

# st. john's christian PRESCHOOL

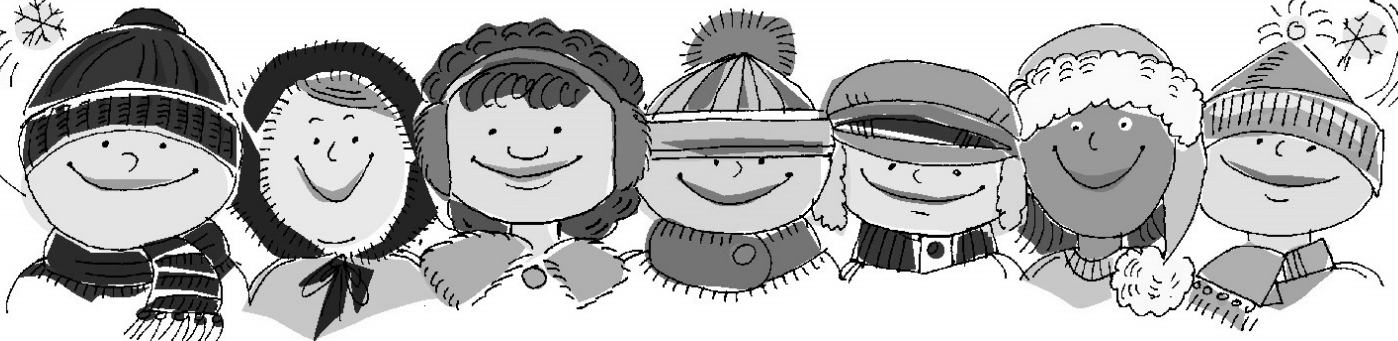
Newsletter

January 2024

## Learning My Way

By Jean Feldman

When I listen to stories and books each day,  
I'm learning to read in my own special way.  
When I sing a song or say a rhyme,  
My listening skills will develop in time.  
The small muscles I use when I work a puzzle or play with clay,  
Will help me to write a sentence one day.  
When I jump, wiggle, and run the day long,  
My muscles are growing strong.  
When I put away my toys or pass out snacks at school,  
I'm really doing my math, too.  
Making bubbles or looking at the clouds in the sky,  
Will develop my scientific skills by and by.  
My coloring, painting, and gluing may look a mess,  
But they all encourage my creative best.  
When you read to me, talk, and listen, too,  
I'll learn to love books and language, it's true.  
As you give me choices and let me go,  
Into an independent adult I will grow.  
When you accept me for whom I am and cherish what I do,  
I'll learn to love others and respect them too.  
Every minute of every new and exciting day,  
I'm learning and growing in my own special way!



## **“Sharing” New this Month at SJCP**

Our classes will start “sharing” activities this month. They will receive their own “sharing bag” to use each week. Please help your child select an appropriate item(s) for each week’s topic which is listed below and on the newsletter calendar. Place the item in the bag and bring it to class on the designated day. We will collect the sharing items as



the children arrive at preschool. Later in the day, we will take turns telling about their selections and showing the class. The items will be sent home each day. This is a favorite activity at preschool and may inspire some fun conversations at home too!

**January 11-12:** a gift you have received

**January 18-19:** photo or drawing of your family

**January 25-26:** something soft

## **Snack Fee Reminder**

Snack fee for the second half of the year is due now. Please leave payments in the mailbox in the office or pay on Brightwheel. Thank you!

MWF: \$26.00

TTh: \$18.00

## **Preschool Birthdays**

Lennon	TTh - Wergeland	Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup>
Joshua	MWF - Meier	Jan. 16 <sup>th</sup>



## **Outdoor Play**

The days have gotten colder and we may have snow soon. Please have your child bring the following clothing to preschool each day so that we can enjoy God’s creation this winter! Thanks.

Warm Coat  
Hat  
Mittens or Gloves  
Hat  
Boots\*  
Snowpants\*



\*When there is snow on the ground

## **S.J.C.P. 2024-25**

We are looking forward to sharing another year of love and learning at St. John’s Christian Preschool! We realize that many families are also considering plans for next school year. We are happy to answer questions and discuss possible options with you. Of course, we invite you to re-enroll your child for the next school year at S.J.C.P.!

If you know other families that may be interested in preschool, please encourage them to check out SJCP. We encourage current families to register early as classes often fill quickly.

## **Preschool Registration 2024-25**

**February 5<sup>th</sup>:** Currently/Previously  
Enrolled Families  
St. John’s Members

**February 12<sup>th</sup>:** Open Registration

## **SJCP Open House - COMING SOON!!**

Early in February we will host an open house at SJCP. Families will have a chance to visit our classrooms, meet our teachers, and learn about our program. More details to follow!

## **Pajama Day at Preschool**

Children are invited to wear their pajamas to preschool class on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> or Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a special day as we pretend it is nighttime. We share “bedtime” stories and snacks with our classmates. Please note: We need the children to wear shoes (no slippers socks or jammie feet) while at preschool. Thank you!



## **Epiphany is here! Let your light shine!**



The Bible, tells us that Jesus came “...to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” What an amazing thing for us! During the month of January, we celebrate the church season called Epiphany. The Epiphany of our Lord is the recognition that the little baby in Bethlehem wasn’t only a human baby, but a savior, the savior who came to save us from darkness and lead us throughout our lives. The image that is used to demonstrate this is light.

This “Epiphany”, this recognition of Jesus as our savior, is not only about the light of the star the Three Wise Men followed, but more importantly, it is about how Jesus *is* light for us. Jesus is the light of the world, as we hear in John’s Gospel: “The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness can’t overcome it!” Light and darkness: these polar opposites are used in the Bible to help us to know that Jesus is the one who shatters the darkness in our lives and brings us to a place where we can find peace.

All of us know darkness. Beyond the metaphor, we all know sickness, frustration, difficulties, and even suffering. We see that the world is not the way it should be and we know that there are children in this world who are in need. The darkness needs the light of the world to help dispel it and eventually, when all of God’s promises come to light, Jesus will conquer it completely for us. The darkness will not have the last word.

That, I think, is the important thing to teach your children this January. Give them the metaphor of light by lighting candles, playing games in the dark with flashlights, and teaching them songs about light such as “This Little Light of Mine”. Even though the metaphor will not be fully understood at their age, your children will learn the salvation story which is this: Jesus, the light of the world, will not leave them in the dark even at the lowest times of their lives. For, this is a God who will go the distance, all the way to the darkness to save us, even to a place that seems to have no light at all.

So, teach your children the story of the Magi/Wisemen who follow the light of a star to see the light of the world in a manger. For, this light, a little piece of Christ himself, has been given to each and every one of God’s children, so that no one may be alone in the dark...ever. Peace to you at this time of light! *Pastor Christine*

## **Shrove Tuesday**

**February 13<sup>th</sup>**

**4:30 – 7PM at St John’s**

Next month, SJCP will be hosting a festive event that your whole family will enjoy! Current preschool families, former preschool families, and St John’s friends gather to share an evening of fun and food. This pre-lent event has been favorite tradition here and has been a great way to raise money for the ongoing ministry of St. John’s Christian Preschool.



### **Shrove Tuesday is...**

- known as “**Fat Tuesday**” or “**Mardi Gras**”.
- a traditional time for feasting and fun before the church season of Lent begins the next day on Ash Wednesday.
- Celebrated from **4:30-7:00PM at St. John’s** and include a **Pancake Supper, Carnival Games, a Cake Walk** and **Silent Auction**.






### **SJCP needs your help!**

SJCP Board appreciates your help with this annual fundraiser! Please sign up in the preschool hallway or via Brightwheel as you are able.

- Working in the Dining Room
- Leading a Carnival Game
- Baking for the Cake Walk
- Donation for the Silent Auction

**Mark your calendars and plan to bring friends and family to this fun evening!**

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> No Preschool 	<b>2</b> No Preschool	<b>3</b> Library Day At SJCP 	<b>4</b> Library Day At SJCP 	<b>5</b> <i>Epiphany</i>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Sharing: a gift you have received</div>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> No Preschool	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Sharing: photo or drawing of your family</div>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> No Preschool	<b>23</b> No Preschool	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>  TTh Pajama Day	<b>26</b>  MWF Pajama Day	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 15px; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Sharing: soft</div>		

