

# PEACE PIPELINE

130 South Route 45  
Frankfort, IL 60423  
Phone: 814.469.8919  
Fax: 815.469.3368



Peace Pipeline is a publication of  
Peace Community Preschool  
Nancy Sink, Director

March 2009

## *Facing Difficult Circumstances with Peace* *By: Nancy Sink*

During this past month I have talked with parents from our preschool who have lost their jobs, some who are worried about losing their homes, one who lost her sister, one who is afraid of losing her children in a custody battle, one who had a miscarriage, one who's child was in the hospital with a lung infection, one who has a fractured foot, one who is battling cancer, one who's father is dying, and one who is watching her child die from cancer. These are just the circumstances that I am aware of. I'm sure there are a lot of other burdens on parent's shoulders that I know nothing about. We don't need to turn on the news to know that these are difficult times. So the question is, "How can we have peace and joy in the midst of painful circumstances?"

The Bible is full of stories of people who suffered in similar circumstances. Job is the classic example. He lost his children, health, wealth, and his wife and friends turned against him. His first response was "I've always lived a good life, and this isn't fair, God." But God pointed out that when we say that, we are really saying, "God, you are not fair, and it's not true that you love me. You cannot really love me and let this happen to me." Job isn't the only example of someone crying out to God in pain. When Jesus was dying on the cross to pay the price for our sins He cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me."

I have learned that the only lasting peace came to me during a difficult time in my life. It happened thirty years ago, and that peace has never left me. I found myself in a very painful place at that time, and after much complaining and crying out to God, I did what Job did in the end. I humbled myself and acknowledged that God is sovereign. He is always good, and His plan for me is always best even when it doesn't make sense. I asked for forgiveness for my sins, and invited Jesus to come into my life and take control. That is when peace and love flooded my soul. I realize that nothing in this life is permanent. Change is inevitable and God gives and takes away at various times in our lives. However, in Hebrews 13:5-6 Paul wrote; "God has said, "Never will I

leave you; never will I forsake you." So we say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper, I will not be afraid, what can man do to me?" Paul also wrote in Romans 8:38 "...in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Take some time to sit quietly at the foot of the cross this Easter season, and let the love of Christ that surpasses all our understanding give you peace.

### *Playground*



We have formed an Ad-Hoc Committee to research the equipment that is available to update the playground and acquire some competitive bids for the work. If you have any information about Playground Surfacing or Equipment that you feel would be helpful to the committee, please share it with us. We would like to be able to show you a plan for this work at our Parent Orientation Meeting in August, and it is our hope that the work will begin next year. All money received this year as a result of our Fundraising Activities and other donations to the preschool (*Bake Sale, Read-a-Thon, Scrapbook Party, Garage Sale*) will be used for the Playground Update.

### *Read-a-Thon*

The first Read-a-Thon for our preschool was a huge success. The halls were filled with hearts to testify to the number of books that were read to your children last month. The children loved sharing their "reading" experiences with their teachers and classmates; and once again, your generosity has taken us closer our goal of updating the playground. Thank You for supporting this Early Literacy incentive and for blessing your children with the joy of books.

### *Scrapbook Party*

The scrapbook party was not huge, but it was very successful in providing a great time of fellowship with friends. We learned new scrapbook techniques and expressed creative enjoyment in our family albums. I want to give a special "Thank You" to Sara Fiedler for sharing her wealth of knowledge and supplies with us, and to the Fundraising Committee for making the day so enjoyable from beginning to end.



*Spring Break  
April 10<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>*

*“Have a Blessed Easter”*



The Garage Sale will be set up in the gym on Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (9:00-3:30). We will be accepting donations of baby items and equipment, children's toys/books, children's clothes, and any other items that are appropriate for babies and children. *(No stuffed animals, please)*

You may drop off your items on the stage in the gym April 20-29<sup>th</sup>. Please do not leave any items in the gym before April 20<sup>th</sup> because Peace Church will be using the gym for three large functions during the weeks prior to April 20<sup>th</sup>.

Plan to tell your friends and neighbors about this Huge Children's Garage Sale, and stop in to shop for your children. All proceeds from the Garage Sale will go toward the purchase of new Playground Equipment.

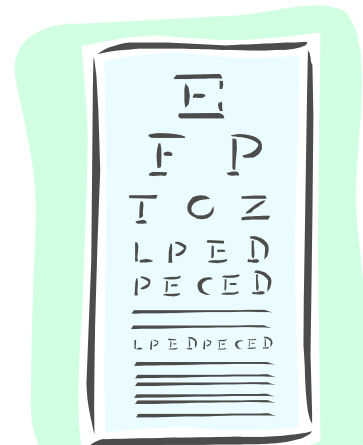
Thank You!

## *Vision & Hearing Screening*

Vision and Hearing Technicians from the Will County Health Department will be at our preschool to conduct Vision and Hearing Screening for the Children on the following dates:

Tuesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-11:30	Early Learning T-TH Rms. 115 & 116, Discovery T-H-F (AM)
Tuesday, April 28 <sup>th</sup>	12:30-3:00	Early Learning T-H (PM) Rm. 116 Discovery T-H-F (PM), Kinderbridge
Wednesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-11:30	Early Learning M-W Rm. 115 Discovery M-W-F Rm. 116
Friday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>	9:00-11:30	Creative Beginners Monday and Friday Re-screen for students from other classes

You will receive a "Practice Game" prior to the screening. Please review it with your child prior to the date of his screening. It is important that you talk with your child about the "Games" the screeners will be playing with him, and practice playing the games in order for him to understand what is expected of him during the screening. This will help us to avoid an inconclusive screening result for your child because he did not understand what to do. These screenings have been beneficial in early detection of children with vision and hearing problems at our preschool in the past. However, the result of this screen is not sufficient for the Kindergarten requirement of a vision exam by an ophthalmologist prior to entering Kindergarten.



---

### *Parent/Teacher Conferences for Creative Beginners Classes*

Monday, April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Creative Beginners (Monday)	No Class this day
Friday, May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Creative Beginners (Friday)	No Class this day

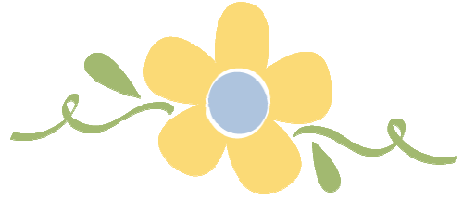
**Please sign-up on the Conference Schedule posted on the Class Clipboard**

---

### *Peace Community Preschool Integrated Pest Control Policy*

Pest Control Application will be applied to the building perimeter on April 20<sup>th</sup> after 1:00 pm

**CREATIVE BEGINNERS Monday & Friday**  
**Mrs. Slager and Mrs. Muellerschoen**



**Spring Bible Verse** - "*Jesus has Risen*" Matthew 28:6

We have finished up our Bear unit and will be having a "Bear Picnic" with a special friend - the children's favorite teddy bear from home. The children can bring their special friend to preschool on **Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> or Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>**. We will have a tasty snack made with a bear's favorite food - HONEY! So please help your child pick out their favorite teddy bear and bring it to preschool on the above dates.

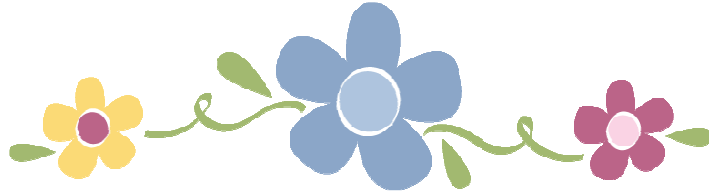
Our last day of preschool before Easter vacation will be on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> or Monday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. The children will be coloring Easter eggs and we will have an Easter Egg Hunt outside (weather permitting). We will also be making egg salad for a special snack. There will not be a newsletter in April because of Easter vacation. Please enjoy this time with your family!

After Easter vacation, the children will learn about how plants grow from seed and they will even plant their very own green bean seed, which you can transplant into a pot or your vegetable garden at home when it is warmer outside. The Parent-Teacher Conferences for both Creative Beginners classes have been scheduled for the Monday (Monday's class), April 27<sup>th</sup> or Friday (Friday's class), May 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. The sign-up sheet will be in each classroom for the next few weeks. Each conference should last approximately 15 minutes. This is a special time that is set aside for parent (s) and teachers to share information regarding their child, so we request that children not attend this meeting.

The children from both Creative Beginners classes will be going to the Children's Farm on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. The parents will be providing transportation to the Children's Farm. The preschool office will be sending more information regarding this fieldtrip after we return from Easter vacation. We will still have class on Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> and Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. These dates will be our last day of preschool and we will have a special day planned for the children.

Spiritually, we will be reviewing what the children have learned throughout the preschool year. We have learned that God loves them, that God made them special, and that we can talk to God by praying to him at anytime during the day. We talked about our special friendship that we have with Jesus, God's son.

In Christ's Love,  
Mrs. Slager  
Mrs. Muellerschoen



**EARLY LEARNING Mon/Wed & Tues/Thurs**  
**Mrs. Marquardt and Mrs. Lucas**

**April Bible Verse:** *"It is true! The Lord has risen."* Luke 24:34

April is here and will be filled with many Easter activities along with a special field site visit to Pilcher Park. We will be learning about the very first Easter. We will learn about Jesus arrival in Jerusalem, the Last Supper, the crucifixion and the resurrection. We will learn the Easter story through activities and crafts. Please talk with your child each week to discuss the topics covered, so they can express any questions or concerns with you. We will be doing a planting project in April and we are in need of knee high stocking. Please bring in a knee high by Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance.

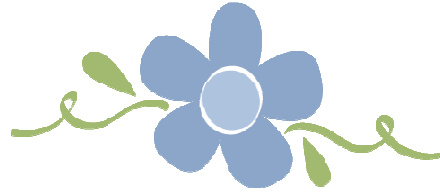
As a reminder, please bring *show-and-tell* when you are the parent helper. The children look forward to this. Please also consider changing your child's extra clothes, many of them are from the beginning of the year and may have become quite small. We will be going out as much as weather permits and you never know what they may encounter.

**Here are the important dates for April and May:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| April 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup>   | Easter Celebrations in class: Please bring 6 hard boiled eggs to be colored  |
| April 10-19 <sup>th</sup>                 | Easter Break   |
| April 20 <sup>th</sup>                    | Back to Class  |
| April 22 <sup>nd</sup> & 23 <sup>rd</sup> | Field Site Visit to Pilcher Park: more information to come.  |
| May 6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup>     | Mothers Day Tea - Mom's please plan to attend at 10:30 am<br><i>No siblings please.</i> Dads, we will need your help with this event - please watch for the sign up. |
| May 14 <sup>th</sup>                      | Field Trip to The Children's Farm for Both Early Learning Classes  |
| May 20-21 <sup>st</sup>                   | Last Day of Preschool  |

Happy Easter!!!  
With God's Love  
Mrs. Lucas  
Mrs. Marquardt





**EARLY LEARNING Tues/Thurs AM & PM**  
**Mrs. Floyd & Mrs. Muellerschoen**

**April Bible Verse:** *"The angel said, "Jesus is not here. He has risen." Matthew 28:6*

Signs of spring are all around us. The robins have returned, new growth is peeking through the ground, and the spring weather teases us. The children do enjoy going outside, so please dress them appropriately. It has been a bit muddy out but it will dry out soon. Most of the children in the classes are able to put on their own coat and some can zip all by themselves. Please encourage your child to learn to put on their coat if they aren't already doing so now.

In preparation for Easter, the children are hearing stories from the Bible about the miracles of Jesus. Feeding the 5000, healing the sick, and calming the storm are a few of the stories read. As we get closer to Easter, the classes will hear the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem, His arrest and death, and His miraculous resurrection. The children have learned a prayer song and are encouraged to share prayer requests so we can all pray for each other. Easter break begins on Good Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> and classes resume the week of April 20<sup>th</sup>.

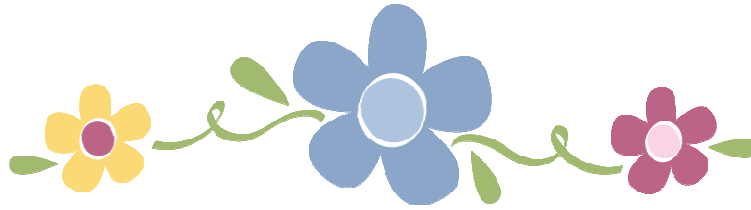
The children will be learning about the signs of spring. We will talk about the birds returning, the bugs that are visible in the gardens, and the flowers beginning to grow. In conjunction with this, the classes will take a field sight visit to the bird haven at Pilcher Park on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Please note that parent drivers will be needed for this trip. The children will have the opportunity to walk through the greenhouse and see beautiful spring flowers and then plant a houseplant that they will bring home. The fee for this trip is \$4.00 per child which covers the cost of the clay pot and the houseplant.

The students have been working hard at writing and recognizing their names. We have seen so much growth in each child. Just a reminder – please remind your child to use an upper case letter for the first letter of their name and lower case letters for the rest of their name if they practice at home. The classes are beginning to recognize and count the numbers 1-10. Patterning and graphing are also presented.

Vision and Hearing screening is April 28<sup>th</sup>.

May 14<sup>th</sup> is the field sight visit to the Children's Farm in Palos.

We wish you a blessed Easter filled with God's love and mercy.



**DISCOVERY T/TH/F AM & PM**  
**Mrs. DeGroot & Mrs. Teske**

**Memory verse March** – *"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."* I Corinthians 10:31

**Memory verse April** - *"Praise the Lord! It is good to sing praises to our God. It is good and pleasant to praise Him."* Psalm 147:1

We will be talking about different ways to praise God. We will share with the children that they can praise God through their songs, their prayers, and learning the verses of praise from the Bible. During the Lenten season we will be talking about the last week of Jesus' life. Through His life we will help the children to learn that God forgives, and His son's sacrifice on the cross is the debt paid for us. We will help the children learn about forgiving others, and asking God to forgive them.

The weeks are flying by as the children continue to work hard on their Letter Books and Number Books. We have been reviewing the upper and lower case letters and their sounds. We are also learning to sound out three letter-rhyming words. As the children continue to work on improving their first and last names using the upper and lower case letters, we see much improvement. We have also been working on patterning and opposites. In April we will be sending home each child's address inside of a cut out house. Please post their address in a very visible spot for them to take note of each day. Review verbally their address with them, and have them bring their house back to school when they can recite it. It is important for each child to know their address in case they are lost or separated from you.

An important part of our day is the "Free Choice Time". Play can be effective and enjoyable, and is the child's most useful tool for preparing himself for the future and it's tasks. Play's function is to help develop cognitive and motor abilities, and socialization. It allows them to express emotions, and develop vocabulary. Play teaches the child, without him being aware of it, the habits most needed for intellectual growth, such as stick-to-itiveness, which is so important in all learning. A child at play begins to realize that he need not give up in despair if a block doesn't balance neatly on another block the first time around. With the challenge of building a tower, he gradually learns that even if he doesn't succeed immediately, success can be his if he perseveres. Dramatic play gives the child an opportunity to pretend, which is very important to children for

later academic success in school. When children pretend, they have to recall experiences that they have had, and have to recreate them. To do this they have to picture these experiences in their mind. Children need unstructured play because it is an important part of their learning.

Works Cited:

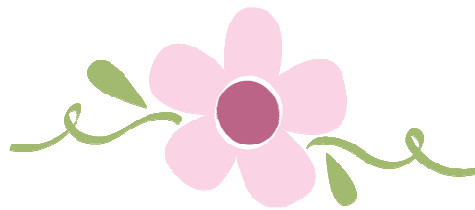
Diane Trister Dodge and Laura J. Colker. The Creative Curriculum for early Childhood 2001

Claudia Kalb. Playing Ye Olde Way Sept. 2003: 27-28

### **Reminders:**

- ✓ Vision and hearing screening will be on April 28<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Our field trip will be to the play "Max and Ruby" on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>

Have a Blessed Easter!



### **DISCOVERY Mon-Wed-Fri Mrs. Spreadbury and Mrs. Thomas**

**April Bible Verse:** *"Praise the Lord! It is good to sing praises to our God. It is good and pleasant to praise Him."* Psalm 147:1

April is a month to rejoice and sing songs of praise to God. It is the month with Easter. Jesus has risen! He is alive! He beat death and saved us all. It is good to praise the Lord!

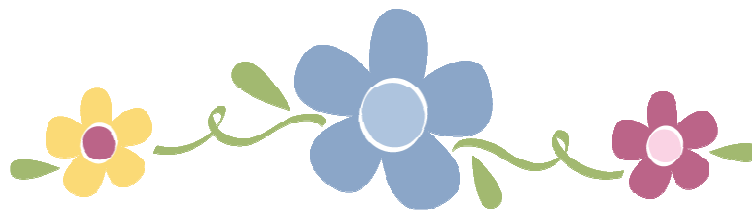
The class will be learning about the Easter Story. We will read from the Discovery Bible about what happened on Psalm Sunday, the Last Supper, Jesus' death on Good Friday and his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. We will explain forgiveness of sins and God's amazing love for us. We will talk about some family traditions celebrating Easter. It is a very emotional and exciting time. With Easter you always think of spring. During the month of April, Spring is in full bloom because nature comes to life, just like Jesus. We will learn about this new life such-as flowers, plants, butterflies and frogs.

Our Spring Break will be from April 10<sup>th</sup> to April 17<sup>th</sup>. We wish everyone a very Blessed Easter and a wonderful time with family and friends.

When we return, the children will work on learning their home telephone numbers and home addresses. We will continue our alphabet books, and number books. "*Max and Ruby*" is the play we will attend on Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be no school on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent home at a later date. Screening for Vision and Hearing will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> during class.

During the month of May we will discuss Jesus' Parables and what they mean. We will complete our alphabet books and review the letters and numbers. An up and coming event in May will be a field trip to the *DuPage Children's Museum* in Naperville. More information will be sent home later.

Thank you parents for all your help and support; we greatly appreciate it.



**KINDERBRIDGE**  
**Mrs. Placzkowski and Mrs. Thomas**

**April Memory Verse:** *"Praise the Lord! It is good to sing praises to our God. It is good and pleasant to praise Him!"* Psalm 147:1

We have been talking about the many ways that we can praise God. We can praise Him with our prayers, songs, dancing and learning Bible verses. We have praised Him for all the signs of spring that we have noticed, the birds chirping, the grass turning green, the flowers starting to pop their heads out of the ground. Spring is here and we praise God for that!

Easter will soon be here! We have been learning about Jesus' life and now we will also learn about his death on the cross and his resurrection. We know that Jesus is our friend and our protector. He will always love us and never leave us. Praise God always!

We were so thrilled at the number of red hearts we received from our Read-A-Thon. There are so many benefits to sitting down with your child and reading to them. Thank you all for participating. If you have not turned in your donations, please do so as soon as possible.

*"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."* Genesis 1:1. We are teaching the children how important it is to keep our earth clean by reducing, reusing and recycling. It is easy and fun to do. We now have a recycle bin in our classroom for paper products. Ask your child about our "trip to the lake for a picnic".

We are working hard on our alphabet and number books. It will be fun to see Kelly the Caterpillar turn into a beautiful butterfly after she eats the whole alphabet.

In April, we will have our vision & hearing screening. We also have a field trip to see "Max and Ruby".

*"Behold, children are a gift from the Lord."* Psalm 127:3

Thank you for sharing your children with us every day!

