



CREATOR CHATTER

DECEMBER 2009

Dear Parents,

Our annual Christmas programs will be held on Tuesday, December 15th and Wednesday, December 16th. The program will begin at 10:30 in the Great room downstairs on Tuesday, and at 10:30 in the Church Sanctuary on Wednesday. The program will last about twenty minutes. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to bring refreshments. Also, please remember that you do not need to send your child a snack, as we will be having cookies and punch following the program. All family members and friends are welcome. We will be singing songs we have learned in the month of December. Our only "rehearsals" will be during our daily music time at school. Please let your child wear their regular clothes for the day of the program. Our objective is not to provide a grand performance, but rather to share with our loved ones some of the songs we have learned in Preschool. We hope you can join us.

Our wish for you this holiday season is the gift of time. May you find a quiet moment, a special hug, a loving smile - for the most precious gift of all - your child.

Peace to you this Christmas,
Sherry Webb and Judy Myers Directors

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Food Pantry:

This year we thought it would be nice to give to others who are less fortunate at Christmas time. We will be collecting food for the food pantry from 12/10 - 12/16:

- Red Fish: Canned Fruit
- Blue Fish: Canned Soup
- Green Fish: Canned Vegetables
- Orange Fish: Box of Rice
- Yellow Fish: Canned Tuna or Meat

Don't Forget:

The last day of Preschool for the year is Wednesday, December 16th. We will return on Monday, January 4th. Also note that there will be no Lunch Buddies the last week of school.

Empty Boxes:

One of our Christmas activities is teaching the children how to wrap a present. This is a great activity for building both small and large motor skills (as well as potentially helpful to mom and dad!). We would appreciate any donations of empty boxes (cereal, pop tarts, granola bars, etc.) for the children to wrap. Also, donations of wrapping paper would be very helpful.

Parent Involvement:

Next Parent Meeting, December 7th

Thanks to everyone who came out to Antonio's last Tuesday. It was great food and great fun. We raised \$300!

Spotlight:

This month we are spotlighting the Creative Art Room and Jane Newcomb, our Art Teacher.

Mrs. Newcomb has been at Creator for more than 11 years. She just celebrated her 19th wedding anniversary to Steve Newcomb in May. She is the mother of 2 children: Brittany, 17, a junior at Lee Davis High School; and Steven, 14, a freshman also at Lee Davis High School. Mrs. Newcomb and her family are members of Fairmount Christian Church. She is looking forward to warmer weather so she and her family can start camping again. For fun, Jane likes to hang out with her children, camp and do home improvement projects.

Mrs. Newcomb has captured pictures of your children enjoying this part of their day here at preschool. They can be found at creatorpreschool.winkflash.com, the password is "5FishPictures" or there is a link at creator preschool under "newsletter".

Curriculum Corner-Parent Education

Creative Art is more about the "process" than the "product". This is very evident in a child's use of play dough for example. Are you aware of just how much your child is learning just by playing with play dough? Play dough is essential for building fine motor skills which are crucial for writing. Activities such as squeezing, pinching and pressing play dough are refining your child's small muscles. Adding items such as scissors, pizza cutters, cookie cutters, pipe cleaners, and Popsicle sticks increase a child's opportunities for creativity and imagination while again, building fine motor strength. Also, your children love to use play dough to make imaginary animals, food, creatures and even bowling alleys! Play dough is also a great sensory activity. Mrs. Newcomb makes a scented or sparkling play dough for special occasions in order to expand your child's sensory experience. For example, peppermint for Christmas, allspice at Thanksgiving, Kool Aid during our "Five Senses" week and sparkly just for fun. Play dough also builds gross motor skills. When a child rolls, pounds, and kneads play dough, he/she is strengthening upper body muscles. Don't be concerned your child doesn't bring home "artwork" every day. He/she is very much engaged in creative art with the cutting table, hole punching, play dough, easel painting, as well as doing themed art projects that he/she will bring home. We have included a play dough recipe for you and your child to share in the making and enjoyment of the play dough experience.
