

# **STEPPINGSTONE**

**May 2017**

## **On The Wings of a Butterfly**

*By, Corky Ferguson*

*Your friendship is special  
Like the flowers that bloom.  
Or when a butterfly emerges  
From within its cocoon...*

*You remind me of that butterfly,  
Loving and free,  
Bright and colorful,  
For the world to see...*

*We will share sunshine and rainbows;  
Sometimes, the rain and the snow;  
We'll stand together through it,  
While the cold winds blow...  
When the time is right,  
We won't stop to ask "WHY?"  
Our friendship will take flight  
On the wings of a BUTTERFLY...*

***For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.  
-Romans 8:14***

**Tuition: All unpaid tuitions are now due.**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**UNIT - Animals (Mrs. Moore)**

**End of Year Review (Mrs. Leake)**

**SPACE PARTIES - Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> - Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Classes**

**Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Classes**

**LINVILLA TRIP - Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup> - 9:30 AM**

**Both Classes (Combined Event)**

**Rain Date Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>**

**MOTHER'S DAY - Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup> - Church Service at 10AM - Breakfast**

**served to all the Moms right after church. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

**SCHOOL PICNIC - Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> - Norwood Park -**

**(Rain Date - Monday, May 15, 2017)**

**AWARDS CEREMONY - Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Leake's Class ONLY**

**SUMMER BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATION -**

**Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> - Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Students**

**Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Students**

**MEMORIAL DAY - School will be CLOSED on Monday,**

**May 29<sup>th</sup> for the holiday.**

**LAST REGULAR DAYS & GRAD. REHEARSALS -**

**Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> - Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Students**

**Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> - Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Students**

**CLOSING EXERCISES (Graduation) -**

**Thursday, June 1<sup>st</sup> - Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Class at 10 AM**

**Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Class at 10 AM**





### The Teacher's Desk

The children really enjoyed learning about the baby chicks last month. They were allowed to pet the chicks and we set up a safe block area in (for the chicks to perform in) the Circle Room where we watched them eat, walk around, try to fly out of it, and they even danced to the "Chicken Dance Song". We had a lot of fun with many smiles, giggles, and laughing. After the Chicks were put back in their brooder box the children had fun doing the "Chicken Dance" themselves.

After Easter we started our Space Unit and it will continue into the first week of May. The children have been learning about the Solar System and that the Earth is part of the Family of the Sun. We are learning facts about the different planets and what are some of the other things that are in outer space. At the end of our unit we will have a Space Pajama Party. On the day of the party we will take a trip to Outer Space where we will fly by the planets, visit the Moon, land on Mars, and possibly meet some friendly aliens; while dodging some asteroids and meteorites. Everyone is encouraged to wear their pajamas to school for the party. The party will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the sign up sheet if you would like to contribute a snack.

We are looking forward to our trip to Linvilla Orchards where the children will learn about what grows on a real working Farm/Orchards. They will be allowed time to visit with the animals, they have a play yard if you want to allow your child some time to play, and we encouraged you to bring your lunch.

### **IT'S PICNIC TIME**

It's picnic time! Let out a cheer! The day has come, the time is here!  
So bring your basket, pack some meat, some fruit, some bread, and good thing to eat.  
We'll eat and play until we can't. So don't forget to pack your ant!  
Our Annual School/Family Picnic will be on May 12<sup>th</sup> rain date May 15<sup>th</sup> at Lower Norwood Park. We are looking forward to seeing everyone.

I want to remind everyone how important it is to work with your child over the summer with recognizing his or her numbers, alphabet letters, letter sounds, rhyming words, words with opposite meanings, patterns, printing their first and last name, and writing alphabet letters, and numbers, and their home address and phone number. Younger students need help also with all of the above and also with learning their colors, and shapes.

It does not seem possible that it is almost the end of the school year. I have really enjoyed watching your children blossom throughout the year.

I would like to thank Miss Tammy and Miss Paige for all their hard work and dedication this year. Without them our class would not run as smoothly as it does.

I want to wish everyone a fun and very pleasant summer, Miss Barbara



*It is very hard to believe that the school year is coming to an end. It seems just like yesterday was the First Day of School. The children and I have been selecting songs for our Graduation Ceremony and I am looking forward to sharing all of the wonderful songs the children have learned through the year. We will be practicing each and every day till the ceremony and will periodically go into the Church to practice.*

*Oh we had so much fun learning about Space and about taking care of our Earth! We planted seeds as well as planted flowers at the Saint Francis Memorial Garden on the Church Grounds. I am looking forward to using our imagination as we travel into Outer Space in our Spaceship when we have our Space Party.*

*The children truly enjoyed our Baby Chick project and Quiver Farms thanked us for a job well done with the Baby Chicks. The children were able to watch the chicks hatch from their eggs and were able to pet them. We also danced "The Chicken Dance" with our Baby Chicks too.*

*As move into May, we will be reviewing all our sight words, our upper case and lower case letters, numbers 0-20, opposites, rhyming, same and different, money, and will begin our introduction to addition and subtraction. We will be starting our short "a", short "i" and short "o" words this month. So much to cover before the end of the school year!*

***"A Child is like a butterfly in the wind. Some can fly higher than others, but each one flies the best it can. Why compare one to another? Each one is different, each one is special, each one is beautiful!" -Author unknown***

*Have a Blessed month!*  
**Miss JoAnn**



Hi there parents!

Wow I can't believe we are nearing the end of school. Can you believe there's only a few weeks left? One more newsletter to be written? I can't tell you how blessed I feel to have gotten to know and teach each of your children this past year. It truly has been a wonderful and enriching experience for me. Even though I am teaching them, they have taught me so much as well!

For those who are heading off to kindergarten I will miss so much! For those just joining us, I am so excited to see you all next year!

This past month was a lot of review, and let me tell you! These children are so smart! We reviewed numbers 1-20 and even challenged them to go higher! I think we all got up to 40! We also reviewed our ABCs, colors, rhymes, opposites and scissor skills. Our past theme was Space and Earth Day/Recycling. This was probably my favorite (more than the dinosaurs!) We talked about how to help our planet earth and what to do to keep it clean. We learned about recycling and planting. We even learned the life cycle of a plant and experimented with planting and watching seeds sprout! The kids loved this. For Space, we learned about our solar system and what types of things happen in space. We even got to take a trip through Space! The kids loved learning the names of the planets and what they looked like. We even put them in size order and talked about what happens on each one of them.

For the month of May we will continue review. I will be focusing more on writing skills to prepare those who are leaving for kindergarten. We will practice more name recognition and writing, writing our numbers 1-20, writing our ABCs and more! For some, we will also practice writing out our sight words!

I am look forward to our Linvilla trip!

Miss Marissa



### Outer Space & P J's Parties

The closing to our Space Unit is a "Space & P J's" Party. On those days have your child wear their P J's to school. (Regular Class Times) Students may wear slippers if so desired. We will be blasting off into space and having special snacks and games.

For this event, we could use "Scooter Pies" and other round snack foods that can be referred to as "flying saucers: munchkins are great as representing the planets. And stickers for our space flight would be nice. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the main classrooms.

We ask that you not force your child to wear P J's if he/she doesn't want to. There will always be a few children who are not happy with this idea. It will be a super fun day!

Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Classes - Wednesday, May 3, 2017  
Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Classes - Thursday, May 4, 2017



### Linvilla Orchards Trip

We're planning a trip to Linvilla Orchards, the farm with the Octagonal Barn, located at 137 W. Knowlton Road, Media, PA. On the narrated Hayride Tour through the orchards, a guide will accompany our group and point out how and where different crops are grown on the farm. Students will learn about honeybees/pollination, planting/germination, and how weather affects the farm. The children will enjoy a hayride, tour, juice, apple, magnet, and coloringbook.

The class trip will be a one-time combined event for all students. Unfortunately, there is only room for 50 people on the hay wagon. With the fact of having thirty-some students and five staff members, we must ask that there be only one adult per student partaking of the hayride. **The tour and hayride are strictly for students and their chaperons; siblings are prohibited, per Linvilla.** Parents or guardians must provide transportation. We ask if you must entrust your child to another, please not more that two (2) students per adult. The cost is \$8.00 per person (child or adult). All permission slips and payments must be returned by **May 3rd, 2017.** Payments can not be taken the day of the trip, the school must have its payment made in full by May 4th.

Following the tour, everyone can enjoy Linvilla and what it has to offer. Family members may picnic lunch on the grounds if desired. Please, if you should decide to lunch at Linvilla, bring bagged lunches along with a beverage. The proprietor asks there be NO GLASS.

Date: Friday, May 5th, 2017 Time: 9:30 AM

Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Leake, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Howard, Miss Myers, Mrs. Warren and Mrs. Copes will accompany the children. However, all students must have a parent or guardian chaperone. The hayride is strictly for the preschoolers and their chaperone; Linvilla has insisted that there be no siblings attending. Parents or guardians must provide transportation. We ask if you must entrust your child to another, please, not more than two (2) students per adult.

Students & chaperons are to meet in Linvilla's parking lot near the garden center, at the above time. Please do not be late; the tour will start promptly at 10AM with or without you. **STUDENTS WILL NOT REPORT TO SCHOOL AT ALL THIS DAY - STUDENTS ARE RELEASED FROM TRIP LOCATION. WE ARE SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE THIS MAY CAUSE.** In the event of rain, the trip will take place on Monday May 8<sup>th</sup>.



### School Picnic -

The school picnic will be a one-time combined event for all students. This means that all sessions will picnic at the same time. The date and time follow.

**Friday, May 12th, 2017**  
(11:00-1:00 P.M. at Norwood Park - Winona Ave. & Amosland Rd.)

All students attending must have a parent/chaperone. Family members including siblings are invited to attend. The parents, in the way of a bagged lunch, should supply the picnic goodies. (We will not be using any type of barbecue grills & no glass items please.)

There will be games planned, and much, much more. We are looking for parents to help out with a few organized games such as potato/spoon race, water balloon toss, bean bag toss or other simple games you may think will work. We are also looking for donations of pre-cut watermelon, grapes, soft mini pretzels, bubbles, jump ropes, etc. A sign-up sheet will be posted.

Please plan to attend. It will be a fun day for the students and staff of St. Stephen's. Remember parents are responsible for the safety of their children. Please do not allow them to wander. The student's safety is our main concern and the key to a great time. Bring blankets or chairs for seating. (Rain date 5-15-17) **ALL STUDENTS ARE TO MEET AT THE PARK.**



### DVD Orders Due-

All DVD orders for Mrs. Leake's students are due by Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.



### Memorial Day Holiday -

School will be closed on **Monday, May 29th** for the holiday.

### Award Ceremony -

Mrs. Leake will be having an small awards ceremony, within the classroom, during regular class hours, for her students on **Wednesday, May 24th**.



**Summer Birthday Celebrations -**

We will be celebrating summer birthdays at school. If your child will have a birthday between **June 1st and September 14th**, please sign up on the birthday sign-up sheets that will be posted in the preschool. These will be regular days of class.

**Mrs. Moore's Class - Tuesday, May 23, 2017**  
**Mrs. Mrs. Leake's & Mrs. Howard's Classes -**  
**Wednesday May 24, 2017**



**Closing Exercises -**

Our Closing Exercises will be held on the following dates, below please find the details for graduation.

**Mrs. Moore & Mrs. Howard's Classes -**  
**Thursday, June 1, 2017 - 10:00 AM**  
**(STUDENTS ARRIVE AT 9:30 AM)**

**Mrs. Leake & Mrs. Howard's Classes**  
**Friday, June 2, 2017 - 10:00 AM**  
**(STUDENTS ARRIVE AT 9:30 AM)**

Please bring your child to the church hall at the above times. Have their graduation gown on with cool, casual clothing underneath. We will help the students with their caps. (Suggestion-mark your child's name on interior of cap, they are easily misplaced.)

After dropping students at the hall proceed into the church and have a seat. The students, weather permitting, will process in from the Chester Pike doors. Therefore, we are asking you please keep church aisles clear. The program will last approximately 30 minutes, followed by refreshments in the church hall. Family members and friends are welcome to attend.

You are asked to refrain from giving flowers or balloons at school. Please wait until arriving home for these honors. Remember these are preschoolers and are overwhelmed with big doings, as well as upset by being treated differently in a group. The preschool will be awarding each student with a diploma and a carnation. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

There will be sign-up sheets for party goodies. And please remember to look for your child's artwork in the church and retrieve it before leaving the building. It looks to be a joyous day!



**Celebrate!!!!**

Congratulations to:

MISS ALIYAH BEDELL and her family - MISS ALIYAH is now a BIG SISTER to little MASTER ALFRED BEDELL III. Baby Alfred entered this world on April 21st, weighing in at 8lbs. 4.5oz. and measuring 20 inches long.

God's blessings to the Bedell family.

MASTER GIONNI ORFANELLI and to his family - MASTER GIONNI is now a BIG BROTHER to little MISS SIENNA ROSE KELLY. Baby Sienna entered this world on April 25<sup>th</sup>, weighing in at 9lbs. 3ozs. and measuring 21 inches long.

God's blessings to the Kirk Family.



## **2017-2018 Registrations**

A reminder to parents, now, is the time to plan for next school year. It is our policy that first choice of sessions is offered to parents of currently enrolled students. Therefore, you were provided with registration forms back in February. If you have not registered, you can contact Mrs. Leake to convey your desire of class session. Remember, there are only a limited number of spots available per class.

For those parents or guardians of more than one child in our school, there is a 10% discount made on the lowest child's tuition. This discount will be deducted each month from your child's tuition amount. Upon receiving your tuition coupon booklet, you will be aware of the tuition amount you should remit each month.

St. Stephen's Preschool offers a one (1) month tuition discount for any family recommending our school to others. This discount is contingent upon the registration, enrollment, and completion of a five-month minimum paid tuition stay by the recommended party.

Also, a note to parents of Kindergarten age students, please check with your local school districts as to Kindergarten registration. Most of the neighboring districts have registration through the spring. All you need do is call your local administration building for information.



## **Summer Camp 2017-2018**

We are pleased to announce the startup of St. Stephen's Christian Preschool's Summer Camp program for 2017-18. We had a great turn out last year and are looking forward to this year's program. The goal of St. Stephen's Preschool Summer Camp is to integrate intellectual, social, emotional, creative and physical growth and development. Well supervised daily activities will be provided in the following areas: learning & recreational games, story time, arts and crafts, music, help with summer educational projects (elementary school summer reading or curriculum assignments), snacks, etc. Your child will need to bring a bagged lunch to school each day.

Our summer camp program allows for making new friends and experiencing a sense of belonging.

Children ages 3-8 are welcome. Summer Camp runs for six (6) weeks, from June 12th through July 21st. 5- Day camp meets Monday through Friday mornings. Sessions are 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Staffing will include at two teachers.

For registration information please contact Mrs. Leake at 610-237-1043 or [sstephen0004@gmail.com](mailto:sstephen0004@gmail.com).



## **From The Director**

I am having a hard time grasping the fact that the school year is coming to an end. It just seems like yesterday your child started their First Day of School. It has been such a joy to watch your child grow with us and we will miss all those children moving on to Kindergarten. I wish those children all the best as they begin their newest chapter in their lives. Parents, please be sure to let your child come and visit the Preschool on the days they are off and we are open. We love having our Alumni students come back to read to the children and tell us their stories of how much they love their new school. For those students coming back to our Preschool, I hope that you have a wonderful summer and will look forward to seeing you all in September! It has been a challenging but exciting year this year as I took on a dual role as Director and Preschool Teacher. We brought back so many events that the preschool did many years ago and I am so thrilled that we did so. I could never have done this job on my own and cannot thank the Preschool Staff for always watching my back especially to Miss Tammy and to Mrs. Riess. On behalf of myself, Miss Barbara, Miss Tammy, Miss Marissa, Miss Paige, Miss Kelli and Miss Krista we would like to thank you for the privilege of being one of your child's first school experiences. Much kudos for all your goodies donated throughout the year as well as the continued support of our preschool program.

The preschool staff hopes that you will have a happy and safe summer. "Go now in Peace! Go now in Peace! May the love of God surround you! Everywhere! Everywhere! You may go".

Blessings!!!

JoAnn Leake