjoyed some delicious snacks! The class favorite was sundae day! The children were so excited about



creating their own sundae. It is wonderful to see the children helping one another and sharing. They are learning about love and kindness towards one another.

During the month of May, our theme will continue to focus on the spring season. We will be learning about pets, insects, animal habitats, our environment and much more!

We can’t wait to plant a flower garden outside. We will learn how seeds grow and by taking care of their plants, the children will understand what responsibility means (our nurturing characteristic for this month). We will discuss making good choices, keeping our word, doing our best and following through.

As we continue reinforcing our letters, numbers, colors and shapes, it is amazing to see how much our children have learned and grown. They truly love learning and look forward to the daily activities. They especially enjoy bringing in their books relating to the themes we’re working on to share with the class!

Our “Living in Faith” theme this month is “God made all things and gives me things to care for.” What a beautiful world He has given us! Remember to take time each day to say thank you and enjoy it!

We will also have fun this month making special presents for mom for Mother’s Day, as well as, learning about Cinco de Mayo and Memorial Day.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our mothers a very Happy Mother’s Day!

**Happy Birthday!**

Vihaan 5/30





## PREK 2

### **Miss Sue/Miss Kathy/Miss Nichoal**

It's Spring! The Prek 2 Smarties have been busily observing spring unfold. The birds have actively come to our feeder many times in pairs! Did you know male birds usually are more colorful or have deeper coloration. We have observed cardinals, chickadees, titmice, nut hatches and we even had a red breasted woodpecker! Our most exciting observation was the indigo buntings! Our friend Ryan has a keen bird's eye!

Our class continues to count the days we come to school and do the calendar daily. We are so smart. These activities only take a couple of minutes now. We are working on our own number book which allows us to practice writing the numbers and the number word.

Another item resurrected from the closet were the pumpkin seeds, that we counted last fall, from the pumpkins that we got at the pumpkin patch. Thus begins our study of lifecycles. We planted our seeds in window planters and watched as the first root (the radical) appeared and then the stem. The seeds looked funny wearing their seed hats! We will continue our lifecycles studies as we observe ladybug larvae

and butterfly larvae (which of course are caterpillars as they get bigger and stronger). We will also observe our praying mantis eggs. Did you know we should see 100 to 150 nymphs emerge from the egg! It is truly an amazing thing to see. One more thing – I am patiently waiting for a dozen chick eggs to be delivered by our farmer friend! The children always look forward to watching the chicks hatch! Please don't mention the chicks arrival....it is a great surprise!

Have a very blessed Mother's Day!

### **Happy Birthday!**

Maddy	5/22
Logan	5/24



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

Toilet paper tubes  
Paper towel tubes  
Icing Cups with Caps – if you bake, please save these

### **Special Events!**

Mothers' Day Tea  
Thursday, May11 @ 3:15

## *So Blessed by You, Mom*

*A mother who always cares,  
A mother who's always there,  
A mother who always prays,  
A mother who always stays.  
When things get rough,  
When life gets tough,  
When all is just too much to bear,  
God's Word she shares.  
God's light she shines.  
So blessed God made this mother mine.*

*Author Unknown*



2 Chapel

4 Gymnastics

10 Chapel

11 Gymnastics  
**PREK 2: MOTHER'S DAY TEA**  
**3:15pm**



**14 Mother's Day**

16 Chapel

18 Gymnastics

**22-26 STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK**



24 Chapel

25 Gymnastics

**MEMORIAL DAY**



**29 MEMORIAL DAY - CROSSROADS CLOSED**

30 Chapel  
**Chick Eggs are arriving!**  
**We will watch them hatch!**



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