



# **St. James' Nursery School News**

## **Calendar of Events**

May 2010

5/3-7: Teacher Appreciation Week

5/4: Muffins for Mom event for T/Th Pre-K 4's class

5/5-7: Green Meadow's Farm Fieldtrips

5/7: Muffins for Mom events for MWF Pre-K 4's

5/10: Child Abuse Training—St. James' Sanctuary  
6:30-8:30

5/12-14: Developmental Checklist Sent Home

5/18: Last Day of Class for T/Th Pre-K 4's

5/19: Last Day of Class for MW 2's, 3-day 3's and Pre  
-K 4's

5/20: Last Day of Class for TTH 2's and 3's

5/20: End-of-the-Year Ceremony - T/Th Pre-K 4's

5/21: End-of-Year Event for Pre-K 4's and 4/5's and  
last class day for Friday 2's

5/24: Pre-K 4's and Pre-K 4/5's End of the Year  
Picnics at Watkins Park—AM 9:00-11:00 and PM  
11:30-1:30

5/25: Picnics at Watkins Park—All 2's classes from  
9:15-10:45 and all 3's from 11:00-12:30





### *From the Director's Desk*

How can it be possible? What happened!? I feel like someone played a trick on me and sped up time. This year truly flew by. I will remember this year as a very special one as our staff enjoyed attending the NAEYC Conference and were proud and excited to learn of our accreditation. We have been so blessed by our parent participation this year. Thank you so much to parents that helped by sending e-mail reminders and assisted teachers in the classrooms. Thank you to our parents that helped with fund raisers, the book fair, and to those of you that will help with the end of year picnics. We raised \$441.18 so far this year, from the e-scrip fund raiser (thank you Safeway). Thank you to those parents that have supported our school through this program. We collected many, many Campbell's UPC codes and Laura Moore, our new Collection Coordinator, is busy cutting and counting more to send in. Thank you for sending in these labels and lids!

**A big announcement!!!** I am very pleased to inform all of you that we will be using grant funds awarded to our school through the Maryland Department of Education for the purchase of computer systems and software for each of our classrooms!! I am attending a technology conference at the end of April and will be making requests for these purchases in May!! We will be using some of the money remaining from the Hoyer Enhancement Grant to purchase children's computer desks. In the fall, we will be having an additional Learning Center in each

room: a Computer Learning Center!! These will enhance our classrooms in a whole new way!

In the fall our newsletter will be going paperless, as we send parents links to our newsletter on-line. The newsletters will include school-wide information and information specific to classrooms will be sent home on the Classroom Calendars.

Have a terrific summer and God's blessing to you all,

*Pat*

### **Teacher Appreciation Week!**



**April 30<sup>th</sup> - May 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Please remember to show your teachers just how special they are to us!**

### End-of-Year School Picnics

Picnics will be held at Watkin's Park on May 24 for all of the Pre-K classes and on May 25 for all of the 2's and 3's children. A rain date is set for Wednesday, May 26. We still need helpers for this day, so please let Pat know if you can lend a hand or sign-up on the sheets at the parent boards. Also, please sign-up to bring a food or drink to share. Remember to bring arm chairs, blankets, sun block, outdoor play equipment (balls, hula hoops, etc.) and plenty of SUNSHINE!!

### May Chapel Schedule

MWF Classes: May 12

2's: May 12-14

Tuesday/Thursday Classes: May 18

Please feel free to join us!

## Summer Program!!

Once again, St. James is offering a Summer Program. This has become a very popular program here at St. James Nursery School. It is a flexible six-week morning program.

The Summer Program is held weekdays from 9:00-12:00 and will run from June 14 to July 30 with the exception of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday week. Your child can attend for only one week or a number of weeks, not necessarily in sequence, depending on your family's schedule.

Former participants will happily describe the fun they have had doing science experiments, water play and building things from wood, to name a few of our many activities.

The program is available to all 3, 4 and 5 year old children in our community who have not yet attended kindergarten and will have turned three by 9/1/10 and are potty trained. Children need not have attended St. James' Nursery School prior to this summer, but medical forms are required. Registration for the program is in the Main Street office.

## CAMPBELL'S UPDATE

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the Labels for Education program this year. **Remember, Campbell's now just takes UPC codes and lids – no more front labels.** Participating products include Campbell's, Franco-American, Prego, V8, Swanson and Pepperidge Farm. **All** Pepperidge Farm goldfish products are worth 5 pts. Just clip the UPC and turn it in for an easy 5 pts.! For a complete list of products, go to [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com)

*Remember – just clip the UPC or save the lid (Prego and V8)*

Thanks again for all your support. I am happy to announce that Laura Moore has kindly agreed to take care of coordinating the Campbell's collection for the coming school year!! Thank you Mrs. Moore!

## Greetings from the Nursery Board!

We hope that you and your children enjoyed the year spent with us at St. James'. Thank you for all your support this year. We are very excited to have earned our accreditation with NAEYC and owe a lot to all of our families and the Nursery School staff for this great achievement. Congratulations to all the children who are "graduating" and moving on to the big world of kindergarten and to their proud parents. We wish you all the best and hope that your child's experience at St. James' Nursery School was a happy one upon which to build many future successes. We look forward to seeing those families who will be returning in the fall, and

hope to see some of you during our Summer Program. Please continue to check out St. James' website at [stjamesmtairy.net](http://stjamesmtairy.net) for upcoming events. Have a great summer!



### Ms. Karla's 2's

April showers bring May flowers! We will continue to talk about the many different things that can be planted in a garden. The children will learn that some vegetable and fruit plants grow flowers too.

We enjoyed the story "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". The children really understood turning into a beautiful butterfly.

Our nursery rhyme for May is "Mistress Mary Quite Contrary". The color is purple and the shape is a triangle. We will continue to review number 1-5.

Be sure to sign-up for our summer program. We have lots of fun at camp!

Ms. Karla, Ms Jenny, Ms. Robin



### To Main Street and Annex Three Year Olds

#### Great Expectations

It's time to say good-bye.

Our class has come to an end.

I've made more cherished memories,  
and many more friends.

I've watched your children learn and  
grow.

And change from day to day.

I hope that all the things we've done have helped in some small way.

So it's with happy memories,  
I send them out the door. With  
great hope and expectations for  
what next year holds in store.

Three year old classes teaching team  
*Ms. Kim, Ms. Linda, Ms. Dona, Ms.  
Susan, Ms. Deb, Ms. Tracy,  
Ms. Jenny, Mrs. Calka,  
Mrs. Thomas and Ms. Karen*

### Ms. Dona's Green Room 3'

It doesn't seem possible, but it's May already and that means this pre-school year is almost over. It also means it will be a very busy time.

- Wed., May 5 is the field trip to Green Meadow's Farm
- Fri., May 7 is the Mother's Day Activity
- Wed., May 12 is chapel
- Fri., May 14 Developmental Checklist are sent home
- Wed., May 19 is the last day for our class and Outdoor Day – There will be a short end-of-the-year song time. We hope you can come.
- Tues., May 25 – All 3-year old classes will have a picnic at Watkins Park

Meanwhile, we'll be learning about Ocean Animals and the Beach and summer fun!

Thank you for helping your child have a successful year.

*Ms. Dona, Ms. Deb  
and Ms. Tracy*



### Ms. Deb's Green Room 3's

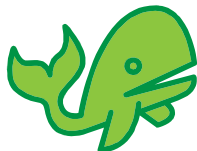
Can you believe that it is May already and there are only 6 days left in our class? It is unbelievable to me how fast this year has gone. I have absolutely enjoyed every minute being with your children and getting to know you and your families. Each one of you is truly blessed to have such amazing, beautiful children and I will miss them all.

For the month of May we will be getting ready for summer by learning about Ocean Life and Fun on the Beach. We will be doing lots of outdoor activities so make sure your child has on plenty of sunscreen daily. Look for information to come home about all of the end of year activities.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for support and help throughout the year. It was a successful year because of you!! A special thank you to Ms. Jenny who hung in there almost all year and swore that a 3 year old class had to be easier than a 2 year old class!! :) We miss you a lot Ms. Jenny!!!! And to Amy Austin our room mom, who kept on top of everything going on in the class and sent out emails even when I forgot to remind her. And last but not least Ms. Dona, who is so graciously filling in for Ms. Jenny until the end of May. It would have been a much harder year without you!!

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer. See you in the fall!

*Ms. Deb*



### Ms. Susan's Red Room 3's

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is right around the corner! May will be a very busy month as well.

Our month begins with a celebration for moms on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. This will be a day of pampering for the moms! The same week on Thursday, May 6<sup>th</sup> we will be visiting the farm.

The units we will be learning about in May are Ocean Life and Back to the Beach. While learning about the ocean we will learn about animals that live in the ocean. During the beach unit we will be talking about what we find at the beach, summertime fun activities, and safety. Our month will end with a short celebration on May 20 in which the children will be given a certificate (more details later). Our month and year will end on May 25 with a picnic and loads of fun at Watkins Park.

*Ms. Susan and Mrs. Calka*



### To the Pre-K Four and Five Year Old classes A Special Person

You're a very special person, and I wanted  
you to know,

How much I enjoyed being your teacher.

How fast the year did go!

So, please come back to visit me  
as through the grades you grow.

Try hard to learn all that you can.

there is so much to know!

The one thing I tried to teach you,  
to last your whole life through,  
is to know that you are SPECIAL

There is no one else like you!

I'm glad I was your teacher.  
I've come to love you so. I can't  
believe the end is here.  
I hate to see you go.  
Remember all the fun we had in all  
the things we did, but most of all  
Remember.....  
You're a very special kid!

The four year old classes teaching team,  
*Ms. Kim, Ms. Linda, Mrs. Calka,*  
*Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Susan,*  
*Mrs. Garnand and Mrs. Calka*



**Ms. Kim's Yellow Room 3's  
and Pre-K 4's**

We have had a wonderful year and I can't believe it is almost over. We have had so much fun learning and getting to know each other. Thank you so much for all the support in making this a very successful year. Ms. Linda, Mrs. Calka and I are very proud of the children in our classes, as they have learned many new skills and grown so much over the year that are ready to take the next step. It will be bittersweet as they get their certificates as we will miss them.

May is going to be a very busy month, so be sure to read your class calendar for all the important dates. Our themes for May will be pond life and Ocean life. If you have access to a pond or stream that may have some tadpoles, please catch a few and bring them in so we can watch the transformation from a tadpole into a frog. Our science center will be full of life as we are now

watching the caterpillars transform into butterflies.

We will make sure to let them go so they can return to their natural habitat and continue their life cycle.

We will be also going to Green Meadows for a farm trip. As always it is a great place to visit. You will see many animals that belong on a farm and a few who don't. The trip won't be complete unless you milk the cow and ride on the hay ride, my personal favorites.

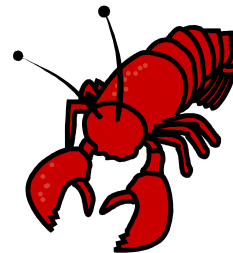
Mothers Day will be celebrated in May. Keep an eye out for the invitations to this special day for you to spend being pampered by your child.

The four year old classes will have a graduation ceremony with lots of nursery rhymes, songs, and fond memories of the year.

The three year old class will be given their certificate as they slide into the fours on outdoor day. They will also sing a few songs to celebrate a wonderful year. This will be held on the last day of school, which is May 20th for the threes.

Thank you again for all your support and allow us to get to know your children. Have a great summer and I hope to see some of you at the summer program.

God Bless!  
*Ms. Kim, Ms. Linda,*  
*and Mrs. Calka*



## *Mrs. Garnand's Red Room Pre-K 4's*

May flowers are bloomin' and so are your children! This month's units will be the farm, Mother's Day, the Ocean and Back to the Beach!

The Green Meadow's field trip is on May 5. Our mothers are invited on May 7 from 10:30-11:30 for the AM class and from 2:00-3:00 for the PM class. Chapel is on May 12 and Outdoor Day will be on May 19. On the 19<sup>th</sup> children should wear play clothes, tennis shoes, and sun screen.

The End-of-the-Year Ceremonies will be on May 21. AM class is at 9:00 and PM class will be at noon; upstairs in the chapel. The 4's picnics are on May 24 at Watkins Park. What a fun month we are going to have! Enjoy the month of May and have a great summer!!

*Mrs. Garnand and Mrs. Calka*



## *Mrs. Thomas' News News from the Annex*

Where has the year gone? It is hard to believe that the end of the year is here. We have really enjoyed working with your children and watching them grow. We would like to thank all of our parents for their help and support this year!

Our units for the rest of the year are Farm Life, Mother's Day and Ocean Life. The children are enjoying learning about Farm Life and are looking forward to our trip to Green Meadow's Farm on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Also this month, we will be busy working on something special for our mothers for Mother's Day. On

May 4<sup>th</sup>, for our Mother's Day celebration, the 3's class will be painting their mother's fingernails and enjoying cookies and juice together. The Pre-K 4/5's class will be busy making tasty sandwiches for their Mother's Day Tea on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

On May 21<sup>st</sup> the Pre-K 4/5's class will celebrate the school year with an End-of-the-Year Ceremony. Everyone is invited and don't forget to bring your camera.

If you would like to continue your child's learning experience, don't forget about our summer program. Have a safe and happy summer everyone!

*Mrs. Thomas, Ms. Susan  
and Ms. Karen*



## *Summer Fun Ideas!!*

### *Wonderful Wet Prints*

Pour water into a cake or bread pan. Dip your bare feet or hands into water and make wet-prints on the sidewalk.

### *Mud Painting*

Have kids dig up a good pile of dirt and give them a hose to make dirt. Then transport the mud to the driveway. Allow kids to use old paintbrushes to paint with the mud. They will have just as much fun cleaning it up with the hose. Old washable clothes advised.

### *Backyard Camping*

Who says you have to travel and pay for camping space? Set up your tent in the backyard, roast marshmallows on the grill, and sit around and tell spooky stories.