

Genesis Early Childhood Program News

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Spiritual Connection

From the Director Mary Davis and Melanie Gehrt:

Prayer is Task 4 in the Catechetical Framework. This is a huge opportunity for you to help your children engage in the Faith. Here are some of the concepts we can convey:

- Catholics begin prayers with the Sign of the Cross.
- There are many ways to pray.
- Families pray together.
- People pray at special times during the day.

There are so many ways to pray as a family. Here are some of our favorites:

- Before bed, read from a Children's Bible
- Pray a decade of the Rosary (kids can lead)
- Pray before meals
- Pray with your Church family at Mass
- Bless your children before going to School



Upcoming Events

DONUTS WITH DAD will be at 8:45 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 4** and **Thursday, April 5** in the Parish Hall. Please make plans to attend this event. The children really love to have their dads at their school!

CLASS PICTURES will be taken on **Wednesday, April 18** and **Thursday, April 19**. Don't be late as we will begin promptly at 9:15 a.m. Order forms will be sent home soon and payment must be received prior to picture day.

FUN IN THE SUN DAY will be **Wednesday, April 25** and **Thursday, April 26!** The children really enjoy this day in the water and sun! Look for more information and a schedule to come home later with all the details.

SPRING FESTIVAL will be the weekend of April 28-29. Once again, Genesis will be hosting an information and activity booth run by Genesis staff and parent volunteers. A Sign Up Genius email will be sent out for those who would like to volunteer for a short time slot.

MOTHER'S BLESSING will begin in the church at 1:15 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 9** and **Thursday, May 10**. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this special event.

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH!



Letters of the Month:	Nn, Dd
Numbers of the Month:	16, 17 and 18
Color of the Month:	Yellow, Gray and Green
Shape of the Month:	Oval
Rhyme of the Month:	Mary Had a Little Lamb Old Mother Hubbard and 1,2 Buckle My Shoe
Themes of the Month:	"Does a Dinosaur Roar?" and "Spring Has Sprung"



CURRICULUM CORNER

Integrating literacy connections across the curriculum can make an enormous impact to the overall experience of reading a book. Last month, we used "The Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle across the curriculum and throughout all the ages of our program to learn many concepts. This book packs lots of concepts into one by covering sequence, progression of time, the process of metamorphosis, butterfly art projects, and sequencing metamorphosis. Later this month, we will release the live butterflies that we have watched transform through their life cycle. A few other books used throughout the year with lots of literary connections have been "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See?", "Goldilocks and the Three Bears," "Pete the Cat" books, and "Green Eggs and Ham." Pauline Press has some good children's books including St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body by Monica Ashour.

4 YEAR OLDS

During April, the 4 year olds will focus on language development and science concepts. For example, the 4s will play with the descriptive words (adjectives) modeled after the book, "One Duck Stuck" by Phyllis Root. Dinosaurs and dads will dominate our other center areas during this month. We will explore science concepts talking about seasons, weather and space.

3 YEAR OLDS

We will have a roaring good time this month learning about dinosaurs. We are also looking forward to hearing fun things about our dads during our "Question of the day" such as "Is your dad tall or short?" and "Does your dad have hair?" Our science curriculum will also focus on space and dramatic play with mission control.

2 YEAR OLDS

This month the 2s will be enjoying some early science concepts in the classroom. We will explore dinosaurs, dinosaur eggs and dinosaur bones in our sensory tub as we become a Paleontologist for the day. We have been practicing our fine motor skills with cutting and tearing paper for some fun Easter projects.

18 MONTH OLDS

In April, the 18 month olds will use larger manipulative toys and finger painting to build fine motor skills; identify objects in books and encourage sharing. Our art projects this month will include gifts for Dad and Mom. Shhh, it's a secret!

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT: Spring has sprung in Music and Movement! We will work on large motor skills by stepping like chickens and stomping like dinosaurs. We are learning the songs for the End of Year Program as well. So, if your child is singing and dancing to new songs – Don't watch! It's supposed to be a surprise!

BIBLE: We will continue to discuss Easter and how Jesus returns to heaven as well as how the Holy Spirit helps the church and us. Furthermore, we will talk about dads and the beautiful role model St. Joseph is for us.