

Mary Ann Sherman

From: Leslie Dunlap <ecw@ssechurch.ccsend.com> on behalf of Leslie Dunlap <leslie@ssechurch.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 29, 2015 1:07 PM
To: Mary Ann Sherman
Subject: St. Stephen's Preschool January 2015 Newsletter

St. Stephen's Preschool January 2015

Newsletter

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Important Dates:

Jan. 31 Preschool Fiesta Fundraiser in Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 MW Valentine Parties in the classrooms at 12:15 p.m.

Feb. 12 TTH Valentine Parties in the classrooms at 12:15 p.m.

Feb. 13 3's and 4's Valentine parties in the classroom at 12:15 p.m.

Feb. 16 No School - President's Day

Director's Corner

Hello to everyone! I hope that you all had wonderful Christmas holidays. We loved seeing your children after the long break and talking to them about all the treats that Santa brought them. They are growing so fast!

We have hit the ground running in 2015! Registration is coming to a close, but please check our website under "Fall Openings" to see if there are any spots available for your friends. Word of mouth is our best advertising! Also, please "like" us if you are on Facebook.

Our fundraiser is this weekend, January 31 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. I hope everyone will be able to attend! We have fabulous silent and live auctions planned with items from Learning Express, Magic Muffin, Mosquito Squad, Cahaba Heights Hardware, Annie Butrus, Chickadee, Swanky Stork, Lili Pad, Little Soles, Nail Couture, Villager Yoga, Kim Eriksson Photography, Leon Loard, Liberty Cleaners, Stella & Dot, Every Girl Fitness, Ashley Mac's, Acting Out Performing Arts Academy, Miss Myra's, Alabama Biscuit, Little Donkey, White Flowers, NS Dance, Mason Music, Flip Flops & What Nots, Yucatan, Moe's BBQ, Birmingham Zoo, Mountain Brook YMCA, Fig Tree Café, Olive Branch, Serendipity, The Knight School, Momma Goldberg's, Mountain Broom Gymnastics, Christopher Glenn, Margaret Lee Photography, Marthie & Jane, Steel City Pops, Shoefly, New York Butcher Shoppe, Sexton's Seafood, Publix, Barclay Gresham, A Little Something, Jim & Nicks, Kendra Scott, Lily Pulitzer, Leaf and Petal, and much much more!!

We have 2 fabulous beach vacations that I would love for you to go ahead and check out. It would be fun to get together with friends and plan a fun get away!

1 week at a beautiful home in Carillon Beach (Just east of Rosemary Beach- dates subject to availability in spring, summer or fall.) It is great spot for families and especially those with younger children! Check out this website for more information. <http://www.carillon-rentals.com/Unit/Details/81020>

Feb. 18 Preschool Board Meeting in new 4's wing at 6:15 p.m. All Welcome.

Feb. 20 4's to Children's Theatre: *Queen of Hearts and Terrible Tarts*.

Feb. 27 3's Program for Parents at 9:15 a.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar. 4 Summer registration drop-off for St. Stephen's church members currently enrolled and siblings at 9 a.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar. 5 Summer registration drop-off for non-members currently enrolled and siblings at 9 a.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar. 11 Summer registration for St. Stephen's members not currently enrolled at 9 a.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar. 12 Summer registration for all others at 9 a.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar. 18 Preschool Board Meeting in new 4's wing at 6:15 p.m. All welcome.

Mar. 27 4's Program "Singing Across America" at 12:15 p.m. in Parish Hall.

Mar.30-Apr. 3 No School - Spring Break

2015-16 Registration

Thank you for a smooth registration process. We do have some openings, especially in the MDO ages (under 2) so please tell anyone who is interested in our program to visit our website at www.ssepreschool.org for availability and other information.

2015 Summer Program

We are going to have seven weeks of summer school and we are going to continue to offer summer camp for those entering 1st , 2nd and 3rd grades as well as those who are attending our 5K program this school year. Summer school registration for those currently enrolled is

1 week at The Private Residence Club at Rosemary Beach. Available summer and fall. Check out the website for more information: <http://rosemarybeachprc.com/>

If you are unable to attend the fundraiser this year, please consider purchasing one of the teacher wishes. The wishes are located outside my office. All you have to do is select a wish and drop it off in my office with a check. Several people can go in together for a more expensive wish. For example, you could donate \$25 towards a \$125 wish and then other parents can also donate towards the same wish. I will purchase all the wishes next week. It's so easy!!

Thanks so much for your support!

-Leslie

School News

Many Thanks to:

- Father Jamie McAdams for the sharing the story of Jesus' birth with us. The children and teachers loved it!
- All the parents who helped with the Christmas parties!
- Ellen Duncan for planning our Fiesta Fundraiser and organizing all the auction volunteers.
- Whitney Saunders and Martha Ann Livingston for planning the decorations for the Fundraiser.
- Cryshelle Patterson, Rachel Holt, Susan Lyerly for helping set up the Silent Auction tables.
- Everyone who donated items or asked for donated items for the Silent Auction.
- All the families that have already purchased teacher wishes!
- All the teachers for doing a wonderful job everyday with the children!
- Everyone who donated gently used toys and books.

Inclement Weather

Just a reminder that in the event of inclement weather, we follow the Mountain Brook school system. In addition, we will notify you via Schoolcast in the event of any change to our normal school day. If you did not receive a notification via Schoolcast on Thursday, Jan. 10th when we opened one hour late, please call the office and let us know.

Finances

Please remember that regular, Tigger Time and Early Bird tuition are due by the 10th of each month. You may write one check for all items, but please indicate the amount for each on the memo line on the bottom of each check. If you pay via internet bill pay, please make sure that your payment is set so as to arrive at the preschool by the 10th of the month. If you are experiencing extenuating circumstances, please contact Leslie or Mary Ann and we will be glad to work with you.

March 5 for SSE church members and March 6 for non-church members. Summer school will be in session Monday - Thursday and for Babies - 4's you can choose to go MW, TTH or M-Th based on availability. For those in summer camp, you will be required to sign up for full weeks (M-TH) rather than days. The summer camp cost will be a little higher due to special activities for the campers. For the summer of 2015 we will be in session the following weeks:

Week 1: June 15-18
Week 2: June 22-25
Week 3: June 29-July 2
Week 4: July 6-9
Week 5: July 13-16
Week 6: July 20-23
Week 7: July 27-30

Summer school follows our regular schedule of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with the option of Tigger Time from 1:00-2:30 for all children who will turn three (3) years old by August 31, 2015. Tigger Time will be also available for those attending summer camp.

Summer Fees:

Registration Fees:

1 child	\$40
2 children	\$70
3 or more	\$90

Regular Tuition for Babies-4's:

\$22.50/day for first child
\$20/day for second child
\$18/day for each additional child

Drop-ins will be allowed based on availability but will be at a higher rate of \$25/day.

Summer Camp Tuition:

\$105 per week for first child
\$95 per week for siblings

Tigger Time Tuition:

Prepaid Rates:

\$10/day for first child
\$5/day for each additional child

These rates only apply if your child is registered and signed up for Tigger

Remember that drop-in fees for Early Bird (\$10) and Tigger Time (\$15) are due on the day of drop off. For Tigger Time, you can take advantage of the price breaks given to our monthly customers by purchasing our 5 for \$50 Tigger Time special. We are also offering a 5 for \$40 special for Early Birds which works the same way. You send in your check and then just send your child to Early Birds or Tigger Time when you need to without having to worry about the payment. We will keep up with your visits and let you know when your 5 visits are up!

We will be happy to provide a receipt if you need it for tax purposes; if you need one please email Mary Ann at maryann@ssechurch.org. She will be happy to answer any questions you have about your fees or your account.

St. Stephen's Welcomes....

We are excited to welcome back Analeigh Ferrara and happy to welcome Gisele Reaves to Beth and Kim's TTHF 3's class. Please add their contact information to your directory:

Robert and Heather Ferrara, 800 39th St. 35222, 586-6616,
heather.ferrara1@gmail.com

Courtney Reaves, 3993 Natchez Dr., 35243, 478-2776,
courtneyreaves66@gmail.com

Reminders

- Please let us know if your child will be out of school. Call anytime at 967-6317 or e-mail Leslie at Leslie@ssechurch.org.
- Please read your Illness Policy in your Student Handbook. There are many different "flu or stomach" bugs going around and we want to do all we can to avoid passing these germs around. DO NOT SEND your child to school if he or she has not been fever free for 24 hours and/or he or she cannot benefit fully from being at school.
- We like to go outside and enjoy the fresh air whenever the weather permits so please send labeled sweaters and jackets with your child to school.
- Remember to get an updated Blue Immunization Form when you visit your pediatrician.
- Please let Leslie know if your contact information has changed.
- You are welcome to send goodies to school to celebrate your child's birthday.

Early Birds and Tigger Time

Early Birds

We are having fun bright and early in Early Birds. Early Birds start at 8 a.m. and meet in Room 137 by Leslie's office. You may just drop-in any day and the drop-in charge is \$10 per day. If you know that you will need Early Birds fairly regularly but don't know which days, we do have a 5 for \$40 Early Bird special where you prepay for 5 visits and then drop-in when your child needs

Time prior to the time that summer school begins or if you choose to purchase our 5 for \$50 Tigger Time special. If you choose to attend Tigger time on a drop-in basis, the charge is \$15/day for the first child and \$7.50/day for each additional child.

PAYMENT POLICY: As we required last year, payment of one half (1/2) of your summer tuition will be due at the time of registration with the balance due by June 1. You will be allowed to make changes to your days up until May 1, 2015, but the amount of tuition paid at registration will not be refundable. Tigger Time tuition, including 5 for \$50 special, is due by June 1st. Please get your summer schedule ready before registration so that you will know which weeks you would like to attend!

Special Feature

Teacher Highlights

To help you get to know our teachers better we thought we'd highlight a couple of teachers each month and give you some fun facts about each one!



Alison Hall - TTH
Babies

to. This special saves you \$10 for the 5 visits and you won't have to worry about paying each time you drop-in. You do not need to call in advance and, if it will help, feel free to bring your child's breakfast. At 9:00 a.m. we will take your child to carpool or to his or her classroom. Looking forward to seeing you at Early Birds!

- Miss Jennifer and Miss Monica



The boys at Early Birds!

Tigger Time

The New Year has brought opportunities to make new friends and keep the old! We are growing by leaps and bounds with the addition of the Young 2's who are now old enough to join us. We always find something fun to do to enjoy our time together. Feel free to call and take advantage of Tigger Time this winter. The drop-in rate is \$15 per visit or you can take advantage of our 5 for \$50 special where you can come to five Tigger Times for \$10 per visit! Siblings receive a 50% discount off of monthly, drop-in and special rates! Unlike Early Birds, you are required to call Leslie at 967-6317 or email her at leslie@ssechurch.org if you would like for your child to drop-in to Tigger Time. Most days we will be able to accommodate your request but we do have to make sure that we have enough teachers to watch all the children. Hope to see your child at Tigger Time!

-Miss Jennifer, Miss Beth, and Miss Judy

Mother's Day Out

We are off to a great start in 2015! We were all eager to see the children again after the holidays. They grew so much during the holidays. Most of the creepers are walking now, and the babies are crawling around! We are so glad to be back on a schedule.

Please remember the unpredictable weather and always try to pack a sweater or jacket and hat because we love to go outside when the weather permits. Also, please make sure that you pack an extra change of clothes in their bags that are appropriate for the cold weather. The Babies and Creepers stroll the grounds and the Old and Young Toddlers play in the courtyard. The toddlers soon will be going to the "big" playground! They will do "hands and knees" up the stairs to go to the playground and "bump bump" down the stairs back to their rooms. Also, please continue to label everything you send

On the weekend I like to: Hang out with my children and husband
Pets: Shorkie - "Bear"
Cheers for: Auburn
Ideal Vacation Spot: Destin
Favorite board on Pinterest: Photography
Twitter, Facebook or Instagram?: Facebook
Favorite breakfast food: Bacon
Who Inspires you?: Jesus and my husband
Super hero power you'd love to have: Invisibility
First Concert: New Kids on the Block
What do I know now that I wish I knew then: "It's all going to be all right!"



Leslie Lynch: M-F 4/5s

On the weekend I like to: Sleep late!
Pets: Dog - "Mac" and cat "Lady Bird"
Cheers for: Auburn
Ideal Vacation Spot: Jackson Hole
Favorite board on Pinterest: Education
Twitter, Facebook or Instagram?: None!
Favorite breakfast food: Hardee's biscuits and cheese grits
Who Inspires you?: Joanna Gaines
Super hero power you'd love to have: Samantha on Bewitched's nose
First Concert: Doobie Brothers

to school including the diapers. This is especially helpful when a substitute teacher is in the classroom.

Thank you!

-Miss Jennifer M, Miss Alison, Miss Elaine, Miss Wanda and Miss Kim



Babies love Miss Alison and rec room!

What do I know now that I wish I knew then: I needed a degree in everything!



Mary White - Art

On the weekend I like to: Go on hikes and be outside!
Pets: Dog - Two big dogs
Cheers for: Auburn
Ideal Vacation Spot: Costa Rica
Favorite board on Pinterest: Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*
Twitter, Facebook or Instagram?: Facebook
Favorite breakfast food: Kim Green's food!
Who Inspires you?: Believe it or not but my mother-in-law
Super hero power you'd love to have: flying
First Concert: Beach Boys
What do I know now that I wish I knew then: How challenging kids are!

Quick Links

[St. Stephen's Preschool](#)



Babies and creepers playing together!



Creepers playing in the "garden"!



Young Toddlers having fun playing in their classroom!



Toddlers love the slide!

Preschool

2's

Happy New Year! The Two's have come back all grown-up and excited about learning. We enjoyed sharing what Santa brought us. We have been learning about snowflakes, ovals and the color "white". The Older 2's made Penguins out of ovals and the Young 2's made Humpty Dumpty out of ovals. This last part of January we are learning about opposites and are making a book to take home. Please help us with this by pointing out things that are opposites while at home and driving in the car.

The Young Two's are doing great in carpool. Drop-off starts at 9:00 a.m. and pick-up begins at 12:50 with carpool ending at 1:00 p.m. All 2's are now eligible to attend Tigger Time!

-Miss Donna and Miss Jennifer



Young 2s love the riding toys in the rec room!



The older 2s becoming budding young artists!

3's

Happy New Year and welcome back. The 3's teachers hope you all had a very nice and relaxing holiday season. We are so happy to see all the boys and girls smiling faces. The children seem very eager and ready for the new year. We have spent the first couple of weeks getting back on a routine, reviewing daily schedule, circle time, calendar, following directions and sharing with our friends. They have done well without too many reminders. January is a very busy month filled with all sorts of fun winter activities. Each class has explored winter animals such as polar bears and penguins, hibernation and why certain animals sleep during the cold months and winter weather- snow, snowmen and snowflakes. We will continue to work on letters, cutting, painting and numbers each week. We are going to focus on learning how to write their names. Hopefully, with our guidance and teaching, the boys and girls will develop and strengthen their skills and gain confidence in themselves. We have already seen tons of progress since the beginning of the year and know it will continue. Thank you for sharing your children and allowing us the opportunity to teach them. Take care,

Miss Kim, Miss Beth and Miss Rosemary



Miss Rosemary's class loves watercolors!



Miss Beth's class having fun with Monkeys!

4's

We were so glad to get back to school after the holidays and see those sweet smiles again! Each one of your children brings something special to our classes and we so appreciate the opportunity to work with them. Speaking of working, we jumped right back in to the swing of things, met Mr. W, began studying about winter, and did we ever have something to study! It was so cold outside icicles were hanging off of all of us!!!! While we've been hibernating indoors, we have we have been so busy! We have learned that the Eskimos live in the Arctic and the Emperor penguins live in Antarctica, watched a video called The Snowman, talked about what temperature it has to be for rain to change over to sleet or snow, made several art projects to go along with what we've been learning, and started new math centers.

When Mr. J arrived we began learning about January and our new year. We added saying the months of the year to circle time which helps us practice remembering our birthdays. Little Miss E arrived most recently and she is helping us get some much needed exercise both inside and out! Everyone loves the letter people and we learn so much from them. Some of us are even beginning to put some sounds together to begin to read. It's so exciting!

Thanks to all who made the time to come for parent conferences. It's really nice to have the chance to visit with you and we're looking forward to seeing all who are able to come to the Fiesta Saturday night. Thank you for all you do for us!

-Miss Judy, Miss Leslie and Miss Monica



Miss Leslie's class having fun building!



Miss Monica's class at their math center.....



and discovering that math is more fun with jelly beans!



Miss Judy's class having fun in the Rec Room!

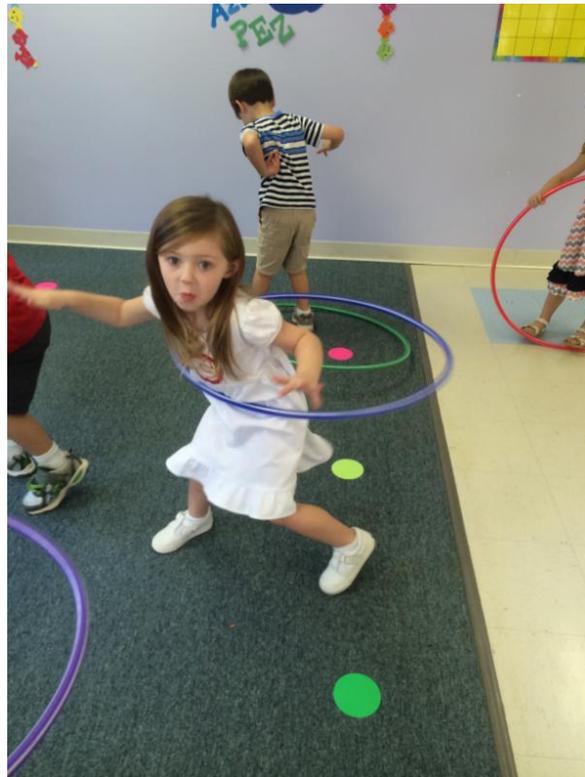
Creative Movement

We are having a wonderful time in Creative Movement! We are learning to hula hoop, jump rope, throw and kick balls, walk on a balance beam, somersault, and several new stretches! It has been so much fun to watch the children grow throughout the year! Thank you for sharing them with me!

-Ms. Amber



Mastering the Balance Beam!



Rocking the Hula Hoop!

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