

Spring Valley Presbyterian Church Preschool

January 2010 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

January has been an exciting month. We have been busy with registration and doing many other activities, as you can see by this newsletter. Just a reminder – there will be no school on February 3rd and 19th as we will be having a teacher in-service and training. School will also be closed on February 15th in honor of Presidents' Day. Thanks for sharing your wonderful children with us. We are truly blessed.

Love,
Elaine

Mrs. Crawford's & Mrs. Meynardie's 4-Year-Old Class enjoyed reading *Tacky the Penguin* and plans on following up with a penguin activity. The children liked hearing about how Tacky was an "odd bird" and did unconventional things that had good results. They had a great time making penguin art!



Ms. Rachel's and Ms. Tracy's 4-Year-Old Class has been studying winter. One of the major projects that the class worked on in the classroom was making their very own class Snowman! The children learned that by mixing up some salt, flour and water you can make paper mache. They covered three balloons with paper mache and newspaper then the children painted it white and decorated it using their imaginations. They had a lot of fun!

Ms. Teresa's, Ms. Mary's & Ms. Terri's 2-Year-Old Classes are reading *Where The Wild Things Are* so watch out for the Wild Thing when you come to their classroom! Soon love



Ms. Beth's & Ms. Lisa's Door

Ms. Karen's and Ms. Sherry's 4-Year-Old Class has been discussing the wild birds that reside in their neighborhoods. Last week they prepared homemade suet cakes to take home to their yards. They also hung a suet cake beside their bird feeder just outside their classroom door. Within minutes the "Towhees" and "Cardinals" were flocking for breakfast!

Recipe for Homemade Suet Cakes:

1 pound suet cut into small 1" pieces (the butcher @ Kroger provided this at no charge)
1 cup quick cooking oats
1 cup yellow cornmeal
1 cup of chunky peanut butter
1 cup mixed wild bird seed
sunflower seeds, berries, etc....optional

Melt suet in skillet, stir in remaining ingredients. Pour into paper lined muffin tins. Chill or freeze until hardened.

News from "Letter People Land"

Celebrate! Our 4-year-olds and their parents have read 4,700 books since August. Congratulations! By the end of January, all of

will be in the air as the 2's get ready for Valentine's Day.

Ms. Lisa's and Ms. Kim's 3-Year-Old Class was busy wishing for snow. They made a *Winter Wish Window* together and the children all made their own *Winter Wish Bottles*. They shook and chanted their wish for snow. They warmed up by measuring and mixing their own hot cocoa mix, with plenty of marshmallows. They also talked about birds and enjoyed making a bird's nest to eat. The children made a bird feeder to take home and hang in their yard to watch the birds.

Ms. Beth's and Ms. Lisa's 3-Year-Old Class started off January by turning their room into a winter wonderland. The children created snowflakes, winter wish bottles and snow boys and girls. The children learned how arctic animals such as polar bears and penguins stay warm in the cold water and snow by doing a science experiment. They put their bare hands in icy water ("very cold") then they wrapped their hands in furry fleece and wow! what a difference. No wonder those arctic animals stay warm. They wrapped up January by talking about birds, making bird feeders and watching them through their handmade binoculars.



Mrs. Crawford's & Mrs. Meynardie's birdfeeders

our students will have met M, T, F, H, N, B, J, P, S, C, V, Z, R and D.

Ms. Tabitha's & Ms. Mary's 3-Year-Old Class was busy with winter activities. They made snow bottles and melted snowmen. They even made edible snowmen to snack on. Yum! This week they are going to make "Me In A Coat" and read *Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors*.



Ms. Karina's and Ms. Allison's 3-Year-Old Class started off the new year with a "chilly" bang. The cold weather came at just the right time for their unit on winter. They had a pretend snowball fight, sipped hot chocolate, made mittens and penguins and talked about their January Bible verse "God made winter." They even made some "alphabet soup." Each child picked a letter and tossed in their favorite thing starting with that letter. Here is their recipe: alligators, a fire pole, donuts, tacos, a spoon, a princess, ice cream, baseballs, raisins, lemons and marshmallows.



Ms. Rachel's & Ms. Tracy's Snowman



Ms. Beth's & Ms. Lisa's bird watching expedition



Ms. Karina's & Ms. Allison's "snowball fight"