

# st. john's christian PRESCHOOL



Newsletter

April 22, 2020

## Just Playing

When I'm building in the block area,  
Please don't say I'm "just playing."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play,  
About balances and shapes.  
Who knows, I may be an architect someday.

When I'm getting all dressed up,  
Setting the table, caring for the babies,  
Don't get the idea I'm "just playing."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play;  
I may be a mother or father someday.

When you see me up to my elbows in paint  
Or standing at an easel,  
Or molding and shaping clay,  
Please don't let me hear you say,  
"He is just playing."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I'm expressing myself and being creative.  
I may be an artist or an inventor someday.

When you see me sitting in a chair  
"Reading" to an imaginary audience,  
Please don't laugh and think I'm "just playing."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me combing the bushes for bugs,  
Or packing my pockets with choice things I find,  
Don't pass it off as "just play."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I may be a scientist someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle  
Or some "plaything" at my school,  
Please don't feel the time is wasted in 'play.'  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I'm learning to solve problems and concentrate.  
I may be in business someday.

When you see me cooking or tasting foods,  
Please don't think that because I enjoy it,  
It is 'just play.'  
I'm learning to follow direction and see  
differences.  
I may be a cook someday.

When you see me learning to skip, hop,  
Run and move my body,  
Please don't say I'm "just playing."  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I'm learning how my body works.  
I may be a doctor, nurse or athlete someday.

When you ask me what I've done at school today,  
And I say, "I just played",  
Please don't misunderstand me.  
For you see, I'm learning as I play.  
I'm learning to enjoy and be successful in my  
work.  
I'm preparing for tomorrow.  
Today, I am a child and my work is play.

- Anita Wadley

*Even though we aren't at preschool...*

***Keep Playing!!!***

## Registration for 2020-21

At this time we are continuing to enroll children for the next school year at S.J.C.P. While we are not able to offer in-person tours right now, we would be happy to talk with interested families about our program. Thank you sharing SJCP with friends and family. Many families choose to enroll based upon the referrals of others.

## Tuition Update

Since SJCP will remain closed for the month of May, no tuition is due for the month of May. If you have prepaid April and/or May's tuition, a refund check will be mailed to you soon for the total amount. Thank you for your patience as our bookkeeper processes these refunds. If you have questions or are wondering about your tuition status, please contact Nancy Hanson at 715.829.9025.

## Online Payments

Automatic web payments need to be cancelled for those payments to stop. If you haven't already done this, please log into your Vanco account which is accessible through our website.

## Staying Connected at SJCP

- Our teachers are sharing some messages, fingerplays and stories on our Facebook page. "Like" our page and join the fun there!
- Watch for email messages and texts from our teachers sharing ideas and inviting your family to online class Zoom meetings.
- [If your family needs help in this uncertain time, please reach out to us with a phone call or an email anytime.](#)
- As we work remotely, we have limited email and office access at St John's. Please use our outside emails or cell phone numbers for quicker response times.  
Phyllis: [Phyllis@allegraeauclaire.com](mailto:Phyllis@allegraeauclaire.com)  
715.577.6570  
Nancy: [Nancy@oneapplehill.net](mailto:Nancy@oneapplehill.net)  
715.829.9025
- If you have questions, need more information, or just want to connect with someone, please call!

## Earth Day is April 22<sup>nd</sup>

It is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day!  
What will your family do to honor this great gift and its creator?



## End of Year

While traditional end of the year activities will not take place this next month, we will stay in touch about plans to safely celebrate our preschool year together!

## Face Masks and Faith Resources



Are you in need of a face mask? Thanks to a special group of volunteers, we have them available for you in our entry way by St.

John's church office. You are also invited to help yourself to the other resources there.

## Songs from the Classroom

Add some music and movement to your days! Here is a list of artists who have lots of fun songs for young children. Your children may recognize the songs below that can be found by searching YouTube or Google. Have fun!



### **Hap Palmer**

"Put Your Hands Up in the Air"

"Colors"

"Wiggy Wiggy Wiggles"

### **Dr Jean and Friends**

Alligator

The Bear Hunt

### **Greg and Steve**

"Listen and Move"

### **Jana Alayra**

"Jump into the Light"

### **Laurie Berkner Band**

"We are the Dinosaurs"

### **Charlotte Diamond**

"Octopus"



## Getting Outdoors

Spending time in the outdoors is always important and especially valuable for all of us right now!

**Neighborhood Strolls:** A neighborhood walk is a great parent-child or family activity that takes little preparation. Here are few ideas to add some variety to your stroll.

- Have your child push or pull a toy or doll in a wagon or stroller.
- Take turns deciding whether to go straight, or take a right or left turn at corners.
- Watch neighbors' windows for paper hearts, messages or teddy bears placed for passersby. (Consider doing this at your own house too!)
- Drive to a different neighborhood for a change of scenery.
- Remember to always maintain at least 6 ft social distance with anyone that is not from your household.

**Nature Hikes:** Consider visiting one of the following area parks that remain open for hiking. You will find lots of nature to explore while maintaining a safe physical distance. These areas do not have playground equipment, which are off limits right now. This is a free sensory-rich opportunity for the whole family and is a great way to enjoy God's creation!

- Tower Ridge (north of EC)
- Lowes Creek (south of EC)
- Putnam Trail (downtown EC)
- Hoffman Hills (near Menomonie)
- Chippewa River Trail (various areas)

**Play at Home:** Spend some time outside your own home, running around, getting messy and making some noise.

- Throw, catch, kick and chase a ball, beanbag or frisbie
- Build an obstacle course using jump ropes, lawn furniture, branches or toys.
- Have lunch on a blanket in the grass
- Create something from gathered sticks, stones, and leaves.
- Chalk on the sidewalk or driveway. Consider leaving a message for passersby.

- Create a make-believe world for a tiny doll, animal toy or figurine
- Lay on your back and watch for interesting clouds.
- Challenge your child to a running race to a predetermined finish line.



## Signs of Goodness

In this time of the coronavirus, let's continue to take note of goodness happening in our world! Acts of generosity, kindness, and selflessness are a few examples of how there is goodness even in dark



times. Share your message and photos at St John's Lutheran Church's Facebook page using #SignsofGoodness or send them to us and we will do it for you!

## Bookmarks for Feed My People

Feed My People is looking for people to create uplifting and



**Feed My People**  
FOOD BANK

silly bookmarks and postcards to send along to their hunger relief partners and those struggling during this time. Creative and colorful art and food puns appreciated! Just print the attached templates, cut, decorate and send them to Feed My People at 2610 Alpine Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54703.

## Counting the Calendar

One of our daily circle time activities at preschool is "counting our calendar". Feel free to use the blank calendar on the following page to create your own calendar. Number the days, check them off, add meal ideas, household tasks, special notes or family plans to create your own calendar each month!!

PEACE  
BE WITH  
you

