

December 2010

Dear Parents,

Thank you for all you brought to the Thanksgiving Family Feast and for the food pantry. Please bring in boxed potatoes or rice, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, soup, canned fruit or vegetables to place on the kitchen cart before December 17, for the Christmas food baskets, too. A big thank you to the Swiger and Schwinnen families and Christina Gullion for helping on the playground workday – it looks great!

Thank you to everyone who has already placed an order for the Little Caesar's Pizza Kit and Cookie Dough (they're due 12/3). We need volunteers to help unload the delivery truck when it arrives on Wednesday, December 15, at 12:00 p.m. and then sort the orders, sign up with Nancy. Everyone who placed an order must pick it up between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 12/15. Please go to the kitchen door to pick up your order sheet & pizza/cookie dough kits.

Everyone is invited to our Christmas Program to be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, December 21, in the main sanctuary, with a reception in the gym following the program. Please have the children meet in their rooms at 6:45 that evening. Pre-Kindergarten students should arrive by 6:45 pm already in their costumes to reenact the Christmas nativity (Sunshine has some costumes, but you must reserve it with Nancy, or you can provide your own). **DOORS WILL NOT OPEN BEFORE 6:30.** The children should be practicing songs from the song sheet sent home on the back of their weekly "What We Did" paper. If you signed up to bring paper products, fruit, cheese & crackers or beverages, please bring them to school on Monday or Tuesday during class time. We are asking everyone else to bring cookies before 6:45 Tuesday evening. If anyone can help set up or clean up, please see Nancy.

Other Christmas activities are happening at the church this month as well. The annual church Christmas musical, "The Voices of Christmas", will be held twice on Sunday, December 12, during the morning worship time, beginning at 10:40 am, and again at 7:00 p.m. There will also be a Christmas Eve Communion Service at 8 p.m. We hope one of these programs will help make your busy holiday season more enjoyable and remind us of the true reason for the season, the birth of Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift. May each of you have a blessed Christmas.

Developing Social Skills (excerpt from the Parent Institute Newsletter posted on the office bulletin board)

Building Responsibility - Teach your preschooler to care for herself and her surroundings

Your child will truly have become responsible when you no longer have to prompt her in taking care of every aspect of her daily life. Obviously, that day is a long way off. But the time to practice is now and every day that she spends with you until she is an adult.

Here are some ways to do this:

- Understand her development. A young child thinks only of herself, and about what is happening right now. Don't blame your child if she appears inconsiderate or doesn't understand consequences. Those are things you need to gradually teach her.
- Give appropriate chores and put them in context. For example, perhaps she can put the forks on the table for dinner. You can say, "Thank you. That helps the family." This language makes her realize that she is doing something for someone other than herself, and that this action is considered right and valuable.
- Drop your perfectionism. Many children never learn to do tasks because their parents refuse to let the tasks be done less than perfectly. It does not matter that your child smeared the counter. It matters that your child is learning to wipe the counter.
- Challenge your child, but not too much. For example, when your child has mastered putting on shirts that pull over her head, move on to shirts with buttons. But start with large buttons and let her master those before moving on to the small ones.

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Feature Teacher – Janice Revelos joined Sunshine Children's Center Staff 7 years ago and teaches Pre-Kindergarten classes in Room 116 on Monday through Friday mornings. She had been a substitute teacher with Head Start for 4 years. Janice enjoys sewing, cooking, knitting and reading and is active at her church. She recently got engaged to Dave (each lost their spouses last year). Janice has 3 grown children and 3 grandchildren.

Lastly, just a few reminders. Please label coats. Visit to the restroom before class starts.

- This month we are collecting food for the church's food pantry: boxed potatoes or rice, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, soup, canned fruit or vegetables would be greatly appreciated.
- Please call school (513-424-1887 ext. 211) if your child will miss class for any reason.
- We collect Campbell's soup labels. Anyone interested in volunteering to clip and sort the UPC labels, see Nancy.
- Listen to the recording at school (513-424-1887 ext. 211) for closings due to inclement weather, or check our website, www.sunshinechildren.com, TV Middletown, or e-mails. We run regular hours instead of 1 hr delays.
- Please notify your child's teachers in writing if you have given your child any medication prior to school.
- Classes resume after the holidays on Monday, January 3, 2011.
- Send your child's favorite Christmas gift along on their first day back for Show and Tell.

Have a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Sunshine Preschool at Breiel Staff