



First Presbyterian Weekday School

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Lara Davis, Director

LETTER FROM LARA



Dear Weekday School Families:

On Monday, November 5, the Weekday School will be closed for students, but open for parent conferences. At this time, teachers will be sharing information that they have observed about your child. This is a time to celebrate successes and plan for continued growth. You may want to consider asking your child's teacher...

- How does my child initiate play with others?
- How does my child problem solve when he plays with others?
- How does my child offer help to others?
- How does my child take responsibility for his space and materials?
- Is my child interested in group activities or independent activities?
- Is my child responsive to assistance from other children or the teacher?
- What activities does my child most often engage in?
- Are there any skills that seem to frustrate my child? How can I help him?
- For those children who are writing in journals: What letters are my child using? Is he/she connecting any sounds to letters?

Conferences may be scheduled with your child's teacher. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide childcare during conferences.

Attached to this newsletter is a brief reference guide listing some of the developmental characteristics of children ages infant - five years old. This guide summarizes what we can "typically" expect at each level of development. Please keep in mind that, although children go through each of these developmental stages, they will do it in their own way, at their own rate, and in their own time. For more information and other resources on developmental characteristics, feel free to stop by the Weekday School office.

I'm wishing you well!

Lara

November 2012

School Calendar

November

Mon., Nov. 5th –
Conference Day (No
School for Students)

Wed., Nov. 7th – noon
dismissal (staff training
day), Spirit Day*



Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 8 - 9th
– School Pictures

Thurs. & Fri., Nov. 15-16th
– Grandparents' Day and
Book Fair

Nov. 19th – 23rd –
Thanksgiving Break: **No
School**

December

Wed., Dec. 5th – noon
dismissal (staff training
day), Spirit Day*

Mon. & Tues., Dec. 17-18th
– Christmas Program (more
information to follow).

Dec 19th - Jan 2nd -
Christmas Break, No
School

* Don't forget to wear your
WDS shirt or something with a
heart on it.

Enter on the right, Exit on the left.

As you have noticed, there are now signs posted on the inside doors of the church. It is not easy to see if there is a child (or adult) on the other side of the doors and those doors can hurt.

In addition, this is a wonderful way to introduce and reinforce the concept of environmental print with our children. They have quickly learned that green means go and red means stop. Many of our children are associating the words with the pictures. They are proud to say that they can "read" those signs!

Blackboard Connect Rapid Communication System

As you may have noticed, the voice you are hearing on these messages is not Ms. Lara's! With this new system, we are able to send messages from a computer using text to speech. While it is a convenient way for us to send the messages, we realize it is not as personal as it has been in the past.

What's Cooking??

It's a First Ever WDS Cookbook!!

The Weekday School is proud to offer a treasured collection of recipes from many outstanding cooks. This keepsake contains recipes from our entire school family; including staff and the students themselves. Each section also contains classroom prayers that are shared before lunchtime each day. This attractive cookbook makes an ideal gift, as the holidays are rapidly approaching. Look for its arrival at the beginning of December. Cookbooks will be available for purchase through the Weekday School office and during the Sunday School hour on Sundays during the month of December.



(Proceeds benefit the WDS General Fund)



A NIGHT AT MONKEY JOES!
Friday, November 30,
6:00 - 8:00

Come and enjoy a night of fun and family connections!

(15% of the proceeds are donated to our school.)

Meet the Pastor

Did you know that another word for "pastor" is "shepherd?" Our four and five year olds met with Pastor Rich this past month and he shared the similarities and differences between his role as shepherd and David's role as shepherd.

One of our goals at the Weekday School is for the fours' and fives' classes to meet and learn about our pastoral staff at the church. It is another way for us to connect as a church and school family.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Inviting all grandparents (or designated grandparents) to join us on November 15 or November 16!

Come and enjoy a continental breakfast in Fellowship Hall and then visit your grandchild's classroom.

BOOK FAIR: NOVEMBER 15 & 16 In FELLOWSHIP HALL

The Winchester Book Gallery will have a variety of children's and adult's books for you to browse and buy.

(a % of the proceeds go to benefit our school)

REMINDERS



is not as effective as using soap and water. We ask that you accompany your child(ren) to the bathroom and assist with hand washing PRIOR to entering the classroom for the day. Let's do all we can to help keep each other healthy.

PLEASE remember, **ALL infant, toddler, and two's classrooms as well as those labeled as such are NUT-FREE.** This means no nut products or products which could contain nuts. We ask that you read the contents on the packages carefully before sending them to school. If we are in doubt, we will take it out of the room. We ask this in an effort to do all that we can to keep our children safe.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY?

The bulletin board in the main hallway of the church has a section labeled "News." Be sure to check this bulletin board for listings of community events and opportunities. You will also find our newest members of the Weekday School family (birth announcements) and other helpful Weekday School information.

Welcome New Family Members:

Avery Elizabeth Nichols, born October 19 and
Evan Matthew Bromley, born October 25.



A Note from Children's Ministry

First Presbyterian Church's Children's Ministry offers a Sunday School program for all ages every Sunday from 9:45-10:45, and provides nursery child care for children under 2. There are individual classes for 2's, 3's, 4's, and all grades of elementary school.

Sunday School is our primary church program where children learn about God. We wanted to share a description of each of our classes for children with the Weekday School family and invite you to join sometime soon. Thanks and God Bless!

Todd Bowman
Director of Children's Ministry

2-Year-Old Class (Room #107) The Two's Class seeks to lay the foundation for the spiritual development of God's precious little ones through sharing the stories of Scripture, helping young children know and experience the loving care of our great God, and enabling them to experience a warm and nurturing place to learn about God.

3- Year-Old Class (Room #210) The Three's Class introduces students to an approach to children's spiritual formation called "Godly Play". Godly Play is an experiential "discovery" method which engages the whole child— hands, heart, mind, senses, and intuition, and it is used as the method for our Chapel program.

In Godly Play rooms, a sacred space is created where the stories of our faith are presented to students, and then students have the opportunity to respond worshipfully. The class first has the opportunity to wonder together about the story and then engage in the story on their own terms through open-ended opportunities.

4-Year-Old Class (Room #212) The Four's Class also uses "Godly Play" as explained above, but with a different sequence of stories, and a greater opportunity to come to the heart of the meaning and purpose of the stories so important to our faith.

Elementary K-4th grade (Begin in Stine Room) Our elementary students are all part of the Workshop Rotation model of Sunday School, where they learn major Bible Stories and concepts through kid-friendly multimedia workshops: Art, Drama, Music, Games, Puppets, Dance, Storytelling, Cooking, Science and any other educational media that is appropriate for elementary age children. Students travel with other children in their grade to a new workshop each week. The model's philosophy recognizes that kids not only love repetition, but they need it to develop a lasting memory and understanding of content.

This year our remaining units are:

Oct 28 – Dec. 2, 2012- **#2- Great Balls of Fire: Elijah**

Jan. 6 – Feb. 10, 2013- **#3- New Teachings: Parables and Teachings of Jesus**

Feb. 17- Apr. 7, 2013- **#4- Easter: I'm a Believer**

Apr. 14 – May 26, 2013- **#5- Paul: Believers, You've Got Mail**

Normal Stages of Human Development

(Birth to 5 Years)

This page presents an overview of child development from birth to five years of age. It is important to keep in mind that the time frames presented are averages and some children may achieve various developmental milestones earlier or later than the average but still be within the normal range. This information is presented to help parents understand what to expect from their child. Any questions you may have about your child's development should be shared with his or her doctor.

Physical and Language

Emotional

Social

	Physical and Language	Emotional	Social
Birth to 1 month	Feedings: 5-8 per day. Sleep: 20 hrs per day. Sensory Capacities: makes basic distinctions in vision, hearing, smelling, tasting, touch, temperature, and perception of pain	Generalized Tension	Helpless Asocial Fed by mother
2 months to 3 months	Sensory Capacities: color perception, visual exploration, oral exploration. Sounds: cries, coos, grunts. Motor Ability: control of eye muscles, lifts head when on stomach. Delight	Distress	Smiles at a Face Visually fixates at a face, smiles at a face, may be soothed by rocking.
4 months to 6 months	Sensory Capacities: localizes sounds. Sounds: babbling, makes most vowels and about half of the consonants. Feedings: 3-5 per day Motor Ability: control of head and arm movements, purposive grasping, rolls over.	Enjoys being cuddled	Recognizes his mother. Distinguishes between familiar persons and strangers, no longer smiles indiscriminately. Expects feeding, dressing, and bathing.
7 months to 9 months	Motor Ability: control of trunk and hands, sits without support, crawls about.	Specific emotional attachment to mother.	Protests separation from mother. Enjoys "peek-a-boo"
10 months to 12 months	Motor Ability: control of legs and feet, stands, creeps, apposition of thumb and fore-finger. Language: says one or two words, imitates sounds, responds to simple commands. Feedings: 3 meals, 2 snacks. Sleep: 12 hours, 2 naps Anger	Affection Fear of strangers Curiosity, exploration	Responsive to own name. Wave bye-bye. Plays pat-a-cake, understands "no-no!" Gives and takes objects.

1 years to 1 ½ years	Motor Ability: creeps up stairs, walks (10-20 min), makes lines on paper with crayon. Dependent Behavior	Very upset when separated from mother. Fear of Bath	Obeys limited commands. Repeats a few words. Interested in his mirror image. Feeds himself.
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1 ½ years to 2 years	Motor Ability: runs, kicks a ball, builds 6 cube tower (2yrs) Capable of bowel and bladder control. Language: vocabulary of more than 200 words. Sleep: 12 hours at night, 1-2 hr nap	Temper tantrums (1-3yrs)	Resentment of new baby Does opposite of what he is told (18 months).
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2 years to 3 years	Motor Ability: jumps off a step, rides a tricycle, uses crayons, builds a 9-10 cube tower. Language: starts to use short sentences controls and explores world with language, stuttering may appear briefly. Fear of separation	Negativistic (2 ½ yrs) Violent emotions, anger. Differentiates facial expressions of anger, sorrow, and joy. Sense of humor (Plays tricks)	Talks, uses “I” “me” “you” Copies parents’ actions .Dependent, clinging, possessive about toys, enjoys playing alongside another child. Negativism (2 ½ yrs). Resists parental demands. Gives orders. Rigid insistence on sameness of routine. Inability to make decisions.
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3 years to 4 years	Motor Ability: Stands on one leg, jumps up and down, draws a circle and a cross (4 yrs)	Self-sufficient in many routines of home life. Affectionate toward parents. Pleasure in genital manipulation. Romantic attachment to parent of opposite sex (3 to 5 yrs) Jealousy of same-sex parent. Imaginary fears of dark, injury, etc. (3 to 5 years)	Likes to share, uses “we” Cooperative play with other children, nursery school. Imitates parents. Beginning of identification with same-sex parent, practices sex-role activities. Intense curiosity & interest in other children’s bodies. Imaginary friend.
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4 years to 5 years	Motor ability: mature motor control, skips, broad jumps, dresses himself, copies a square and a triangle. Language: talks clearly, uses adult speech sounds, has mastered basic grammar, relates a story, knows over 2,000 words (5 yrs)	Responsibility and guilt. Feels pride in accomplishment	Prefers to play with other children, becomes competitive prefers sex-appropriate activities
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