



Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church Preschool

Preschool News

RBCPC Early Childhood Ministries is committed to sharing God's love through developmentally appropriate programs that encourage active relationships and celebrate the uniqueness of the individual child while strengthening and supporting families in our community.

RBCPC Early Childhood Education Programs * Patti Hunter, Director * website: www.rbcpcpreschool.com

January 2008

Director's Message

Welcome back to one and all! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and New Years', enjoying time with family and friends.

This month, I would like to invite all Dads to come to your child's Dad's Night. The children eagerly anticipate sharing their preschool fun. It is a perfect opportunity to experience all the activities commonly offered during your child's preschool day. If Dad cannot make it, please think about another special adult your child may enjoy sharing the evening with. Specific dates and times for Dad's Nights are listed on the preschool calendar page of this Newsletter.

I also want to encourage all families to consider enrolling in one of our Family Education offerings this Winter/Spring. There are opportunities for Parent only classes, and an array of Parent/Child Workshops. Each workshop focuses on specific experiences/activities which foster your child's growth and development in celebrating your child's current stage of development and in preparation for kindergarten readiness. If your child will be attending kindergarten next Fall, we highly recommend each of the Parent/Child workshops, and feel the Kindergarten Readiness Workshop will provide you with important information and insights as you prepare to transition your child onto their next step. **Patti**

Priority Registration

Priority registration for families enrolled in our program and/or families who are members of RBCPC will be March 4 - March 7.

Program information for the 2008/2009 school year will be published in February.

**Watch for
2008/2009 registration
information coming in
February!**

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Preschool 858-487-0824 Church 858-487-0811*

Early Years are Learning Years

By: Patti Hunter, Preschool Director

Young Children Learn best when they are active in the process.

Active learning takes advantage of children's natural desire to move and touch. Young children love to manipulate items and explore new ideas. They enjoy the opportunity to see how things work and test their own theories.

Active learning takes advantage of children's natural motivations, abilities, and interests. Children need lots of opportunities to investigate what interests them ~to problem solve, discover relationships, and make comparisons.

Children use all their senses to make discoveries; *how heavy is it? Does it smell? Can I find another one that feels the same? How is it different from the other items?*

Using hands, eyes, nose, ears and

mouth to explore an item, children gather more information and remember what they learn. True knowledge is evident when children can generalize what they have learned into their natural settings.

As they interact directly with the environment, children not only gather sensory information, they also refine their senses and motor skills. For example, it takes very refined movement of hands and fingers to write with control. Squeezing clay, picking up puzzle pieces, and lacing threads with beads are ways for children to practice using hands and fingers.

In our classroom, we work to organize the environment to promote active learning, and we do lots of things to encourage children to think and talk about their discoveries and creations. The key is to provide chil-

dren with the opportunity (time & space) and materials ~ then sit back and observe. You may be surprised at how much critical thinking is promoted through your child's play.



Parent Resource Library

Book Corner

In Defense of Childhood:

Protecting Kids' Inner Wildness

By Chris Mercogliano

The pressures of modern life are increasingly squeezing the novelty, the adventure, the wonder, the physicality, the *juice* out of children's lives. Virtually every arena of kids' experience is now subject to some form of outside control, posing a serious threat to the unique spark that animates each child through talents, temperament, dreams and inclinations.

The Anger Workbook

By Lorraine Bilodeau, M.S.

The Anger Workbook combines the latest scientific research with provocative questions and exercises to take you to the very source of your anger, your attitudes about it, and your power to use it as a positive force for change and growth.

These books are available for check out from the Parent Resource Library, in the preschool office.

RBCPC Preschool Lunch Bunch

Our Lunch Bunch program is an opportunity for your child to extend their preschool day once a week to bring lunch and have some extended play time. Children who are in the afternoon preschool classes attend Lunch Bunch from 10:45am until 12:15pm, when they are escorted to their classrooms. Children who attend morning preschool are escorted from their classrooms at 11:30am to Lunch Bunch, and are picked up by their parents at 1:00pm in the Lunch Bunch Room. Please note that due to severe allergies we are a "peanut-free" campus. Please do not send peanut butter or peanut products in the lunches.

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
January:	7	8	9	10	11
	14	15	16	17	18
	*21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30	31	
February:					1
	4	5	6	7	8
	11	12	13	14	15
	*18	*19	*20	*21	*22
	25	26	27	28	29
March:	3	4	5	6	7
	10	11	12	13	14
	17	18	19	20	21
	24	25	26	27	28

Date to sign up:

Session Dates:

3/04/08 or after

T/TH Lunch Bunch - April & May

3/05/07 or after

MWF Lunch Bunch - April & May

The cost for Lunch Bunch is \$9.00 per day. On sign-up days children may be signed up in advance for one (1) Lunch Bunch day per week, for a total of five (5) weeks. Additional Lunch Bunch days may be purchased the week after the above dates *if* there are openings!

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
April:		1	2	3	*4
	*7	*8	*9	*10	*11
	14	15	16	17	18
	21	22	23	24	25
	28	29	30		
May:				1	2
	5	6	7	*8	*9
	12	13	14	15	16
	19	20	21	22	23
	*26	27	28	29	30

*** = Lunch Bunch closed!**

Family Education

We are delighted to announce some excellent opportunities for you and your family!

Register now for workshops coming up this spring:

Kindergarten Readiness (Parents & Pre-K Child)

Thursdays, 6:00-7:30pm

1/17/08 & 1/24/08

Or

Tuesdays, 6:00-7:30pm

3/11/08 & 2/18/08

Developing Capable Young People (Parents Only)

Thursdays, 6:30-8:30pm

2/28/08; 3/06; 3/13; 3/20; 3/27; 4/03

Learning Together (Parents & 1-year-olds)

Tuesdays 9:00-10:00am or 10:30-11:30am

1/15/08 - 3/11/08 & 3/18/08 - 5/13/08

Growing Together (Parents & 2-year-olds)

Fridays, 9-10:30am/10-11:30am/11-12:30am

1/18/08 - 3/14/08 & 3/28/08 - 6/06/08

Saturdays, 9-10:30am

3/01/08; 3/08; 3/15 & 5/10/08; 5/17; 5/31

Reading & Writing Together (Parents & 3-5 year-olds)

Saturdays 9:00-10:30am

2/02/08; 2/09; 2/16 -or- 4/19/08; 4/26; 5/03

Math & Science Together (Parents & 3-5 year-olds)

Saturdays 9:00-10:30am

3/01/08; 3/08; 3/15 & 5/10/08; 5/17; 5/31

r.a.d.KIDS

A child safety education workshop for parents and children ages 5-7

Thursdays, 5:30 - 7:30pm

4/17/08; 4/26; 5/03

Contact the preschool office for registration or more information, 858-487-0824 or e-mail at

ddevolder@rbcp.org

Jana Alayra with Her band



Live in concert

Sunday, March 2, 2008

Jana Alayra, most known for her energetic song "Jump, Jump, Jump into the Light, Light, Light" has been inspiring adults and children for years. Her music is fun and uplifting. Come spend an evening with family and friends as we all share this wonderful music. The concert is for all ages and sure to be an event you will remember. Find out more about Jana at www.JanaAlayra.com

Tickets Costs

\$7.00 per ticket

Family Four pack \$25.00

Got an Itch for Education?

Have you often wondered what goes into the educational process? Have you ever helped out in a classroom - as a teacher, aide or classroom mom? Want to know what really happens in formulating the education your child is receiving? Are you ready to join in?

Well, now is the time to take it to the next level. The preschool's Early Childhood Education Committee needs you! Come and join the fun every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at RBCPC. Be a part of the process that sets the standard for childhood education in our preschool.

Our Gratitude

Thank you, again to all those who have donated to the Sharing Lives Ministry, Fund A Program. Your gifts made at this year's Dessert Night & Silent Auction will help to make the difference in so many children's lives.

Did You Know?

Many of our preschool families are aware that the Sharing Lives Ministry is dedicated to providing an inclusive environment for children with special needs.

But did you know that the Sharing Lives

Ministry also provides scholarships for children of families facing difficult financial situations?

The RBCPC Preschool is committed to ensuring a quality preschool environment for all children.

To do so requires ongoing financial support from our local community. Please consider including the Sharing Lives Ministry as a regular part of your charitable contributions. Help us help those who need it most.

JANUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7 School Resumes	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Day No School	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Dad's Night 6-7PM M/W/F & M-Th Morning classes	29 Dad's Night 6-7PM T/Th Morning classes	30 Chapel 11:00 & 12:30 M/W/F & M-Th Classes	31 Chapel 11:00 & 12:30 T/TH Classes		

FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Dad's Night 6-7PM M/W/F&M-TH Afternoon classes	5 Dad's Night 6-7PM T/Th Afternoon classes	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
No School - Winter Break - No School - Winter Break - No School - Winter Break						
24	25	26	27	28	29	