

Mary Ann Sherman

From: Leslie Dunlap <ecw@ssechurch.ccsend.com> on behalf of Leslie Dunlap <leslie@ssechurch.org>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 11:57 AM
To: Mary Ann Sherman
Subject: St. Stephen's Preschool October 2014 Newsletter

St. Stephen's Preschool October 2014

Newsletter

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Important Dates:

Oct. 29 MW Young and Older 2's Halloween Parade - 9:15 in Parish Hall; MW Classes except for 3's and 4's Trick or Treating and Halloween parties.

Oct 30 TTH Young and Older 2's Halloween Parade - 9:15 in Parish Hall; TTH Classes except for 3's and 4's Trick or Treating and Halloween parties.

Oct. 31 3's and 4's Trick or Treating and class parties.

Nov. 11 NO SCHOOL - Veteran's Day.

Nov. 12-13 Individual School Pictures

Nov. 19 Preschool Board Meeting at 6:15 p.m. in New Building. All welcome.

Director's Corner

Thanks to everyone for supporting the Preschool at our Fall Concert. We had so much fun singing and dancing with Roger Day!

Halloween is almost here! The kids are excited about dressing up and trick-or-treating. There are pumpkins, bats, spiders, scarecrows, and owls all through the preschool. The babies, creepers, and toddlers will wear their costumes and trick-or-treat through our hallways on Oct. 29th & 30th. The young and older 2's (Miss Jennifer and Miss Donna) will have a Halloween Parade at 9:15 in the Parish Hall on Oct. 29th & 30th. It only lasts about 5 minutes so please be on time!! All other classes will have their Halloween parties on Friday, Oct 31st. Please send a bag of candy or small treats to my office to share. Please no peanuts or peanut butter as some of our children are allergic to nuts.

Save the date... We will have our fundraiser with silent auction on January 31, 2015. Go ahead and mark your calendars! We are making plans now for a fun party to raise money for various projects in the preschool. More information to come!

We are having a wonderful year so far and we are excited about all the upcoming events. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions or concerns. Don't forget our website - www.ssepreschool.org. It is full of dates and information. Look for us on Facebook too!

-Leslie

Nov. 21 3's Thanksgiving Feast with Parents - 12:15 p.m. in Parish Hall
 Nov. 24 MW 2's Thanksgiving Feast in classrooms - 12:15 p.m
 Nov. 25 TTH 2's, 4's & 5K Thanksgiving Feast in classrooms - 12:15 p.m
 Nov. 26-28 NO SCHOOL -Thanksgiving Holidays.
 Dec.3 Preschool Board Meeting at 6:15 All welcome.
 Dec. 5 4's and 5K to Children's Theatre to see *An Elf Tale*.
 Dec. 8/9 2's, 3's, and 4's Christmas Story - children dress as nativity characters. Teachers and children only in the chapel. Birthday cake for Jesus at 9:45 a.m. in Parish Hall.
 Dec. 12 4's Christmas Program at 9:15 a.m. in Parish Hall.
 Dec. 15 MW Classes Christmas Parties in the classrooms at 12:15 p.m.
 Dec. 16 TTH 2's and 3's, all 4's and 5K Christmas Parties in the classrooms at 12:15 p.m.
 Dec 16 Last day of school before Christmas - NO TIGGER TIME
 Dec. 17-Jan. 5 NO SCHOOL (Christmas Holidays)
 Jan. 5, 2015 Teacher workday - no students
 Jan. 6, 2015 School resumes

School News

Many Thanks to:

- Ellen Duncan and Jennifer Manary for helping with the Vision and Hearing Screenings.
- Kim Green and all the 4's parents who helped make the Cowboy lunch a success.
- Whitney Saunders for the beautiful fall decorations.
- Tiffany Pierce for co-chairing our Roger Day event.
- Everyone who helped to decorate, blow up balloons, move chairs, take out garbage, hold limbo sticks, untangle necklaces or just lend a helping hand in any way for the Roger Day event.

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. September was a "free" month with respect to late payment fees, but late fees will be added to those accounts in which the tuition is not received by the 10th or first business day following the 10th of the month. Note that the late payment fee is \$25 so please be prompt with your payments. If you pay via internet billpay, please make sure that your payment is set so as to arrive at the church 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.

Remember that if you enroll for a permanent day(s) in Tigger Time or Early Birds by December 1st, then the month of May will be free of charge. Drop-in fees for Early Birds is \$10/day or you can save 20% by purchasing our 5 for \$40 Early Bird Special. With Tigger time this year if you register for a permanent day or our 5 for \$50 special, then drop-in fees for additional days is only \$10/day provided that **payment is made on the day** you send your child to Tigger Time. There is a one-time only \$15 registration fee for either a permanent day or the 5 for \$50 special. If you don't register for one of those programs then the drop-in fee for Tigger Time is \$15/day.

Sibling discounts of 50% apply to both Tigger Time and Early Birds.

If you have any questions about fees or your account, please email Mary Ann at maryann@ssechurch.org.

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!

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.
- 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.



Monica Ishee - T-F
Fours

On the weekend I like to: Spend time with my family!
Pets: Dog - Willoe
Cheers for: Alabama
Ideal Vacation spot: Florida
Favorite Board on Pinterest: Teacher Ideas/Bulletin Boards
Twitter, Facebook or Instagram: Facebook
Favorite Breakfast Food: Bacon
Who Inspires You: Leslie Dunlap
Superhero power you'd like to have: Able to Fly
First concert: Aerosmith



Mary Ann Sherman -
Finance Director

- Please let Leslie know if your contact information has changed.
- You are welcome to send goodies to school to celebrate your child's birthday but we encourage you check with your child's teacher for advice on the best type of goodie to bring.
- The November/December Newsletter will be combined and should be out in late November/early December.

New Additions/Directory Changes

We are excited to announce that the following students have joined us since the beginning of September. Their contact information is included in an updated directory that Leslie will send out to the parents.

Miss Jennifer's MW Babies:

Claire Smith, daughter of Robert and Susannah Smith

Miss Wanda's Young Toddlers:

Caroline Rew, daughter of Eric and Sarah Rew and she will be with us on Thursdays through December 2014.

Harper Ray, daughter of Jason and Liz Ray and she is here on MTW.

Miss Rosemary TTHF Threes:

Addie Clements, daughter of David and Margaret Clements.

Miss Monica's T-F Fours:

Daniella Michael, daughter of Martin and Aleen Michael.

Katie Grace Rew, daughter of Eric and Sarah Rew and she will be with us through December 2014.

Miss Leslie's M-F Fours:

Carlin Kunze, daughter of Scott and Laura Kunze.

Anna Ray, daughter of Jason and Liz Ray.

We are so excited to welcome all our new students!

Early Birds and Tigger Time

Early Birds

We are having a great time in Early Birds. Remember that we are in room 137, Miss Jennifer's Young Twos, at 8 a.m. every morning. We will take the children to carpool or to their classroom at 9 a.m. We are open to all St. Stephen's students and you may drop-in as needed or sign up for a regular day(s) each week. The drop-in rate is \$10/day, but that rate is reduced for our students who enroll and come on a regular basis. As an additional benefit, if you enroll for a specific day(s) by December 1st, then the month of May will be free of charge!

We hope you enjoy having Early Birds at the school and will use it when you need to. Remember that you do not need to call in advance and any child attending MDO or preschool can drop in anytime you need to be somewhere before 9:00 a.m. Feel free to bring your child's breakfast. We love eating breakfast at Early Birds! Thanks to Miss Beth and Miss Kim for

On the weekend I like to: Relax with my family!

Pets: Dog - Sophie

Cheers for: Alabama

Ideal Vacation spot: Beach

Favorite Board on

Pinterest: Food/Recipes

Twitter, Facebook or

Instagram: Facebook

Favorite Breakfast

Food: Blueberry Pancakes

Who Inspires You: My daughters

First concert: Garth Brooks

What I know now that I

wish I'd known then: Enjoy my children when they're young because they grow up way too fast!!

Quick Links

[Saint Stephen's Preschool](#)

[Student Handbook](#)

[School Calendar](#)

helping out while Miss Jennifer has been out; Miss Jennifer will be back in November! Hope to see you soon!

- Miss Jennifer, Miss Monica and Miss Beth



Breakfast is fun in Early Birds!

Tigger Time

Come Play with us! We have so much fun playing after school until 2:30 p.m. With this pretty fall weather, have your child stay and play with us so that you can have some extra time for yourself! the children really enjoying playing with friends of all ages in Tigger Time! Any child attending the Young 2's class and up is welcome to come to Tigger Time.

For those of you who do not have a permanent day, but drop-in to Tigger Time, consider taking advantage of our 5 for \$50 special. You have until the end of the school year to use the five Tigger Times and you save 50% on the drop-in rate of \$15 per day by taking advantage of this special offer. Also, if you sign up for a permanent day before December 1st, the month of May 2015 will be free of charge. If you find that you are sending your child to Tigger Time the same days on most weeks there are significant savings to be made by signing up on a permanent monthly basis. Please contact Mary Ann at maryann@ssechurch.org for more information. Please email Leslie or call the office if you want your child to drop in to Tigger Time.

Tigger Time carpool begins at 2:20 p.m. and is over at 2:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing your child at Tigger Time!

-Miss Jennifer, Miss Beth and Miss Judy

Mother's Day Out

We are very excited about Halloween! Please make sure you send your child in a simple costume because we will be trick or treating around the preschool on either Wednesday, October 29th or Thursday, October 30th.

The toddlers are enjoying working on their artwork and love their story time with Miss Mary Ann Huie. As the weather becomes cooler, please remember to pack a jacket or sweater in your child's bag. The toddlers enjoy playing in the courtyard and the babies and creepers look forward to their morning strolls. We try to take them outside on all days that the weather permits. They love their time playing in the rec room as well.

When sending lunches, please remember to drain and cut up all fruit and meats so as not to cause a choking hazard. The creepers and toddlers are learning how to feed or are feeding themselves and we want to make sure that they do so safely. Also, please make sure you label everything: bottles, cups, food containers, and diapers.

Just a reminder that the MDO hours are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please do not drop your child off before 9 a.m. because the teachers use that time to prepare their rooms for the day. Early Birds is available to the MDO children if you need to drop off your child between 8 and 9 a.m. If you do have an older child that goes through carpool, you may walk your older child to the carpool area after you drop off your younger child. In the afternoon, please make every effort to pick your child up by 1 p.m. We do recognize that occasionally there are emergencies and traffic problems, but please try to be considerate of the teachers and be on time. If you do run into an emergency situation, please call the office at 967-6317 and let us know.

Thank you for sharing your adorable children with us!

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



Babies discovering toys in the classroom!



So many toys for the creepers to play with!



Young Toddlers love climbing on the slide!



Old Toddlers love the big slide in rec room!

Preschool

2's

We are already learning so much. We can walk in line behind our line leader, take our lunches out of our bags and put them back after lunch! We have been learning the shape "square" and the color "orange". The twos were so excited to find out that they could make the color orange by mixing the colors "red" and "yellow". We have been busy getting ready for Halloween and making Halloween crafts.

The Twos Halloween Parade is coming up on October 29th and 30th in the Parish Hall and we are so excited! We cannot wait to trick or treat around St. Stephen's Preschool and Church. Please send your child in a costume that he or she can still play in and that does not include little accessories (swords, guns, etc.). Plan to join us at 9:15 a.m. on either the 29th or 30th to watch the parade and enjoy muffins, coffee and juice with us afterwards. This is such a fun time for the children; but, for safety reasons, please do not let your child run around on the stage or outside on the courtyard. Let's keep this fun time safe!

-Miss Donna and Miss Jennifer



Miss Jennifer's boys having fun!



Miss Donna's class enjoying the fall weather!

3's

We are loving Fall and all the learning that comes with it! Nature Walks, baking cookies, learning our Five senses, seeing the inside of a pumpkin and counting seeds are just some of the activities we have done in October. Learning our letters is a big part of what we do - F is for Fall, P is for Pumpkin, H is for Halloween, etc. They are so proud and it is amazing how much they are learning. Every week they practice their fine motor skills cutting with scissors, drawing, painting, playing with play doh, etc. We are learning lessons every day on how to be kind to our friends and teachers and "letting our light shine" as Miss Whitney teaches us in Chapel.

We are so excited about Halloween and dressing up in our costumes, trick-or-treating and having a party with our class! Thank you to the party moms and the room moms! Y'all are the best!

The Roger Day event was an absolute blast! We loved seeing the children so happy and having so much fun! St. Stephens is an awesome place to be and we are so blessed to be with your children!

Miss Beth, Miss Rosemary and Miss Kim



Miss Beth/Kim's 3's love posing for pictures!



Miss Rosemary's 3's discovering nature on their walk!

4's

The Fours have been very busy having a great time learning many new things. The most exciting thing of course is finding the Mystery Letter Person of the week! Each week, there are different letter activities we do when a new letter person arrives. For example, we put words that begin with the Letter person's sound on a chart, read or tell stories that

correlate with that letter, we make the letter person's capital letter with our bodies or popsicle sticks on the rug, we practice writing the letter, and sing songs changing the first letter of our names to the beginning sound of that letter person. We are also learning to work and play together while practicing our academic, fine motor, and large motor skills every day. We are working hard on scissor skills and using a dot (not a lot) of glue. We are really showing progress in everything we do.

Our Cowboy/Cowgirl Lunch was a real rootin' tootin' good time and delicious, too. We had so many great games and crafts to do such as "The Rattlesnake Egg Hunt", making trail mix, panning for gold, decorating goodie bags, and having stick pony races. We even sat on a wooden horse and had our "wanted pictures" made. All the decorations were so cute and made us feel as though we were really back in the Old Wild West. Many, many, thanks to all our lil' cowboy/cowgirl parents for giving us such a fun day. The kids loved it and so did we!

The entire school enjoyed the Roger Day Concert! It was wonderful to see the kids, their families, and staff having the chance to spend time together. Many thanks to all the parents who spent countless hours making this event such a success.

As if all these weren't enough, there are even more fun activities scheduled toward the end of this month and first of next. All our classes get to wear their costumes to school and have Halloween Parties on October 31. (Please remember - no masks or weapons.) What fun!

To celebrate letter P, we will have a "Pajama, Popcorn and Movie Party". The kids think that wearing pajamas to school is sooooo much fun.

Thanks to all the parents for your help and support. We could not do it without you. Your children are precious and we appreciate the opportunity to be a part of your children's lives.

Miss Judy, Miss Leslie, and Miss Monica



Miss Judy's 4's working on a big puzzle!



Miss Leslie's 4's had so much fun at the cowboy lunch!



Miss Monica's 4s and the actors from Children's Theatre!

Music and Chapel

It's October, so we are singing lots of fun Halloween songs in music class! This is a great opportunity for us sing songs in minor keys, and this is important ear training for your children. Most of the songs we sing are in Major Keys-- happy sounds. Minor keys sound sad or spooky, so Halloween is our greatest chance to work on hearing the difference between the two. We have also been working on differentiating between High and Low sounds aurally and seeing the difference as we play xylophones.

At the beginning of each school year, I like to encourage you to be picky about the music you choose for your child. Children learn best by hearing other children sing. The second best choice is a female soprano voice. It also helps if the accompaniment of the songs is a single instrument, like a piano or guitar. Simple songs like nursery rhymes, folk songs and traditional silly songs for kids are best because their melodies and rhythms are easily learned. Pop music is fun, but it does not provide good ear

training for your child. My advice is to avoid it as much as possible. Wee Sing has great cds of all types! We sing lots of songs from their collection in music class and in chapel-- they have Bible songs, too. You can find these on Amazon. Happy Singing!!!

Our chapel services are on Monday and Tuesday mornings right after carpool. In the fall, we study stories from the Old Testament like Creation, Father Noah, Daniel, and Jonah. This month, we developed a "Plan" for what to do when we are scared since some Halloween things can get a little scary. Our first step is to PRAY and talk to God about how we are feeling. The second step is to SING a song that reminds us how much God loves us and that He is always with us. We've been learning songs that are actually scripture verses set to music. I hope that these will help comfort your little ones when they're scared.

Miss Whitney



We love Chapel with Miss Whitney!

Happy  Halloween

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