

Sacred Heart Early Childhood Center

JANUARY 2018

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1- **SHECC CLOSED**, New Years
- 1-5- **NO VPK** (SHECC OPEN 2, 3, 4, 5)
- 1-8- **SAES Closed**, Christmas Break
- 15- **SHECC, SAES, & SAS Closed**, MLK Day
- 27- **Kumquat Festival**
- 28- Feb.3- **Catholic Schools Week**

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 4- **Basket Fundraiser Drawing @ the Ham and Turkey Dinner**
- 13- **Valentine's Day parties**
- 14- **Ash Wednesday**
- 16- **Lenten Fish Fry**

*WE WELCOME ALL OF OUR FAMILIES TO
JOIN US FOR WEEKLY MASS ON:*

SATURDAYS AT 4:00 P.M.

OR

SUNDAYS AT 8:00 OR 10:30 A.M.



Please remember the Sacred Heart Early Childhood Center Basket Fundraiser coming up on February 4, 2018. During the Christmas sales is a perfect time to pick up a gift basket to donate to our fundraiser. We would like to have Baskets in by January 16, 2018 to give everyone plenty of time to get their tickets in before the big day. We will rotate baskets between the two school buildings and the Church Hall prior to the Sacred Heart Catholic Women's Club Ham and Turkey Dinner on February 4, 2018. Thank you for your generous support.



INFANTS

Happy New Year! The weather decided to wake us up with this cold and windy start. I hope that everyone had a great holiday and pray this New Year is good to you.

We would like to congratulate Isla Rose and Carter on their move to the one year old room, and wish Clayton a warm welcome to the infant room. Alexander has moved over to the older side of the room and is having a blast. He is a mover and a shaker.

This month we will be crawling around exploring things. If the weather permits, we will enjoy playing outside. Please dress your child for the weather. We can take off as many layers as needed for their inside comfort.

We will continue to practice eating finger foods so we are ready for the one year old room.

We have lots of fun and exciting activities planned for the month. We will paint with our hands, feet, brushes, and sponges. We will be doing a lot of singing and dancing, reading books, and learning to count as we stack cups and blocks. Of course, we love to knock the cups and blocks over when we are done. Through the repetition of all of these activities, they will learn new words and eventually be able to sing the songs, stack the blocks, and read the books.

The last week in January is Catholic Schools Week. We will send out a schedule of activities as the time drawn near.

Have a safe and happy January.

Ms. Linda

Ms. Phyllis

Ms. MaryAnne

Ms. Candice



ONES

Welcome 2018 and Happy New Year to you all! We are blessed to get to start a new year with your wonderful children.

As we welcome in the New Year, we will be exploring and talking about winter, winter animals, dressing for winter and winter weather. This month we also celebrate the Feast of Epiphany on January 6th. This is the celebration of the Three Kings visiting the newborn baby Jesus. We will have several sensory activities this month that will allow your child to touch and feel cold and compare cold vs. warm. We will also be using the colors red and blue for art activities and talking about how they relate to hot and cold. I also plan to print some pictures to provide a visual for the children to help them understand what epiphany is.

Along with winter always comes colds and other illnesses. So, we also plan to focus on ways that we can prevent the spread of germs. You can help us reinforce this at home by washing their hands and yours frequently and properly (at least 20 seconds). You can also encourage them to cough or sneeze into their elbows and not their hands and toward the floor and not the person next to them. If you think your child has been exposed to someone that is ill, please let us know so we can be on the lookout for symptoms.

Please check your child's basket frequently to make sure they have appropriate clothing for our quick changing Florida weather. This time of year, your child needs to have at least one set of spare clothes for warm weather and one for cold weather. We do go outside twice a day weather permitting and we do tend to get dirty. So, several changes of clothes are preferred so that we can keep your child looking as clean as when they came in.

This month, we will be needing your help with a few of our big fundraising events. The Kumquat festival is on January 27th and as most of you know, the daycare has a booth every year selling pies. We will be needing lots of help beforehand making the pies and the day of selling the pies. There will be a sign-up sheet in Susie's office for both. So, please check your schedules and see if there are any time slots to can sign up for. Every little bit helps. The ham and turkey dinner is also fast approaching and while the dinner itself is a fundraiser for the church, we here at the daycare put on a basket raffle fundraiser. We will be needing lots of donations of themed gift baskets to raffle off. Again, every little bit helps and if you need ideas or suggestions, feel free to ask any of the teachers here at the center.

In closing, we would like to thank you for all of the thoughtful Christmas gifts and for allowing us the privilege of caring for your child and helping them grow. God Bless and Happy New Year!

Ms. Jen Ms. Jennifer Ms. Barbara Ms. Sandy



TWOS

I hope that everyone enjoyed the holiday season. I know the children had fun preparing for Christmas. If you did participate in the Parent Appreciation night, we hope that you enjoyed your evening together.

During the month of December, we reviewed what Advent is and what Christmas is all about. We have also been reviewing our numbers and colors. I have been reading books that have colors in them and we would go over the different colors in the book as I read it. During circle time, I have numbers 1-10 on the wall which I point to and everyone counts with me.

In our sensory center, we have been experimenting with snow and slime. The children have enjoyed playing with both things. We made the snow with baking soda and shampoo. The children got to help create the snow by mixing up the ingredients. The snow has a soft texture and they really enjoyed finding the winter animals that we had hidden in the snow.

We did a large amount of painting in December. The children get excited when they see that they are going to get to paint. We painted red and green paper plate ornaments. We painted Christmas trees green and then they got to decorate the tree with different shaped confetti. When the children placed the confetti on their tree, it helps with fine motor skills. We also painted a Gingerbread Man. I created a Jingle Bell Game that the children were able to use their fine motor skills by aiming the bell into the cup. They had so much fun playing this game.

In January, we will be reviewing Winter and the New Year. I have some special things planned for the children. We will be doing some snowflake painting. I am going to be making some sensory bags and jars for the children. The sensory bag is going to be Winter in a Bag which I will use hair gel, glitter, cellophane glitter, and marshmallows. If you would like to donate the marshmallows, we would need one bag of the big ones and one bag of the little marshmallows. We will also make a snow storm in a bottle. To make the snow storm in a bottle, we will use half water, half corn syrup, and glitter.

We will be playing a game called SnowBall Drop. The children will throw cotton balls in the air and they will have to pick them up with a pair of tongs. I am also going to make a Wintery Snow Sensory Table which will allow the children to take the cotton balls off the table with tongs and put the cotton balls in a bottle.

With the New Year coming up, we will be making Fireworks from a paper tube and some paint. The children will be make New Year noise makers out of paper plates. We will be reading books on Winter and the New Year.

Thank you for all the monthly snacks as well as for the snacks that were donated for our Christmas Party! We hope you all have a healthy and blessed year!

Ms. Katie

Ms. Alyssa

Ms. Madison

PRESCHOOL I

I can't believe that it's January already! It's been our pleasure to work with your children for the last six months.

Our next unit will focus on colors and run from Jan 2nd to February 9th. There will be a color of the week during this unit. The children will be painting, gluing, stringing, sorting and matching by colors. They will also be introduced to the concept of different shades of color going from light to dark.

During this unit, we will be having "Show and Tell" on Fridays. Each child can bring in one item which is the color of the week to show the other children. Please make sure that this item is small enough to fit into their basket.

In addition, on Fridays, your child will be encouraged to wear a piece of clothing which is the color of the week. They could wear an entire outfit showcasing the color of the week or just socks.

With the changing weather, please check your child's basket to see if they have an appropriately sized change of clothing which includes pants, a shirt, underwear, socks and shoes.

Just for your information, I will be on vacation from January 2 through January 5. Miss Tracy will be leading the class for this week. I'm sure that the children will have fun exploring the color yellow.

Ms. Sally

Ms. Christy

Ms. Tracy



PRESCHOOL II

Happy New Year!

I would like to start by thanking all of our parents for your continuous support. As we enter the New Year, we will assess the way your children learn about themselves and others around them. We will continue to strengthen their self-help skills through various planned and routine activities. We are bringing in many new sensory games and toys for the children. Sensory play includes any activity that stimulates your young child's senses: touch, smell, taste, movement, balance, sight and hearing. Sensory activities facilitate exploration and naturally encourage children to use scientific processes while they play, create, investigate and explore. By stimulating your *child's* senses, you are helping them *develop* creatively, socially and emotionally, cognitively, linguistically and physically through simply playing with them.

In addition to sensory activities, we will be learning about the alphabet and numbers. Each week, we will introduce one letter for recognition. We will also focus on numbers 0-5. In the month of January, and part of February, our learning unit will be about arctic animals. So far the children have shown a great interest in learning about the many animals of the arctic and how the animals thrive in their cold environment. The following is a peek at our coming weeks and what our unit will cover:

Jan. 2-5:

Arctic Animals: Penguins, the letter "P", numbers 0-5. We will read "If You Were a Penguin" and discuss the physical characteristics of penguins. Paste and paint penguins and color letter "P" sheet.

Jan. 8-12:

Arctic Animals: Polar Bears, the letter "B", numbers 0-5. Read about polar bears and discuss their characteristics. Color polar bear sheet and do polar bear crafts.

Jan. 15-19:

Arctic Animals: Orcas, the letter "O", numbers 0-5. We will read about orcas and their environment and have a group discussion and do orca crafts.

Jan. 22-26:

Arctic Animals: Walrus, The letter "W", numbers 0-5. Read about walrus and discuss their environment. We will color pictures and do crafts.

Jan. 29-Feb. 2:

Arctic Animals: Arctic Fox, the letter "A", numbers 0-5. Read about arctic fox and do crafts.

As the winter months get colder, we would like to remind everyone to dress warmly and to bring an extra set of clothes. Also, please make sure that you check your child's folder each day for important information. Thank you again, and we look forward to the coming year!

Ms. Angie

Ms. Megan

Ms. Eloisa

VPK

Welcome 2018 and a very **Happy New Year** to all of our wonderful children and their families.

We'll start our month with the Feast of Epiphany on Saturday, January 6th; which is the celebration of the Three Kings visiting the baby Jesus. We will read the book *Follow the Star* which tells the story of the Three Kings visit to the manger as we enjoy a warm cup of chicken and stars soup and a slice of 'Rosca de Reyes' (King's Cake).

During the middle of January, we will begin a unit on winter/hibernation. We will learn how winter is experienced "up north" and compare it to how we experience our winter in Florida. We will have lots of fun as we learn about the properties of ice.

In our Bright Beginnings, our bible concept is: Jesus is my friend and helper
Our bible stories will be:

Jesus loves Children (Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16)

Woman at the Well (John 4:3-42)

Jesus loves Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

Jesus' Prayer (Matthew 6:5-13; Mark 1:35-37)

Catholic School's Week will be January 29- February 2, 2018. We have many exciting activities planned for the special week.

Monday we will begin the morning with an opening prayer and songs.

Tuesday is Parent Appreciation Day. During drop off, we will have coffee and pastries for our parents.

Wednesday Please dress your child as their favorite Story Book Character (and bring their favorite book). We are going to have a character parade.

Thursday is Staff Appreciation Day. Lunch will be provided for our wonderful teachers.

Friday Wear PJs and bring your favorite Teddy Bear Day. This week will be exciting and lots of fun. So, watch for more information and signup sheets.

Saturday, January 27th is The Kumquat Festival. We need volunteers to help make pies and help at the Kumquat Festival. This is an important fundraiser for us. Our Basket Fundraiser is also at the beginning of February and we will need donations of gift baskets to raffle and people to organize, wrap them and sell tickets.

Please sign up to help with these great and important events.

A special thank you to all our wonderful parents for their continued support and for the many thoughts, prayers and gifts during this holiday season.
Have a Blessed and Joyous New Year!

Ms. Kathy

Sister Donna

Ms. Janis

Sister Elizabeth

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL

Welcome to 2018!! We do hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

This month, we will be focusing on winter, sleep/hibernation bears, snowflakes and celebrating Catholic School's Week.

It is so important that children get enough sleep to process and use information for brain development. School age children should get about 10 hours of rest per night. Make sure your child's brain is staying fit!

We will learn how bears sleep and hibernate during the long winter months. How does this effect their health during hibernation?

Catholic School's Week: January 29- February 2, 2018:

Tuesday: Parent Appreciation Day. Enjoy Pastries, Coffee and Juice on us.

Wednesday: Bring your favorite book.

Friday: Bring your favorite Teddy Bear or stuffed animal.

Fundraisers:

Kumquat Festival, Saturday, January 27th- Please volunteer to help cut kumquats, make pies, or sell pies at the festival. This is our largest fundraiser and we need everyone's help.

Our **Annual Basket Fundraiser** is starting this month. We will be collecting baskets and raffling them off during the Ham and Turkey Dinner Feb 4th at Sacred Heart Church.

SHECC will be CLOSED on Monday January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Let's have a wonderful new year and may God continue to bless your family.

Ms. Debbie

Ms. Janis

Ms. Laura

Ms. Becca



NOTES FROM CINDIE...

Welcome to 2018!! It is always so hard to believe how fast the year goes by. As we get wrapped up in the everyday ebb and flow of life, the year sneaks up on us. It is with great hope and joy that we embark into this New Year. We wish each of you a year of love, happiness and prosperity.

We have the majority of our fundraising activities during the first part of the year. We need all of our families to help so they are successful. The successes of these fundraisers are critical to help maintain the lowest tuition rates possible. All of the monies raised are put directly in our operating budget. Unlike some other centers, we are self-sustaining and only receive the money we raise or earn through tuition. That is why it is paramount that we are successful in our fundraising efforts throughout the year. Please consider giving of your time to contribute to our success.

The Annual Kumquat Festival is fast approaching on **January 27, 2018**. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and we need parents to help us set up, cut pies, sell pies and break down and clean up afterwards. Please consider volunteering some time during the day at this fun event. There will be a sign-up sheet located on the door of the front office.

Following the next weekend on **February 4th** is the **Sacred Heart Early Childhood Center's BASKET FUNDRAISER** at the Annual Ham and Turkey Dinner hosted by the Sacred Heart Catholic Women's Club. Please donate a basket, buy and sell tickets and come and enjoy a wonderful meal.

The Fabulous Lenten Fish Fry's will be on three Friday's during Lent **February 16th, March 2nd and March 16th**. Volunteers are needed to sell tickets, set up, clean up, serve, and cook. Please see the sign-up sheet located on the door of the front office and in the church.

It is our pleasure to serve you and provide a loving and educational experience for your children. We look forward to creating another year of happy memories watching your children grow and learn. Have a Happy and Blessed New Year!!

Blessing,
Ms. Cindie



