

Ark of Angels Montessori Preschool

October 2010 Newsletter

From the Teachers:

Thank you to all of the families who have donated the various paper products needed for our classroom. Thank you also to Olivia and Bryan's family for donating a puzzle shelf filled with puzzles and to Gabe's mom for arranging the Stillwater Fire Truck visit.

Classroom Open House

We will be hosting an Open House for the families of our students to come in and visit, see what we've been working on, and meet your child's friends. The Open House will be held during regular class times. Your child can lead you around the classroom on a fun scavenger hunt, show you what they have been working on and even show you how we have our snack.

Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday AM class

9:00 Wednesday, December 1st

Tuesday-Wednesday PM class

12:30 Wednesday, December 1st

Thursday class

9:00 Thursday, December 2nd

Friday class

9:00 Friday, December 3rd

Watch for information soon with an invitation to tour St. Croix Catholic School and learn more about the kindergarten program at SCCS. Times will be available on the same days as our Open Houses.

Preschool Conferences

During the first three Mondays in November we will be holding preschool conferences from 12:30 – 4:45 PM. If you are interested in signing up for a conference please contact Karen or Cheryl.

Monday lunch with the teachers

Every Monday we offer an extended day option for the Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday AM students. The children can have lunch with the teachers. You pack a lunch from home and we provide the milk. The cost is \$8.00 per time for 1 child, \$10 for 2 children payable on the day you choose to stay or you can pay ahead ... a month at a time. Attend 3 times and the 4th time is free. Hope to see you there!

Operation Christmas Child

Between now and **November 15th** we will be collecting shoe boxes filled with small gifts for children in need. This is a project sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. We have a couple of boxes here at school if you would like to just bring in a small gift and we will take care of the rest. This is a wonderful, meaningful project to do as a family. We have brochures about the program to hand out or you can go to

http://www.samaritanspurse.org/index.php/OCC/Pack_A_Shoe_Box for more info.

Family Fun Night "Fall Into Reading"

Tuesday October 19th 6:30 – 7:30PM

SCCS Middle School Commons

There is still time to sign up!

Come spend a fun filled-evening doing activities related to reading. There will be games and activities geared for children, preschool – 5th grade, but younger and older siblings will have fun joining us as well. Parent involvement is a big key to the success of our Family Fun Nights so bring the whole family!

Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket or stuffed animal, and bring along up to 5 books to swap. We will open with Mrs Epperly reading a story. Activities will include reading some of our new library books, making book marks, learning to illustrate, play some SMART board games and we will have drawings for prizes.

Please RSVP to the SCCS office, 651-439-5581 or email Diane Polley at dpolley@stccs.com if you plan to attend. We need to know the number of children and their ages so we can have enough materials on hand. Hope to see you there!!

VIRTUS Training at St. Mary's Monday, November 4th 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

This is for any parents or grandparents wishing to volunteer at SCCS or Ark of Angels Preschool working directly with children. The Archdiocese requires that all volunteers having direct contact with students must attend training on "Protecting God's Children." Pre-registration for the class is required. To register for this training, go to

<http://www.virtusonline.org>. If you would like to read instructions on the registration process, you can find an instruction sheet on the SCCS web site:

<http://www.stcroixcatholic.com/files/stcroixcatholics/files/Virtus/VIRTUSregstrationinstructions.pdf>

Outdoor Play Time

We will be going outside on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The Tuesday AM class will be going outside first thing in the morning, so please have your children fully dressed in their warm clothes when they arrive. If your child is in the Tuesday PM class, Thursday, or Friday classes they will be going outside at the end of the day and going home in their warm/winter clothes. Please label **ALL** clothing items, send shoes to wear



during school and have a bag or backpack big enough for **EVERYTHING** to fit inside . . . including boots.

Encourage your child to dress themselves before coming to school and teach them how to zip. This will save us a lot of time and gives us more outside time.

During the month of October we are learning about:

- Creation
- Sharing and taking turns
- Seasons and weather
- Spiders and bats
- Continuing to learn letters and sounds
- The Pledge of Allegiance
- Continuing to learn the "Our Father"
- Counting together

In the upcoming weeks we plan to:

- Listen to stories about Moses
- Collect shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child
- Learn about different kinds of transportation
- Continue practicing our counting, letters, shapes and numbers
- Talk about "Thanksgiving" and think about what we are thankful for

Important Dates to Know

10/14 & 19	Preschool Picture Days
10/19	Family Fun Night "Fall into Reading"
10/21 & 22	NO SCHOOL
11/04	VIRTUS training at St. Michael's 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
11/8 th , 15 th & 22 nd	Preschool conferences
11/12	PRESCHOOL IS IN SESSION
11/13	St Michaels Merry Mall at SCCS and St. Michael's 10:00 AM -2:00 PM
11/16 & 17	Preschool conferences 12:30 PM – 4:45 PM
11/16	Last Day to collect boxes for Operation Christmas Child
11/24 – 11/26	NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break
12/1 – 12/3	Ark of Angels Family Open Houses
12/23-1/2	NO SCHOOL Christmas Break



**Halloween is coming soon
I'll tell you what I'll do
I'll hide behind my pumpkin face
and then I'll holler.....BOO!**