



St. Luke Early Childhood Center
"Little Saint's Herald"
 CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS!!



Volume 35, Issue 7

www.StLukeECC.com

727-787-2914

March 2022

From the Director's Desk...

Dear Families and Friends,

Oh my goodness, it is hard to believe that February is already over and Spring is almost here. We are celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Read Across America Week this week throughout our preschool. This is an awesome week to share the joy of reading. Please reach out to your child's teacher if you would like to read to the class.

Here are some things you can do at home to scaffold your child's literacy skills:

- Read for 10-15 minutes each night with your child before bedtime.
- Encourage your child to finish the sentence when reading a rhyming story.
- Pair fiction and non-fiction books. Read a story book to your child, such as Goldilocks and the Three Bears; then read a non-fiction book about bears to your child. Have your child look for ways the real bears are different from the ones in the story.
- Choose a three-letter word, such as cap. Have your child substitute different beginning sounds to make new words: lap, map, nap...

This morning our pastor, Fr. Paul, gave the children ashes in celebration of Ash Wednesday. The children did an amazing job! We remind the children that this is an outward sign, showing people that we love Jesus and Jesus loves us. Today celebrates one of the most important times in our faith, the start of the season of Lent.

This Friday we look forward to having Dr. Kochenour's presentation on Healthy Teeth. His presentation is so fun for the children and it encourages the children to take good care of their teeth.

Throughout March in class we will continue to reinforce many of the goals of our Safe Environment Program, including the understanding of God's goodness and His personal love for each of us. We will also share how prayer gives the children a sense of God's presence in their daily lives and how God expects us to treat our classmates. We will speak about treating our friends with respect and how our uniqueness is a gift from God. Additionally, the teachers will share with the children how God gave us our families to love and care for each other.

Part of this family exploration is our celebration of the Feast of St. Joseph. The children enjoy hearing about St. Joseph, Jesus' earthly father, and how he helped Jesus, much like our own fathers help us on earth. We look forward to celebrating our dads with Car Line Coffee on March 16th.

Next month, the children will enjoy our Easter activities. We will be having our Easter Parade and Egg Hunt on April 8th. The children will parade down the back drive and around the school to the front yard, where they will enjoy our Egg Hunt. You are welcome to come and watch the parade and egg hunt, we just ask that you encourage your child to stay with their class. Please watch for notes from your child's teacher or room parent regarding sending in filled Easter eggs. The following week the children will enjoy Holy Week activities and when we return from Easter, we will continue to celebrate new life with our butterfly exploration.

Spring Blessings,
 Kathie Mitchell

Dates to Remember

- ☺ **March 2- Ash Wednesday**
- ☺ **Feb 28-Mar 4th- Read Across America Week**
- ☺ **March 16 - Coffee in Car Line for Dads in Honor of St. Joseph's Day**
- ☺ **April 8 Easter Parade and Egg Hunt @ 11:15**
- ☺ **April 11-13th - Holy Week Activities**
- ☺ **April 11th—VPK Graduation Pictures**
- ☺ **April 15th-22nd- Closed for Easter Break**



Check out our website for:

- Registration information
- VPK Certificate link
- Special Helper Calendar
- Amazon Smile Info
- Safety Tips

The mission of St. Luke Early Childhood Center is to provide the foundation for a lifelong love of learning by nurturing the whole child through exploration and creativity in a Catholic spirit.



TAX INFORMATION

For those of you needing our income tax identification number for care providers, it is:

51-0561749.

United Catholic Conference
St. Luke Early Childhood Center.



- Dylan L. - 3/2
- Everly M. - 3/6
- Conrad C. - 3/7
- Alex M. - 3/8
- Kylin N. - 3/10
- Nicholas S. - 3/10
- Henry B.. - 3/13
- Isabel C. - 3/18
- Luke F. - 3/22
- Logan E. - 3/24
- Shaughn F. - 3/25
- Bernadette P. - 3/25
- Jack G. - 3/26

preschool registration



Registration is going well. As always, if you know of a family looking for a preschool for their children, please invite them to our school. We would love to take them on a tour of our school and answer any of their questions. As our thank you for the referral, we will give you a \$100 credit on your January tuition next year.

Did you know...

- That our Catholic faith is interwoven throughout our day providing the children with a warm and nurturing environment.
- Over 50% of our teachers have been with us for over 12 years; the national average is 6months-2 years!
- Our teacher/student ratio is nearly double licensing standards. IE-Licensing allows 1 teacher to 15- 3 year olds and our ratio is 2 teachers to 15 children.
- Our teachers take 24 hours of continuing ed each year so they can provide their students with learning opportunities based on the most recent research.
- We have a Crisis Team review our protocols monthly and update as needed.
- We have monitored surveillance cameras on campus.
- We meet or exceed all state, diocesan, and accreditation standards.
- We look forward to reinstating our Science Labs, as Covid protocols are eased. These labs provide an exciting way to explore our science benchmarks and build the children's respect and awe of nature.



"Changing lives one smile at a time"

Dr. Kochenour and Associates
Orthodontics for Children and
Adults
and Pediatric Dentistry



727-796-2456

or

727-789-6347

Two Convenient Locations:
3005 Enterprise Road E. Clearwater
31830 US Hwy 19N, Palm Harbor



Happy St. Patrick's Day