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Connections

News from St. Mark Community Preschool

March 2011

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2011 Preschool Open House Set for Sunday, April 3

The preschool's 2011 Open House will be held earlier than usual this year, on **Sunday, April 3** from 2 to 4 p.m. Please save the date now!

The open house offers a chance for preschool parents to see what their child has been learning, and to see classroom displays of art and projects. We also serve our world-famous punch and finger-food snacks, provided by preschool parents.

Make sure to save the date--it's our big social event of the season!

2011 Country Fair Committee Kick-Off Set for Thursday, March 10

The 2011 Country Fair Committee will hold its first meeting on **Thursday, March 10**, 9:30 a.m. in the preschool office. Last year's entire committee is planning to be involved again this year, and invites additional parents to attend the meeting and learn more about this fun opportunity to become involved with the preschool.



If you'd like to attend the March 10 meeting, please email (amy@stmarkpresbyterian.org), call (949-644-1442) or stop by the office to let us know. And if your child doesn't normally attend preschool on Thursdays, please note that s/he is welcome to

participate in his/her normal class while you're attending the meeting.

From the Desk of Mary Hornbuckle: News for Current Preschool Families

Please note that there is no school on Conference Day, scheduled for

Wednesday, March 16.

Conference sign-up sheets will soon be in each classroom; thank you in advance for signing up for a conference with your

child's teacher. She will have a thorough written evaluation of your child's progress ready to share and discuss with you. You may bring your children for supervised play on the yard during your conference even though there is no school that day.



Also, some reminders about extended day:

- You must sign up in the daily log book on the table outside the office. We schedule teachers to work the extra hour from 1:15 to 2:15 based on how many children will be staying late. We need a firm count. You may sign up for a month in advance but if you cancel, please notify us as early as possible so someone else may take the space.
- We will accept up to 30 children for extended day, Monday through Thursday. There is no extended day on Fridays. We have four teachers who are able to stay each day.
- We expect you to arrive on time to pick up your child. That's 1:15 for those not in extended day, and 2:15 for those staying late. Our teachers do have lives outside of preschool, so your timely departure is important! If your child is not on the late day list, at 1:25 s/he will be added to the list and you will be billed for the extended day.
- The cost is \$10.00 per day when your child stays late. We will bill you at the end of each month for the days your child stayed late and you can add the amount to your tuition check.

Your children do enjoy this extra hour of supervised play with friends from other classes. They have an opportunity to get to know different teachers and children. We are happy to provide this extra service to you.

Thank you so much for participating in the **Happy**

Heart Day baby blanket and bootie donations for Children's Hospital LA. Ginny Gallagher, who headed up this effort at the preschool, reports that over 600 blankets, plus booties, were donated by area schools; 40 came from our preschool! Ginny and CHLA are so grateful for your help. The media coverage of this event was wonderful - even making the evening television news and the *Daily Pilot*!

Finally, a few reminders:

1. Please be sure to greet and to make eye contact with the teachers when you bring or pick up your child. Arrival and departure times can be hectic, and we want to be sure your child is safely delivered to our care or to yours.
2. Please let us know in advance if you will be out of town and your child will be picked up or cared for by others, and be sure we have a phone contact for that person. We appreciate a clear understanding of who will be coming for your child, even if they are on your emergency list, so that we have no confusion at the end of the day. We need written permission to send your child home with people not on your emergency list.
3. Remember to check your child's extra clothes bag for out-grown clothes and spare shoes, and please return any clothes you have borrowed from the school supply. We sometimes get wet and muddy here. And we have a lot of fun while learning through play.

Mary Hornbuckle
St. Mark Community Preschool

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