



# St. James' Nursery School News

## Calendar of Events

10/2 or 10/6: Mount Airy Fire Company visits the Main Street and Annex Pre-K 4's to talk about Fire Safety and their fire engine

**10/5: AM Classes Only are closed - Full Day class has delayed opening at 12:00** (please bring lunch, as usual) - In-Service Planning Time

Week of 10/12: Joe Corbi Fund Raiser starts

10/13, 14 & 16: 2's Field Trips to Larriland Farm

10/14 & 20: Chapel Times

**10/13: Parent Volunteer Training Session at 6:15PM in the Main Street Sanctuary**

10/14: Bookmobile visits the Annex 4's

10/15 & 16: 3's Trips to Clark's Elioak Farm

10/20: CPR Class offered in the evening at 6:30—  
info on signing up is enclosed

10/21 & 22: Pre-K 4's go to Summer's Farm

10/23: Bookmobile Visits Main Street

Week of 10/26: Joe Corbi Orders & Money Due

10/27: Bookmobile Visits the TTH 3's

10/28-30: Halloween Fun!!!

October 2009





### ***From the Director's Desk***

As fall approaches I'm becoming excited about the holiday season getting closer and closer. We have so much fun and excitement to look forward to.

I want to extend an invitation to those parents looking for a way to participate in volunteering at St. James. I will need the assistance of several parents during October to help with the Joe Corbi Fund Raiser. Please give me a call.

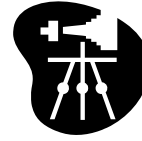
I am excited to announce that St. James' Nursery School was awarded a grant, once again, from Target Stores, Inc. They have provided an additional \$1000 to help support the buying of books for the "Cuddle-up and Target Reading Program". We will be having this program for the children during the months of January, February and March this year. More information will be disbursed to parents at a later date.

In September, St. James' Nursery School, Main Street and Annex, were inspected by the Maryland State Department of Education, Office of Child Care. I'm pleased to report that both sites passed the inspections without a single item in non-compliance. During this inspection, all classrooms are inspected, children and staff files are examined for thoroughness, and our facility is deemed clean and safe for young children. I want to thank our marvelous staff for working so hard to make St. James, not only an enriching and exciting environment for children to learn, but also a safe and healthy one!

As you receive this newsletter I am submitting, to the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), our application for Candidacy. God willing, all will be in order and we will be receiving a visit from NAEYC in the next couple of months. Please keep St. James' staff in your prayers as we work through this accreditation process.

As always, I remain available to parents for questions or suggestions,

*Irwin-Simon Photographers*



Coming in November...! Each child's individual picture will be taken on *November 11, 12 or 13 (Main St. MWF 3's and 4's will have their pictures taken on the 11<sup>th</sup> and Annex 4's on the 13<sup>th</sup>).* No prepayment is required. Finished pictures will be delivered approximately four weeks after picture day. Choose and pay for the pictures that you would like to keep and return pictures that you do not want. Additional orders for photos can be made directly from the photographer.

### **Coming Up Soon'!!**

Infant, Child and Adult CPR Training to be held at St. James at 6:30pm on October 20th. This is a wonderful, one-night training opportunity that really gives you peace-of-mind. The trainer is great and makes the experience fun! Cost is \$50 per person. Make checks payable to HealthFirst and sign up in the office by Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Call Pat, 301-829-0014, for more information!

### **FYI!!**

Remember that when teaching your child to write their name that they should learn to make the first letter (only) a capital and the following letter lowercase. Provide blank paper for your child to practice writing their name.

## Fund Raiser Coming in October



This year's fall fund raiser will be selling Joe Corbi's Pizza and Cookie Dough. Their pizzas and cookies are delicious and it is always nice to have an easy dinner in the freezer! These pizzas tend to sell themselves. We would love to see 100% participation in this fund raiser. Information on the pizza and order forms will be sent home the week of October 12. The money (checks payable to St. James Nursery School) and the order forms are due to back to your child's class by October 26 and no later than November 4. The pizzas, cookies and desserts will then be ordered and parents will come to pick them up on the 10 and 11 of November.

### **Important points to remember!**

\*\*If we have 100 people sell 11 kits, we will make \$6,000!!

\*\*For every 11 kits sold, you will earn one free tub of cookies.

Thank you, in advance, for helping with this fund raiser.



### **Fire Safety**

For National Fire Safety month the Pre-K 4's will have a visit from the Mount Airy Firehouse. They will be doing a fire safety and awareness presentation and showing the children their fire equipment and vehicles. This is a good month to consider your own evacuation procedures at home and make sure to arrange a place to meet outside of your home.

## **2009 Backyard BBQ Bash**

Cooks wanted! Do you like to grill? Saturday, October 10, 2009, will be your chance to shine! Bring your grill to the Mount Airy Carnival Grounds and enter the Backyard BBQ Bash, sponsored by the Mount Airy Main Street Association and the 4 County Lions Club. There are four categories, enter one or all! Win cash prizes!

While you're grilling, enjoy music all day (three bands), great food, the beer tent, a variety of vendors, an antique car cruise-in, and kids' activities such as a rock wall, moon bounce, crafts and face painting. There will be hot dog eating contests and wing eating contests for all age brackets, with great prizes donated by local merchants.

We are accepting applications from cooks, volunteer judges, and vendors. Rules, application forms, and additional information are available on our website [www.mountairymainstreet.org](http://www.mountairymainstreet.org), or by calling 301-351-9159.



## **Annual Raffle and Auction at St. James Episcopal Church**

St. James' 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Raffle and Auction will take place at the St. James' Thrift Shop during Mt. Airy's fall Fest on Saturday and Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be drawn and winners notified on October 5<sup>th</sup>. During the week prior to Fall Fest (from the afternoon of Friday September 25<sup>th</sup> until the afternoon of Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup>) the baskets and silent auction items will be at the church, and parishioners and Nursery School families can purchase raffle tickets, bid with their tickets, and place silent auction bids at the church.

We hope all St. James' Nursery School parents will stop up and purchase tickets and

make bids. The baskets are going to be filled with lots of super items and gift certificates good for both gift giving and your own use. Profits from the event benefit St. James', and 10% of the proceeds will be contributed to Mt. Airy Net.



### Chapel Time

Each month the 3's and Pre-K 4's classes will gather for a 10-15 minute chapel time. For this month, our director Pat Castle will be doing all of the chapel times. Beginning in November Reverend Portia will be leading the chapel times with all of the MWF 3's and 4's and Pat Castle will lead the chapel times for the TTh 3's and 4's classes each month (and beginning in November will visit all of the 2's classes for a short chapel sing-a-long).

Please know that parents are always welcome to join us for Chapel Time. The dates and times follow:

#### October Chapel Schedule

**Annex Pre-K 4/5's**

10/14 at 10:00

**Annex 3's**

10/20 at 1:30

**Main Street Pre-K 4's**

10/14 at 10:45 and 2:15

**Main Street MWF 3's**

10/14 at about 11 and 2:30

**Main Street TTh 3's and 4's**

10/20 at 11:00 and 2:45

*This month's chapel is "feeling safe when it feels scary". Please feel free to join us.*

## CRAB FEAST



The St. James' Episcopal Church's second annual Crab Feast will be held on Friday, October 16th beginning at 6:30 PM. Tickets will go on sale in mid-September. Contact Linda Bonifant-Travers at 301-703-8155 for more information.



### Halloween Information

As children become more and more excited about the holiday of Halloween, I want to ask parents for help on a few items. If your child's costume comes with a mask or toy weapons, please leave the mask and toy weapons at home on the day of St. James' parties. We are also asking that costumes be non-scary and 'friendly'.

**Please look at the back of this newsletter for additional information on the Halloween party and trick-or-treating event.** Thank you for your help with this.

## Ms. Karla's 2's

Wow, what a great month September has turned out to be. We all seem to be adjusting and making new friends.

Please remember to check your child's bags to replace diapers and a change of clothes. We will continue to work with the children that are potty training.

We will be taking a field trip to Larriland Farm. More information about this trip will go home in early October.

Our nursery rhyme for October is "Baa, Baa, Black Sheep", the color is black, the number is two and the shape is a square.

*Ms. Karla, Ms. Jenny  
and Ms. Robin*

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

October has arrived; bringing many changes, both inside and outside the classroom. The children too, are changing. Have you noticed how they are getting into the pre-school routine? Are they talking or playing with new friends? Are they asking different questions or trying out different activities?

These young children are so wonderful to watch and interact with. New things are happening to them each day. New thoughts are running through their heads and new experiences are connecting with previous ones. Be sure to make time to "be in the moment" with your children.

This month we will work on Halloween, fall colors, the number 2, size words (little and big), scissor skills, and recognizing our names. We will learn about fire and poison safety and the changes autumn brings. As always attention will be paid to socializing, making adjustments, using our senses, and exercising mind and body.

Special events include a field trip to Clark's Elioak Farm on October 16 and a Halloween party on October 30.

We'd like to thank you for your support in starting a new year. Whenever you have questions or concerns, please let us know.

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



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

What a great start to our school year. The children are doing an amazing job adjusting to all that is new to them. Even the parents have started to settle into the "preschool" routine.

As October begins we will start to fill our room with the signs of fall. Fall will bring many wonderful sights and smells to our classroom. Pumpkins, squirrels, scarecrows, and leaves are things we will find in our room throughout the month. It would be great if while you are taking your family walks that you could find something from nature to bring in to share. We can even put it on our science table for all to see.

Also, during the month, we will be learning about Fire Safety. This is a good time to share with your child what they would do in case of a fire in your home. We will be practicing 'stop, drop, and roll' and learning about our friend the fire fighter.

Let's not forget our first field trip! Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> when we venture out to Clark's Elioak Pumpkin Farm. Information and permission slips will be sent home soon.

And finally, Halloween! Our Halloween celebration will be on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. There will be trick-or-treating, games, songs, and special treats. If you signed up to volunteer that day, you will be contacted by our room mom the week before as a reminder. If you would like to help, please see me to get the volunteer sheet.

As always if there are any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Have a great October!

*Ms. Deb & Ms. Jenny*



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

What an exciting month we had getting to know each other and our classroom! October will be just as exciting and include our first fieldtrip which will be to the Pumpkin Patch. This month our themes will include Safety (involving fire safety, emergencies, and poison safety) and fun fall activities. To reinforce the safety theme we will be making a rule book discussing ways to keep our classroom safe. We will be working on the number 2, colors orange and black, introducing scissors, and working on name recognition. Our month will end with our Halloween Parade and Celebration!

*Ms. Susan and Mrs. Calka*



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

Wow, what a great month September has turned out to be. It's so nice to see the children adjusting and making new friends. Each class seems to have wonderful personalities that make each class fun and unique.

We will begin the month learning about fire safety. We will learn about how to use the telephone to call 911 and most important when not to dial it. We will be learning about what equipment is on a fire truck and why a firefighter has to wear such a scary suit. Be sure to ask you preschooler to show you Stop, Drop, and Roll. Take a minute talk to your family about a fire safety plan. Be sure your child knows where to go in an emergency.

Fall is a wonderful time of year. We will be exploring why the leaves change color and why the little gray squirrel is so busy. The pumpkin patch field trip is a great opportunity to see many fall changes. The hay ride to the pumpkin patch is so much fun. We'll choose a pumpkin for the classroom as well as finding a perfect pumpkin to take home. We will use our five senses to explore the pumpkins many textures, smells, and sounds. And of course we will vote as a class to choose what kind of shapes will make a silly pumpkin face.

We will end the month with a Halloween parade and party. I will need some volunteers to help with the Halloween party, please see me if you think you could help. Bring your camera so you don't miss any of the cute little trick-or-treaters. Boo!

*Ms. Kim, Ms. Linda, Mrs. Calka*

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

September has been a great month. The children have settled in and are making friends. We are excited that the children are enjoying the centers we have created for their learning experiences in math, language arts, dramatic play, blocks, science, reading, writing, listening, and the sensory table.

October will be full of fun. We will have units on Fire Safety, Fall and Halloween. Our first field trip will be to Summer's Farm on October 21. There will be a hayride, slides, pumpkin picking and other fun activities.

We are looking for items you see in the Fall for the Science Center. Leaves, seeds, seed pods, bark and/or anything you think the children will find interesting. Thank you!

The AM class will be closed on October 5. PM class will be held as usual. Chapel is on October 14 at 10:45 AM and 2:15 PM. Please join us.

We will end the month with our Halloween celebrations, parade, fun crafts and a special snack on October 30!

Have a great month and a "Happy Fall!"

*Mrs. Garnand and Mrs. Calka*

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

It has been GREAT getting to know each other during September. Everyone has settled in and we are having a great time!

October will be a busy month for all of us. We will begin the month by talking about Fire Safety. We will learn about the emergency number 911 and talk about "Stop, drop and roll." The Mt. Airy Fire Department will visit the

4's class to show us what they wear when putting out a fire and of course to show us the fire truck.

Next, we will explore the many changes that happen in the season of Fall. Fall is such a beautiful season! To coincide with our unit on Fall, all of the children will visit a pumpkin patch and take a ride on a hay wagon. It should be a lot of fun!

Of course, we can't forget our Halloween parade and party at the end of the month. Don't forget to bring your camera. We are looking forward to this exciting month!

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



### A PRAYER FOR PARENTS

Help me to be a better parent.

Forbid that I should ever punish my children for my selfish satisfaction.

May I grant them all their wishes that are reasonable and have the courage always to withhold a privilege which I know will do them harm.

Make me so fair and just, so considerate and companionable to my children that they will have a genuine esteem for me.

Fit me to be loved and imitated by my children.

~~ Author Unknown ~~