

Dear Families

May 2011

This may be the last month of the school year and the last month for Christ Church Preschool, but we're not done, yet! Lots of things are still happening. Be sure to read both newsletter *and* calendar so you and your child don't miss a thing!

**Special Thanks to Our Many Volunteers:** *We are so grateful for your enthusiastic help!*

**Special Events in May:**

- **Chick-holding begins (May 2)** – This is a special time for our children to hold a soft, fluffy, and fragile chick in their own hands. Most children enjoy the experience.
- **Preschool Picnic (May 4)** – This annual potluck picnic is at 6pm in our gym.
  - We need 75% main courses and 25% desserts. I'll let you decide what to bring!
  - Everyone please bring your own tablecloth, dishes, utensils, beverages, etc.
  - After eating, stay to help us raise our big, colorful parachute!
- **Mother's (and Father's) Day (May 8)** – Enjoy the gift you will be receiving. Your child enjoyed making it just for you. Have a wonderful day as you celebrate the blessings of parenthood.
- **NO SCHOOL (May 9)** – The Preschool staff will be making end-of-the-year preparations.
- **Preschool Alumni Picnic (May 11)** – Even though we are having our own 2010-11 picnic, you are all invited to attend the Alumni Picnic! I'd love to have you in the alumni photos taken by H.Larson Studio (same one that did Picture Day). Let me know if you're coming, so we can set a place for you!
- **Chicks leave (May 14)** – Our chicks need larger quarters and we are almost out of school days. Our babies will be transported to a family hobby farm in Dassell, MN where they will be raised for their eggs and as pets. Former Preschool Aide, Sue Dahl, continues to be a key person with this part of our plans.
- **Pajama Day AND Sibling Day (May 16)** – Please allow your child to wear pajamas to school (bring regular clothes to change into) and to bring a teddy bear or other favorite stuffed toy. This is a fun day for us to 'kick back and relax'! Younger siblings are invited to join us for the first half of our day, but an adult must stay with them.
- **Pocket Day (May 18)** – How many pockets can you wear? We'll count!
- **Armed Forces Day (May 21)** – Thank every member of the military that you meet...not just on this day, but *every* day.
- **Wear Crazy Clothes Combinations (May 23)** – Wear the craziest combination of clothes that you can. It's great fun! Our custodian, Mr. Merrell looks forward to this day, too. I wonder what he'll wear, this year?
- **Last Day of Preschool (May 27)**
  - **We'd like to invite all of our Preschool children and families to join us at 11:30am on Friday, May 27 for special treats. We hope you can come!**

**The Final Month of School – and Beyond:** Just as our chicks mature, so do our students. At the end of May, we will be saying goodbye to you and to Christ Church Preschool as we've known it. However, we have the new Summer Program to look forward to! We wish you well and encourage you to stay in touch with us so we can "watch" our child(ren) grow. You already have my home e-mail address and, although I will be leaving employment at Christ Church, it is still my place of worship, so you can always contact me via church's address. I have accepted employment as the new Lead Teacher at St.Luke's Christian Preschool at St.Luke's Lutheran Church in Bloomington. While I am sad to be ending nearly 40 years of teaching in the Longfellow neighborhood, I am excitedly looking forward to the new coworkers, friends and families I will be meeting at St.Luke's.

**Enjoy the Merry Month of May!  
For the Love of Children,  
Stephanie R. Gustafson**