



What's Up at the ECC?

December 2009

Information for Parents of Children enrolled in ECC Programs

From the director....

Dear Parents,

“Train children how to live, and when they are old, they will not depart from it.” – Proverbs 22.6

Fostering stewardship as a way of life includes educating our children and our youth. Children can understand the fundamental principles of Stewardship, that we, and all we have, are gifts from God, and we are to be good stewards of these treasures. Children can also understand that God is pleased when we use our time and talent – all of our gifts – wisely.

There is no better time than the Christmas season to help our children to understand and see the need to share their time, talents, and treasure with others by including them in stewardship activities. So, in keeping with the idea of giving, the *two and three-year-old classes* will be collecting new *mittens, gloves, socks, and hats* to give to the Brown Bag Ministry. This local catholic organization will donate these items to families in need during the winter months. The children will “build” a *Warm Giving Tree* on the ECC bulletin board. Please consider donating one of the items mentioned above, and your child and their teacher will place it on the tree.

We are so grateful to all of our ECC families who continue to support our ECC stewardship programs such as our Warm Giving Tree and the Thanksgiving Basket program and for all that you do to support our preschool. In an effort to give our ECC families credit for time, talent, and treasure, each classroom has a sign-up sheet to keep a record of classroom volunteer hours.

From all of us here at the ECC, we wish you and your families a safe, peaceful, and blessed Christmas.

My God bless you,

Marianna

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

At this time of year, it's important to review our policy regarding the cancellation of programs due to weather conditions and to let you know what measures we take to keep the children safe if severe weather occurs when they are at school.

Closings and Delays: Our policy is to follow Wake County public school closings. **When Wake County schools are closed, all programs at the center are canceled. However, if Wake County delays the opening of school, the ECC will open at 10:30 am. Preschool children will bring their lunches and attend from 11:00-1:00.** We understand that this later dismissal time may interfere with younger children's nap schedules. Please use your judgment in sending your younger preschooler on these days.

Parents will be informed of school closings and delays via Alert Now telephone messaging system. Wake County closings and delays are also reported on most local radio and television stations. Finally, the director reserves the right to open/close even if Wake County does not.

Our policy regarding make-up days is available in our handbook at www.stmichaeltcary.org.

2010 – 2011 REGISTRATION

Registration for the 2010-2011 school year will be held as follows:

January 25-29 - ECC Returning Students
February 1-5 - Parishioner registration.
February 8-12 - Public registration. Priority is given to members of other catholic churches.

Registration details will follow in early January.

SMS OPEN HOUSE



St. Michael School will be holding Open House for the 2010-2011 school year on January 7, 9:00-11:00 a.m., and January 11, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Please see the St. Michael School website at <http://school.stmichaeltcary.org> and follow the links for additional information.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS PANEL

Mark your calendars for Monday, January 11, for a panel discussion of Kindergarten Readiness, at 7:00 p.m., to be held at Christ the King Lutheran Church.

THANKSGIVING BASKETS

The St. Michael Thanksgiving Basket ministry had another successful year. The ECC collected many items that were used to help fill baskets, and \$140 was donated to help purchase turkeys for families in need.



Thank you for your generosity in providing food items to help make a Happy Thanksgiving possible for these families.

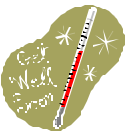
BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

If you use General Mills products, please save your Box Tops for Education for the ECC! We are also collecting Campbell's Labels for Education this school year. This is a great way to make extra money for your school to improve programs for your children. We have already received our first check for \$180!



If you have any questions about either the Box Tops or Campbell's programs, please email Jessica Lickfold at jessicalickfold1@aol.com.

ILLNESS POLICY



The following is our policy according to the ECC parent handbook.

For the well being of all of the children and the staff, your child should not be sent to school if any of the following conditions exist:

1. Fever and Vomiting. Your child must be kept home for 24 hours after his/her temperature is normal and/or vomiting has ceased.
2. Frequent and productive coughing and sneezing.
3. Runny nose accompanied by green drainage or runny noses that require constant wiping.

Thank you to all of our parents for helping to keep everyone healthy this school year.

REMINDERS

- Please remember to sign the attendance sheet outside the classroom when dropping off and picking up your child.
- For the safety of the children, please do not allow the children to play on the hill near the parish offices or on the outside staircases.



ECC DATES TO REMEMBER

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<u>December</u>		
T	2	Fire Drill
M	7	Animal Adventures – Tropical Treasures
T	8	Animal Adventures – Marvelous Mammals
S	12	Breakfast with Santa, 9:00, Parish Center
M	14	Christmas Program, M/W/F three-year-old class, 11:45, Music Room
T	15	Christmas Program, T/TH three-year-old classes, Music Room (See attached program for times.)
W	16	Christmas Program, four and five-year-old classes, 11:30, in the church
TH	17	Fire Drill
M-TH	21-31	ECC CLOSED – Merry Christmas!
<u>January</u>		
F	1	ECC CLOSED – Happy New Year!
M	4	ECC OPEN
M	18	ECC CLOSED
M-F	25-29	Registration for returning ECC students.
TH-F	28-29	Church Mornings, three, four, and five-year-old classes, 9:45

Please join us for

Our ECC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

THREE-YEAR-OLD PROGRAMS

DECEMBER 14, 2009, in the Music Room

POOHS – 11:45

DECEMBER 15, 2009, in the Music Room

EEYORES – 10:45

TIGGERS – 11:15

PIGLETS – 11:45

A birthday celebration for Jesus will be held in your child's classroom immediately following the program.

FOUR & FIVE-YEAR-OLD PROGRAMS

DECEMBER 16, 2009, AT 11:30, IN THE CHURCH

CLIFFORDS - OWLS - KANGAS - RABBITS

Children will be dismissed to their parents in the church following the program.
Please join us in the Parish Center for cookies and juice.



Merry Christmas to All!!!