

# St. Mary's Community Preschool



## Newsletter

April 2015

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Dear Parents,

The landscape is always changing outside our classroom windows. We are blessed with the beauty of nature, family and friends, and most importantly, God's love.

We would like to remind everyone that enrollment for the 2015 - 2016 school year is still open for all our programs. If you or anyone in the surrounding communities who are interested in registering, please contact Ida Payne at 845/351-2389

## Mommy And Me Class

**Kathy Wright, Facilitator**

Mommy and Me Jubilee is off to a great spring session!! The warm weather is here and we are thrilled to be crawling through tunnels, playing with our parachute, and reading stories about flowers growing and baby animals coming out to play. We have some new



faces this session and we are so happy to play and just say hello!!!

## Preschool Two Day

### Sharlene Pizza, Head Teacher

The students in the two-day program learned a lot this month. R, S & T were the letters of the month. The children traced the letters, glued pictures starting with the letters, and practiced sounding out the letters. They also enjoyed the crafts that went along with these letters. We made puffy clouds & bright rainbows for the letter R, slithering snakes made out of ovals along with bright sunshine for the letter S, and orange triangles and happy turtles for the letter T.

Tuesdays are special because the children go to Chapel to visit with Reverend Betty. This month Reverend Betty taught us to express our love to everyone we meet. Just as we put our clothes on every day, it's important that we put our love on too! We should not save our love for a special occasion, but always give to others what God has given to us... Love.

April brings blooming flowers, trees budding, grass greening and so appropriately Earth Day and Arbor Day. Our class took part in both of these special days.



We celebrated Earth Day by reading a special book on saving our Earth's natural resources. We passed along simple ideas that the children could relate to like not running the water for a long time when you wash your hands, throwing our garbage in a garbage pail, finishing the food on your plate to avoid being wasteful. For snack that day we enjoyed cut up broccoli, to represent trees along with animal crackers to remind us that animals need a clean earth too! On Arbor Day, we planted lettuce seeds so that we could watch them grow in our home and eat what we actually planted. Remember, seeds need to be watered frequently and lots of sunshine. You should be enjoying lettuce in a few weeks!

We welcomed two new students this month, and they are adjusting nicely with the love and comfort of the other children and staff.

Happy Spring!!

Sharlene Pizza, Head Teacher

Michele Kayser, Teacher Assistant

## **Preschool Three Day**

### **Amanda Rabolli, Head Teacher**

### **"Get Set For School" Curriculum**

April showers bring May flowers!

Unfortunately, the weather during the month of April did not cooperate enough to enjoy outdoor activities. To ward off "spring fever," we sang and wiggled our sillies out.

We focused on the letters T, U and V. We completed our S shapes, T triangle, U umbrella and V violet worksheets. The students also created the letter crafts: T is for tree, U is for underwater and V is

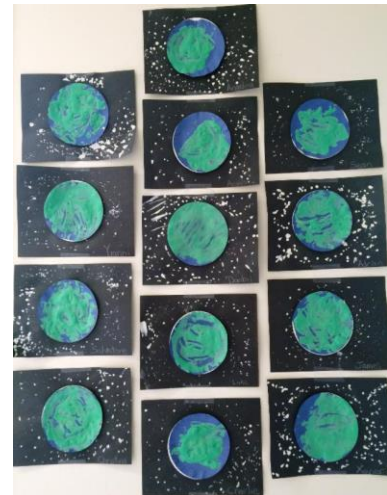
for Vase.

In Language and Literacy this last month, the students were introduced to the concept of a sentence being a complete thought. We learned and sang "letters together make words, we learn new words each day, we put the words together, and have a new sentence to say." We hunted for letters, words and sentences around our classroom. The students were asked to make a sentence that described something they like to do at home. We then drew a picture to match our sentences. We played match makers with lowercase and capital letters. While reading "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," we reviewed the parts of a book - author, illustrator and the spine of a book. The students matched each bear to the right size bed.

During Math, we expanded on "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" by reviewing the size of the bears and their beds. They pasted the beds in size order and placed the bears on the appropriate beds. We compared more and less using our Tag Bags. We practiced size order of objects. We also practiced noticing which item is different in a group. We played cover and see and how many squares using our 4 Squares More Squares pieces.

During Readiness and Writing, the students used their Stamp and See Screens in order to make the letter D. We practiced a lot of name recognition, name spelling, and name building using letter tiles. Using our Readiness and Writing workbooks, the students traced the number 4 and the shapes: cross, circle, square and triangle.

We celebrated Earth Day by creating an earth using green shaving cream paint and by planting grass seed in cups.



Amanda Rabolli, Head Teacher  
Michele Kayser, Teacher Assistant

# Preschool Five Day

Ida Payne, Head Teacher

## "Get Set For School" Curriculum

April was a mix of weather emotions; but when the month came to a close, spring had finally sprung! The flowers were budding, the grass was greener and creatures were emerging from their habitats.

The five day program accomplished many things during April:

**Word Time:** The category was Social Behavior and the children learned the spelling, pronunciation, and meaning of words in this section.

**Penmanship:** Using their Letters and Numbers for Me books, the students practiced writing lowercase letters and words and sentences with those letters.

**Language and Literacy:** We completed our chapter titled **Comprehension**. The students learned to retell a story with pictures. They were taught to generate a list of facts from an informational text and categorize information by topic.

Then, we moved on to the chapter titled **Writing**. We used our Line It Up Coloring Cards to prompt conversations about topics that lead to stories. They drew their ideas to share with the class. The students had a lot of fun retelling stories through dramatic play.

**Math:** The children completed their I Know My Numbers #9 and #10 booklets. We continued our section on **Geometry**. The students learned to recognize shapes in a group and to name shapes in real-world objects. They explored three-dimensional shapes in the classroom.

There was also time for fun and celebration:

Mrs. Bower stopped by to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day and helped the students plant pumpkin seeds in



eco-friendly pots and grow peas in bags. We would like to thank Mrs. Bower for her time and donating the materials.



April is Autism Awareness Month. All the students at SMCP joined hands to show their support for Autism by making a banner for the hallway.

We would like to thank the Tuxedo Police Department for the time they spent with our students on the importance of keeping our kids safe in the community.



Chapel is always a special because the children get to spend time with Reverend Betty. They learn new songs, celebrate life, and embrace Jesus' love.

We enjoyed Mariella's 5th birthday with a cookie cake and delicious pink cookies - "Happy Birthday, Mariella"!!

Ida Payne, Head Teacher  
Cynthia Dinan, Assistant Teacher

# **Calendar Of Events**

**May 7th: Mother's Day Tea, 2 day program**

**May 8th: Mother's Day Tea, 3 & 5 day program**

**May 4-10: Children's Book Week**

**May 14 : Field Trip to the Library, 2 day program**

**May 15: Field Trip to the Library, 3 & 5 day program**

**May 22-25 Memorial Day Weekend: School Closed**

St.Mary's Community Preschool offers a variety of early childhood academic programs:

Mommy & Me Jubilee

Preschool 2-day

Preschool 3-day

Preschool 5-day

Community Social Enrichment



For more information please contact Ida Payne, Head of School at [ipayne@stmarysintuxedo.org](mailto:ipayne@stmarysintuxedo.org) or you may call the school at 845-351-2389.