

# SACRED HEART EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

### 🍀 MARCH 🍀

- 1- Ash Wednesday
- 3- Lenten Fish Fry
- 17- Lenten Fish Fry
- 20-27- No VPK (SHECC OPEN)
- 20-27- Public Schools Closed for Spring Break
- 31- Lenten Fish Fry

### ☔ APRIL ☔

- 13- SHECC Easter Egg Hunt
- 14- **SHECC CLOSED**- Good Friday
- 14-21- St. Anthony School Closed- Easter Break
- 20- St. Jude Trike-A-Thon

### 🌸 MAY 🌸

- 12- Mother's Day Tea
- 17- Pre-School Graduation @ 6:45
- 26- Last Day of VPK
- 26- Last Day of School, SAES
- 29- **SHECC CLOSED**, Memorial Day
- 30- First day of Summer Program @ SHECC
- 31- Last Day of School for St. Anthony

### 🍦 JUNE 🍦

- 16- Father's Day Celebration



Thank you to all of our wonderful parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles who volunteered with our fundraisers. You are a blessing to our center. Without your help, the success of these fundraisers would not be possible.

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|| St. Jude Trike-A-Thon ||

|| On April 20<sup>th</sup>, SHECC will be ||

|| hosting a St. Jude Trike-A-Thon. ||

|| Your child can ask friends and ||

|| family to sponsor them. An ||

|| envelope will go home with your ||

|| child for you to keep track of ||

|| donations. Donations can also be ||

|| made online. All donations go to ||

|| St. Jude. ||

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# INFANTS

Where has the time gone? We would like to welcome all of our new babies to our room and to SHECC. We are blessed to have you as part of our family. We look forward to watching you grow and learn.

Every day we do activities in **Communication** (ex. make sounds, repeat sounds your child made, clap, talk, play peek-a-boo), **Gross Motor** (ex. tummy time, playing in the exersaucer when they are old enough, floor time, hold their hands to help them stand or walk), **Fine Motor** (ex. give them toys to grasp, providing them with finger foods, ask them to give you their toy), **Problem Solving** (ex. put a toy right out of their reach so they have to crawl/scoot/walk to it, toys that make noise when you press a button, put an item inside a plastic bottle), and **Personal-Social** (ex. let them look in a mirror, talk to them in the mirror, talk to them when we feed them, sit them side by side to play)

In March our focus will be on all things green for St. Patrick's Day. We will paint shamrocks, free paint, and eat green food. When we go outside we will talk about all the things that are green and look for flowers blooming.

In April we will celebrate Easter. We will paint eggs and bunnies as well as free paint. We will put large Easter eggs in the classroom to play with. SHECC will be closed on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> for Good Friday. We hope you have a blessed Easter.

May will be all about our Mommies! We will do lots of art for our Mommies to treasure. SHECC will be hosting a Mother's Day Tea on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm. Please plan to join us. The center will be closed on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, for Memorial Day.

The babies love going to the flag pole every morning. It is such a social time for them. They get to see all of the older children, hear them say the pledge, sing "God Bless America", and say "The Lord's Prayer". After morning assembly we go for a walk around the basketball court. Our morning walk with all the fresh air helps them eat and sleep better.

**Ms. Linda**

**Ms. Phyllis**

**Ms. Jennifer**

**Ms. Katie**



# ONES

Happy spring time everyone! We have lots of fun and important dates and activities coming over the next three months so I am going to cover them all one month at a time.

Before we get to that we would like to thank you for the very thoughtful [Christmas](#), teacher appreciation, and

Valentine's gifts. We are blessed enough just to have the opportunity to know and spend time with your child and you make us feel appreciated by thinking of us on these special days.

In March we have our three fabulous fish fries scheduled on the 3rd, 17th, and 31st. We need lots of help to make sure they are a success. Whether you can come up on one or all three nights and help in the kitchen or sell dinner tickets to your friends and family every little bit helps and is greatly appreciated. Spirit FM will be on site for the fish fry on the 17th to judge for the best fish fry contest so if you come out for that one be sure to be festive and sport your green.

In the classroom we will be painting and stamping with green and making handprint shamrocks. We will also search for shamrock coins and green gems in the sensory box and play with green play doh. We plan to celebrate St. Patrick's Day for the whole week that it falls in and would like some special snacks. I will put a sign-up sheet on the clipboard the week prior.

Moving on to April we will be participating in the palm parade on Friday [April 7th](#) to celebrate Palm Sunday. I will try to take some pictures to share with you all. We will be closed on Good Friday [April 14th](#) so our Easter egg hunt will be on [Thursday](#) the 13th. I have plenty of empty plastic eggs for the children to hunt but please send a dozen pre filled Easter eggs by the 13th for us put in the children's baskets to take home. Please remember when choosing the treats that we are a nut free center.

Our April lesson plan will include lots of free art with pastels and mixing bright colors and stamping with our spring shaped stamps. We will also learn about the Easter story and about how April showers bring May flowers. We may need some extra supplies to support some activities so we will post a list if anyone would like to help out by donating some of the items.

In May we will host a Mother's Day tea on [May 12th](#) to celebrate all of our wonderful moms. We will post details closer to the date. We will be closed on [May 29th](#) in observance of Memorial Day.

Our themes for our May lesson plan will be celebrating our moms and more about how April showers bring May flowers. You should also expect to see a summer newsletter letting you know what all we have planned for our summer activities and a summer schedule. Last summer we shared the same calendar of activities with the two year old class and we had a special theme for each week with coordinating activities. I am hoping to do the same again this summer so if you have any ideas or suggestions please feel free to share them with us and we will see if we can work them in.

As always thank you for all you do and for allowing us the privilege of helping your child grow. We hope that you all have a wonderfully blessed Saint Patrick's Day, Easter, and Mother's Day.

**Ms. Jen   Ms. Becca   Ms. Sandy   Ms. Eloisa**

## **TWOS**

**MARCH-** Spring Theme! We will be discussing Spring and new life creation from God. Animal babies and the names God gave them.

Music and movement: Old MacDonald Had A Farm

Literacy: The Very Hungry Caterpillar

March Reminders: Fish Fry Fridays

March 3, 17 and 31. Spirit FM will be here March 17 so come and enjoy the fish fry and wear your green!

Spring Break March 18-27



**APRIL-** Easter and Spring Creatures (Bugs, Lizards)Theme!

We will be blooming into Spring this month. Discussing plants and learning about bugs and the creatures which enjoy them. We will be taking care of watering our new class plant and enjoying its blooms. It is a beautiful Easter Lily. Easter is a very special time during this month. We will be prayerful during this time of Lent and Easter.

Literacy: Bugs, Bugs, Bugs and Corduroy's Easter

Music and Movement: Water Cycle Song, and Rain Rain Go Away



**MAY**- Transportation, Colors and Shapes, Mother's Day Theme!

We will be discussing different types of transportation and what makes a car go. We will be mixing colors this month. Red, blue, and yellow are the primary colors.

Literacy: The Day the Crayon Quit, The Shape Detectives, Pooh's Colorful Shapes

Creativity: Crayons, painting and Mother's Day surprise

May Reminders

Mother's Day Tea- May 12 at 3:00pm

MONTHLY REMINDERS  
CLASSROOM SNACKS AND WIPES



Ms. Janis   Ms. Jessie   Ms. Alyssa

## PRESCHOOL I

Spring is almost here with the Holy season of Lent. We are going to begin with ashes and end with an Easter Celebration. Throughout the season we will incorporate stories of how Jesus was a boy and grew up to spread God's word. I have found the best way to teach children this young about Jesus' journey is to teach life cycles. He was born, changed from a boy to a man and when he died went to Heaven.

On March 1<sup>st</sup> we will go to the church to receive ashes from Sister Donna. This is when we will begin discussing the life cycle of a butterfly. Along with this lesson the kids will begin working on patterning and classifying. To date we have worked on alternating colors or shapes so we will build on each child's comprehension.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> we are going to have a Palm Parade. All preschoolers and VPK children will walk to church and back singing Hosanna (Welcome Jesus). Our religious story will focus on Jesus entering Jerusalem. Matthew 21:1-11, 15-16. We will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

A sign-up sheet will be posted closer to the date. Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, SHECC will be closed for Good Friday.

We will conclude with learning how to take care of each other and God's creatures. God gave us his son to teach us to be kind. This will lead into our next lesson, The Lord's Prayer. In addition we will continue to work on critical thinking and build on what they have learned. We will go from sequencing three pictures to sequencing four and five pictures. We will introduce opposites and as always number and letter recognition.

Please join us on May 12<sup>th</sup>, for our Mother's Day Tea. More information will be out closer to the date. Thank you for all of your support!

Ms. Vicki

Ms. Kara

Ms. Katie



## PRESCHOOL II

During the month of **March** the children will learn about some of our favorite authors, such as Dr. Seuss, Laura Numeroff, Eric Litwin, and Anna Dewdney. If you have any of these authors' books, please feel free to bring them in to share with the class. Also this month we will be having our delicious fish fries on the following dates: March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and March 31<sup>st</sup>. Spirit FM will be here on the 17<sup>th</sup>, so be sure to come and don't forget to wear your green. If you are able to volunteer for any of the fish fries, be sure to sign up. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Our themes for **April** are Spring, Easter, and On the Farm. Some of the activities we will be working on are growing lima beans without dirt!, building with plastic Easter eggs, we will make an eggs shell disappear, "milk a cow", and make butter. The children will also learn why we celebrate Easter during our weekly church visit. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. I will post more detailed information as this day gets nearer. The center will be closed on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> in observance of Good Friday.

**May** will be all about Nursery Rhymes! Each week we will focus on two nursery rhymes and posting them around the class. The children will play rhyming games and come up with silly rhyming words. Our Mother's Day Tea will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. The center will be closed on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> in observance of Memorial Day.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your monthly snack donations.

Ms. Liliana

Ms. Katie

Ms. Amber



VPK

## VPK I

### MARCH

Welcome March and Spring! It's hard to believe we only have 3 months of VPK left and time is moving quickly. We're enjoying the warmer days as well as the cool evenings. Please remember to check and make sure you are not missing any jackets or sweaters, I believe we have a few extras.

March 1<sup>st</sup> is **Ash Wednesday**. This is the first day of Lent. During Lent we as Christians are called to renew ourselves and to work extra hard at being the best we can be by doing good works for others, praying, and trying to do what is right at home and at school. This year we will use "Our Lenten Way of the Cross". Each week we will add a different symbol around our cross and say a different prayer. These will help us focus on our journey to Easter.

We will begin a Unit on **Authors and Illustrators** by celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday. During this week we will read some of his books and practice our rhyming words, put together "The Lorax" floor puzzle, and enjoy Green Eggs and Ham. Lois Elhert and Pat Hutchings are a couple of the other authors and illustrators we will explore during this study. When the Doorbell Rang, Rosie's Walk, Ten Little Caterpillars and Eating the Alphabet, are just a few of their titles we will be reading. These wonderful books offer us lessons on addition and subtraction as well as predicting the outcome in a story. Laura Numeroff and her books on "If you give a..." help us learn about making predictions and look for the outcome in all of our activities.

The week of March 18, we will begin a unit on **Spring**. We'll use some of the books by Eric Carle to help us practice our sequencing & days of the week with the book *Very Hungry Caterpillar* and review our color words with *Brown Bear, Brown Bear*. (We will also taste our way through the week as we follow the Very Hungry Caterpillar on his journey.)

March 20-27 is Spring Break for VPK. There will be full-day care for all wrap-around children. (Watch for more information.) During this week we'll begin our unit on Planting. We will sort different types of seeds as well as

plant some mystery seeds and watch them grow. We will need some potting soil and different types of seeds, so if you have any left over from your own gardens, or wish to donate some, please think of us.

## **APRIL**

The week of April 3 we will discuss **Clouds/Weather** and the changes that can occur. We will create a rain jar using warm water and ice and practice reading a bar graph as we chart our daily weather predictions and watches. We will also chart the changes in our weather and use our magnifying glasses outside to identify and observe our environment.

On Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate Palm Sunday with a Palm Parade over to the church. We will use our Bright Beginnings bible story: *Jesus Enters Jerusalem* from Matthew 21:1-11.15-16.

April 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> is *Holy Week*. Our Easter Unit will include our books: *Humphrey's First Palm Sunday, The First Easter, The Story of the Cross* and many more. During this week we will count and sort jellybeans, match upper and lower case letters with plastic eggs and practice adding and subtracting with our silk flowers.

On Thursday, April 13, we will have our annual Egg Hunt and Easter Party. *If you are able to donate a dozen pre-filled eggs for our Egg Hunt, it would be appreciated.* Remember we are a tree nut and peanut free school! Watch for more information as the time gets closer.

The week of April 17 we will begin a unit on our Earth with "**All about Recycling**". During the week we will talk about recycling and how we can do this in our classroom and at home. We will also learn a song about recycling and read several books about how to reduce, reuse and recycle in our homes. On Friday, April 21, we'll enjoy making and eating dirt cups (chocolate pudding, crushed Oreos and gummy worms), as we celebrate Earth Day.

Many of our children have expressed an interest in Dinosaurs, so at the end of April we'll begin a science unit on *Dinosaurs and Measuring tools*. We'll be taking a tape measure outside and mark off how long we think dinosaurs' were and then mark how long they actually were. We will also use our balancing scale to compare different weights by adding and subtracting different dinosaur counters. We have many books on dinosaurs and some songs we'll be learning.

During April we will be doing our Spring assessments. We are planning our Parent/Teacher conferences for the beginning of May. Watch for more information as time gets closer.

## **MAY**

As we Welcome May, our VPK school year will be coming to a close. We have a lot of exciting activities planned for this month.

We will begin the month discussing **May Day, Flowers**, and **Mother's Day** along with finishing up our **Science Unit**. We will be paint with silk flowers and counting their leaves. We will also sort them by color, shape and size. On *Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*, we would like for all of our mothers and/or grandmothers to join us for ***Muffins with Mom***. We will begin at 10:30.

The last three weeks of VPK will be spent exploring a Unit on **Vacations and Safety**. We will talk about all the different places we have been (vacation photos welcome) and places we would like to visit. We will use different kinds of travel maps to plot and plan our trips. This will lead us into *Vacations* and *Summer Safety*.

We will read many stories about traveling and discuss ways to stay safe while in a car, on a boat and in the sun. We will also practice our phone number.

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45p.m. for our VPK Graduation. This ceremony is a very special event and we are planning to perform some wonderful songs. Please arrive by 6:30 p.m. so that we may begin on time. **Children should wear appropriate church clothes and all are expected to use church manners.** We are looking for some parent volunteers to help with setting up the church and hall. Please watch for a sign-up sheet.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your child's life. God bless.

**Ms. Kathy   Ms. Angie   Ms. Sally**

## **VPK II**

May the peace and love of Christ be with all of you.

February was filled with love in our classrooms. The children enjoyed passing out Valentine cards to all of their friends and making cards for their families, friends, and teachers. We had a great party, thank you so much for your donations and gifts. We really appreciate everything you do for us.

March brings us the season of Spring and the Holy season of Lent.

March 1<sup>st</sup> is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of our Holy Season of Lent. Lent is a period of time between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Well into the Holy Season of Lent, we are reminded of the ongoing need all of us have for conversion. Prayer, penance and almsgiving are the three traditional elements of Lenten observance. Prayer bring us closer to God; penance strengthens our will against temptation and sin, almsgiving opens us up to loving and serving our neighbor.

We will talk about Ash Wednesday, holy season of Lent, the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and the greatness of Jesus' love for each one of us. Our big question will be: What can we do to show our love for Jesus? These activities will help us to prepare to celebrate Easter the major festival of all Christians.

March 2<sup>nd</sup> is Dr. Seuss' Birthday. We will begin our Unit of Authors and Illustrators by celebrating his birthday. We will be reading Dr. Seuss, Eric Carle, Laura Numeroff, as well as numerous others. Children learn about the roles of authors and illustrators through role play, games, art & crafts, and other learning activities which build their love of books and reading. We will discuss rhyming and non-rhyming words, one-to-one correspondence, and enjoy great cooking experience every week.

March 17<sup>th</sup> is St. Patrick's Day. Don't forget to wear your GREEN!!! It's going to be an exciting day.

March 20-27 will be VPK spring break. We will be open for those that use extended care. Please see Tracey in the Business office for the cost of the week.

Our unit plans for the month of April are: Easter, Spring/Rainbows, Earth Week, and Recycling. These units are packed full of hands on activities to keep the children engaged and explore their world around them.



We will learn about the Holy week and Easter by reading books such as: Humphrey's First Palm Sunday, The First Easter, and The Story of the Cross. Our activities will include colored Easter collage, flower punch collage, Easter egg sort, jelly bean color match, and counting.

April 7<sup>th</sup> will be our Palm Parade. We will wave palms as we walk to the church singing Hosanna.

April 13<sup>th</sup> we will have our annual Easter Egg Hunt and party. Please bring in a dozen pre-filled eggs for our hunt. Remember we are a peanut/tree nut free center.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of April we will be learning about the growth of seeds, plants, colors around us and the importance of recycling in our classroom and home. We will be helping them expand their language and communication skills.

Our final assessment of the children will be done in April. It is hard to believe that our VPK school year is almost at an end!

The month of May we will focus on Mother's Day, Flowers, and Graduation.

May 12<sup>th</sup> is our Mother's Day Muffins with Mom. We would like for all of our Mothers and Grandmothers to join us at 10:30 am to celebrate.

Please plan to join us on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, at 6:45p.m. for our VPK Graduation. This ceremony is a very special event and we are planning to perform some wonderful songs. Please arrive by 6:30 p.m. so that we may begin on time. **Children should wear appropriate church clothes and all are expected to use church manners.** We are looking for some parent volunteers to help with setting up the church and hall. Please watch for a sign-up sheet. Our last day of VPK is May 26<sup>th</sup>.

May God shower His blessings upon you all!

Sr. Donna Sr. Elizabeth



## SCHOOL AGE

We have a lot planned for our spring months ahead. This newsletter will cover March, April, May, and have a sneak peek at the summer.

### MARCH

Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> is Ash Wednesday. This kicks off our Lenten Season. We have lots of fun arts and crafts planned for Lent and Easter, as well as Bible stories to read and share.

During March we will have 3 fish fries; March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Spring Break will be March 20-27. We will have lots of fun activities planned.

### APRIL

During the first two weeks of April, we will continue to celebrate Lent and Easter. We will color Easter eggs, write or read your favorite bible verse, and have a Holy Thursday parade just to name a few activities. SHECC will be closed on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, for of Good Friday.

## **MAY**

For the month of May we will celebrate our Mothers. We will be making Mother's Day gifts and cards. We will also plant seeds in each of our own little pots to grow. As soon as the flowers bloom, they can take theirs home.

The last day of school is May 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be closed Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, and our summer program will begin Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **SUMMER SNEEKPEEK**

Skating will be every Tuesday starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. Swimming will be every Wednesday and Friday starting June 7<sup>th</sup>. We will cook every Thursday starting June 8<sup>th</sup>. We also have other fieldtrips planned: June 22<sup>nd</sup>- Pioneer Museum, July 6<sup>th</sup>-Ice Skating, July 27<sup>th</sup>-MOSI. We will have our full calendar out to you in April.

Please REMEMBER to call if your child is NOT going to get off the afternoon school bus. Even if they were absent in the morning we still look for them in the afternoon.

God bless and have a very blessed Easter.

**Ms. Debbie   Ms. Laura   Mr. Wyatt   Ms. Amber   Ms. Contessa**

## **BOOKKEEPING NOTES:**

Over the next few months, you can expect to receive your 2017 – 2018 tuition packet. We would appreciate your timely and thorough completion and return of your packet. You can expect to see some minor revisions to the forms. I encourage you to carefully review this packet. This will avoid confusion throughout the year as it pertains to holidays, absences, and additional charges out of the ordinary.

In an effort to make our operation more efficient, you can expect that we will tighten up on some existing policies that may not have been historically enforced. This includes, but is not limited to, late payments, late care, "no calls" for bus transportation, etc.

Communication is critical. If you are running into any problems or have questions or concerns, please reach out to us as quickly as possible. I am in the office most Mondays and Fridays all day in addition to an afternoon throughout the week. Feel free to call or stop by. In addition, you can reach me by email at [shecstjoe@embarqmail.com](mailto:shecstjoe@embarqmail.com).

**Ms. Tracey**



## NOTES FROM CINDIE:

I would like to acknowledge those wonderful volunteers that helped make the Kumquat Festival a success for our center. Greg and Fanchon Gude, Frank Gude, Susie and Craig Roberts, Debbie Gude, Tracey Roberts, Virginia Gordon, Rita Gordon, Linda and Jessie O'Berry, Cindy Randall, Amanda Burns, Doug Bogert, Janis Osookie, Linda Gant, Linda Babb, Amber Gilkes, Laura Hill, Mitzi Raugh, Debbie Rosencrance, Jim Rosencrance, Alyssa Lehman, Wyatt Harris, Peggy Moffett, Chloe Wise, Jessie Watson, Jennifer France, Jenn Sarne, Veronica Buriss, Gregg Roberts, Gabe Kiuber, Faith Kiuber, Sally Redden, Ruth Anderson, Ken Anderson, Hope Taylor, Jamie Rizzo, Kim Higgins, Margie Denney, Sr Donna...

Thank you so very much for all your help! We couldn't do it without you!!

Our Fabulous Lenten Fish Fry's will be March 3, March 17<sup>th</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>. Please be sure to sign up to help in some way. If you are not able to help or attend, please pick up tickets in the front office to sell! On March 17<sup>th</sup> we will be "Shamrockin' with Spirit FM!" Please wear your green and help us win the "Best Fish Fry" award!!

Tickets are \$8.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for children 10 and under.

2017-2018 School Year Parent Packets and Summer Program Packets will be sent out in May. Please return them as soon as possible to register your child for the upcoming year. All packets are due back to the center by June 1, 2017.

Sacred Heart ECC will be closed on April 14, 2017 in honor of Good Friday. We will host our Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Thursday, April 12, 2017. We ask that each family send in 1 dozen prefilled Easter Eggs for the children to hunt. Please make sure that the eggs are filled with age appropriate candy for your child's age.

Our VPK Pre-school graduation will be on May 17, 2017. A reception in the hall will follow. Please look for sign-up sheets to help with the Graduation, we need everyone's help to make the day special for the children.

Please welcome Mr. Stephen Bushey to the Sacred Heart ECC Staff. He has taken the Maintenance position. Steve comes to us from Vermont; he is a 21 year Veteran of the United States Air Force. He recently moved here with his lovely wife Linda. Mr. Steve has already made such a difference around here and we are thrilled to have him! WELCOME STEVE!!

Please also welcome Mr. Peter Neuhofer to our team. Peter has taken the position of Grounds Keeper for the entire parish and will be in charge of the grass, and plants. Peter is a life-long member of our parish; and worked years ago with our wonderful Mr. Francis. WELCOME PETER!!

We are truly blessed to have such a great staff and Parents that help form this wonderful community that is Sacred Heart ECC.

