



NEWSLETTER

May 2017

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK . .

AMY BARTLETT

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST :

- > **Center is closed on Monday, May 29th for Memorial Day.**
- > **Kindergarten Graduation Program is June 1st at 6:30pm.**
- > **Mark your calendars, June 22nd is this year's CARNIVAL!**
- > **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL OF OUR AWESOME MOM'S AND GRANDMAS!!**

Happy Mother's Day to all our Mom's and Grandmas! I'll bet some of you might think that Mother's Day is just another one of those Hallmark holidays, but it's not. It actually has Christian roots.

In the 1600's the Church of England started this day of recognition, but over time it faded away. According to Graham McDonald's *Ministry to Children .com* the idea resurfaced "in 1858 with Ann Marie Reeves Jarvis a Christian lady who was working to heal the nation after the Civil War. Her strategy was to promote and elevate the important role of mothers and help them to create healthier and more hygienic homes. From this she instigated a 'Mothers Friendship Day' which eventually developed into a national movement called

'Mothers Friendship Clubs'. At these clubs Ann would teach the mothers basic nursing and safe sanitation practices to be used in the home, which she had learned from her brother who was a famous M.D. This resulted in many lives being saved and by offering this service to both sides of those involved in the Civil War it was instrumental in facilitating the reconciliation process between Union and Confederate neighbors. When Ann Marie Jarvis passed away after a long illness, one of her two daughters, Anna decided to dedicate her life to her mother's dream of a Mother's Day to honor all mothers around the world. As a Sunday school teacher for twenty years at her church, she was very aware of the Fifth of the Ten Commandments, 'Honor your father and mother'

and no doubt would have taught this to her students. At first, people observed Mother's Day by attending church and writing letters to their mothers.

On May 9th 1914, President Woodrow Wilson, proclaimed the Second Sunday in May as Mother's Day and a national holiday."

I hope you all enjoy this beautiful month and express your love and gratitude to all the wonderful mother's, and grandmothers in your lives.

Thank you to all of our service men and women and their families for your sacrifice to our country.

God Bless you!

YOUNG INFANT

MISS JENNY

Greetings from the Young Infants! April showers bring May flowers, so let's hope we see a little less rain and more flowers. This month we would like to welcome the Bushong family and their little boy Conner. We are very excited to meet our newest friend. We also said farewell to our friend Haven. She is now ready to embark on new adventures in the older infant room. I know we all will

miss her, she brought such joy to our room. Our friends have really enjoyed the fresh air on our daily walks. They are all smiles and kick their feet when they watch the older kids play. Parents, please bring in sun hats for our outside fun. We would like to wish all our mothers a very Happy Mother's Day on May 14th. I hope that you know how special each one of you are, being a mother at times can be

overwhelming but it is also one of the greatest gifts God has blessed me with. So I hope you all enjoy your special day. Until next month God Bless...



OLDER INFANT

Happy Spring everyone! The older infants are so busy and active. Every day is a grand adventure. This past month had us laughing. Zaylee gets in her serious mode and will give us a scowl face when I'd say "Oh Zaylee" she'd bust out laughing and does it again. What a serious face for such a little peanut. Morgan is our reader. She finds her favorite books and she can finish the last word on each page of the story. Brooklyn is quite the contortionist. She can get her coat unzipped and her arms out of her sleeves faster than we can get it on her. Brooklyn wears her coat backwards and zipped up the back so we

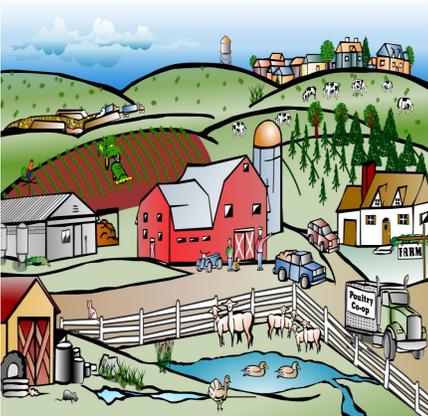
can keep her warm outside. Abraham is the first in the class to master climbing up in the adult rocking chair. He thinks standing when he rocks is much more fun than sitting on his bottom. Parker is a hard little worker. He loves to build with the wonder blocks and little did he know it was pick up time and he gathered every block scattered throughout the room and built the tallest tower. He was so proud of himself and we were so thankful he gathered up all the blocks for us. Kian is a mover, he loves pushing things around the room from boxes to baskets to ride on toys. He is always in motion and usually with a hat (a small red bucket)

MISS ANN

he likes to wear on his head. James is probably the quietest of the group. When you ask him "James what are you doing," he flashes us the sweetest smile that just makes your heart melt.

We wish congratulations to the Knous family on the birth of their new son, Drake. Barrett is now a big brother. Barrett and Drake will be home a few months and be back late summer. We welcome Haven to the older infant room this month. She is loving being a big kid and exploring.

So many friends and so much fun!
Have a great month!

YOUNG TODDLER

Hello May, we cannot wait to see what you bring! April flew by!! Wow!! We were very lucky to have decent weather for the most part and really enjoyed being outside. Being able to watch the girls run around in the grass, build sand castles and discover all the worms, beetles and birds has been very exciting. Hopefully May keeps with that

idea and we can see all the new spring babies and flowers grow.

The theme for this month is Farms. We will be planting some beans and maybe even some wildflowers and be able to watch them grow. We will be reading books about both the farms and all of the different animals they take care of. We will also

MISS CLANCY

be doing some farm crafts and play a couple new games ("milk the cow"). Can't forget about Mother's Day (May 14th) either! We will be celebrating our awesome Moms all the weeks so be on the lookout for some special gifts. "God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." Rudyard Kipling Happy May everyone!

OLDER TODDLER

April showers bring May flowers, and we have certainly had our share of rain this last month, and the flowers are starting to bloom and the trees are budding each day. The friends have been enjoying our time outside. We have had opportunities to ride the trikes, we've headed to the hills and the friends have enjoyed running up and rolling down them.

We say "Happy Mothers Day" to all our wonderful, hard working, beautiful moms. Thanks for all you do and all the

love you pour into our little lives every day. We think you are the best!

In April we welcomed some new friends to our room. We welcomed, Rylee, Adam, Daxton, Jaxon, Tyler and Joey and of course their families. It has been an emotional ride for our new friends as they acclimate to their new room, friends and teachers, but we are all doing pretty well.

In May we will be planting some vegetable plants, we will be talking about

MISS DE

farms and gardens for our theme. I am hoping that if they plant some vegetables and watch them grow maybe they will want to eat them, we'll see.

Memorial weekend is around the corner, and will kick off the summer months. I hope you all get to take some time to rest and relax and enjoy some down time and fun time with your families. Be safe and have fun.

T H R E E S

April showers bring May Flowers! We definitely have had some rainy days this past month so hopefully in May—many beautiful flowers will be in bloom. Spring, it is such a wonderful time of the year! ☺

During the month of May, our themes will be including Creepy Crawly Critters and Planting/Things That Grow. Creepy Crawly Critters is such a fun one to do together. We will be sharing many books by Eric Carle and creating things such as a hungry caterpillar, a ladybug and a bee and many more to go along with the theme.

Our play yard will be busy with insect

explorers as we use bug catchers to find some interesting critters. We have already had a group of friends looking for worms—they know just where to find them. The kids are so fascinated by them.

Our Planting/Growing Things theme will find us planting and tending to our sunflowers. Each friend in our room will be able to help plant some in a cup and then after it grows here for a few weeks it can be planted at home. Friends from years past have taken pictures to share with us how their sunflower grew at their house. Please do this if it grows well—I would LOVE to

M I S S D I

see it.

We will spend some time looking at various seeds and talk about how plants grow. During art, we will use some beans to make a collage and several flowers using art supplies.

Happy Mothers Day to all of our wonderful Moms! May God bless each of you for all that you do. Our jobs are never ending but our children are a true gift!!

Happy May Birthdays to Nathan and Arnaa!

Have a great month, Miss Di

F O U R S

As we welcome May, we'll have a week of celebrating and honoring our Moms. We'll take time to celebrate our wonderful Moms and the great job they do, during our "Magnificent Moms Week". Also during May, we'll do a two week theme of "Planting and Growing." We'll learn several poems, finger plays, and songs whose topics will be all about plant life! Our room will be overflowing with science experiments that bring a lot of excitement. The boys and girls will all be planting and caring for their own sunflower plants.... Watering their

plants is always a favorite! If you have any flowers, pussy willows, bushes, etc. that are blooming at your home we'd love to display a clipping for the boys and girls to explore!

The other theme during May will be

M I S S H E I D I

"Bountiful Bears." A fun week learning about "fictional" and "non-fictional" bears. This week will end with a teddy bear picnic!

In phonics and math we'll be doing lots of blending, reviewing and vowels. We'll also explore the concept of measurement with a scale.

Happy Mother's Day



K I N D E R G A R T E N N E W S

Thank the Lord for buds in spring.
Thank the Lord for birds that sing.
Thank the Lord for brainy heads.
Bless them in their snug warm beds.

Thank the Lord for the beautiful month of May. Our theme for May is "Transportation and Summer Safety". The boys and girls may bring trucks, cars, trains, planes etc. from home—such fun!! We will explore many kinds of transportation and learn ways to be safe in many summer situations.

Our phonics centers are ending the year really well. All of the boys and girls have made wonderful progress. Our whole class is in the "Reading Club" and reading hundreds of one vowel words. Many of our friends are reading thousands of two vowel words like: Tim, time; red, read; flat, flame etc. Some boys and girls have read 29, 43 even 61 books and we have a whole month to read.

We are making super good progress in

M R S . L A Y E R

our math department. We are reading and writing beautiful numerals from 1 to 300. We are telling time on the hour and half hour and soon we will begin "Apple Tree Addition".

We are practicing for our wonderful, exciting kindergarten graduation program. It will be Thursday, June 1 at 6:30. Details will be posted on the parent info wall. Be sure to invite everyone in your family and all your friends and neighbors. This is going

Kindergarten News continued...

to be a very special program!

We are going to the Community Christian Reformed Church at 6045 Mackinaw on May 24 and 31 for program practice. Please talk to me if you would like to help drive.

Our May field trip will be singing at Wescourt and lunch at Old Country Buffet. This will be May 23. We plan to leave at 11:35 and return about 2:00.

Our June field trip will be riding at the Sport Horse Center. We will have a tour of the farm. Spend some time riding with cool English riding helmets. Then picnicking and playing by the pond. Details posted soon.

I thank the Lord for the privilege of teaching your precious children this year. I pray they will do well in the coming years and always keep the Lord first in their hearts. Lord bless you and your sweet families.

Find us on the web: www.greatbeginningsontheweb.com



Thank you for your service ...



You will always be remembered!

MyLittles