

GOOD



TIMES

A Note from Jeanie

I begin the month of November in the year 2010 with, for lack of a more creative way to say it, AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE! Thankful for this time of year when giving thanks becomes more of a conscious practice for us all, but this year with even greater reason. The beginning of this school year was one we won't soon forget with our flood and the chaos to follow, but even in that time of heightened anxiety, we experienced incredible generosity and care from all around us. Our church provided spaces for us to camp out, our neighbors were patient with the traffic and noise that came with repairs and construction, our families encouraged, called and sent offers to help, and our faculty and staff went above and beyond to make things right!! We are grateful for having learned so much and understand fully the importance of working together for good.

Moving through the school year with your children is a joy and a delight for us! The children returned to school ready to take on the year and everything that the teachers could provide was welcomed with open hearts and minds. The pumpkin patch was a great hit and our weather provided for great times to spend outdoors. I truly believe that physical fitness was a side effect of having the pumpkins this year, as the children hefted, hauled, arranged, carted, and stacked those things each and every day! We are grateful for your trust in us!

Plans and preparations have continued in full force for this month's Night at Good Shepherd, to be held on November 11th. The time and thought that has already taken place promises a wonderful event for us all. We are grateful for the, oh, so many ways that you find to give to us!

The importance of family and friends remains central to all that we do and all that we are this time of year. I pray that each of you finds reason to celebrate, to share with others, and to be grateful for God's blessings!

FLY ME
TO THE MOON
LET ME PLAY
AMONG THE STARS

NOVEMBER 11:
OUR ANNUAL
NIGHT AT
GOOD SHEPHERD
IS ALMOST HERE!

BY LAURA CRADDICK, NGS PUBLICITY CHAIR

This year's "Fly Me to the Moon, Let Me Play Among the Stars" theme is inspired by the 65th anniversary of Good Shepherd Episcopal School. The theme calls to mind Hollywood legends and big band music popular in the mid-40's like Frank Sinatra, Audrey Hepburn, and Marilyn Monroe. The committee has been hard at work planning this big night out for parents, so please join us November 11 at 7pm where you will find the Parish Hall magically transformed into a bygone era. This is Good Shepherd's largest fund raising event of the year and a wonderful opportunity for fun and fellowship with GSES parents. Please join us for an amazing dinner donated through the generosity of GSES former parents Diana and Mike Young, see our amazing one of kind handmade classroom quilts by GSES mom and Fly Me to the Moon Co-Chair Suzanne Freid, Raffle, Silent Auction and Live Auction. There is no charge for this event. We can't wait to see you there for what promises to be a special night of friends, food and fellowship celebrating 65 years of Good Shepherd Episcopal School!

Welcome to the 2010-1011 **LITERACY FOR LIFE** of Good Shepherd Episcopal School!

BY ANN HORAN, LITERACY FOR LIFE CHAIR

We want to celebrate the importance of reading in all of our lives! As parents we want to encourage a love of learning and reading in our children. Reading allows us to connect with our own children and allows us to connect with other parents around shared child rearing interests, concerns and joys. The overall theme of the Literacy program this year will center on the importance of reading as a family activity. This year Literacy for Life consists of four separate programs: Literature on the Lawn, Parent Enrichment, Parent Resource Library and “Bag It Up”.



Office Manager Jamie Estes reads to her granddaughter Elizabeth Estes.

1) LITERATURE ON THE LAWN

Reading – it’s all in the family! This is a celebration of shared reading among our families. On these special days, blankets are set up on the lawn during morning drop-off and the arriving children will be treated to stories read by volunteering moms, dads, grandparents and special friends. It is also pajama day which elicits many giggles. Children, parents and teachers are encouraged to wear their pj’s and snuggle on blankets while they read books together.

2) PARENT ENRICHMENT

This is your chance to read and discuss books with other parents, to attend panel discussions, to listen to great speakers on relevant parenting topics, and just to have a laugh with other parents about the joys and challenges of raising children.

3) THE PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

Want to learn more about parenting or have questions about a certain issue? A collection of books and videos that cover a variety of parenting topics is currently housed in the school office and is available for check-out to all. There are books for adults and books for children on topics such as: effective parenting, the

death of a loved one, raising siblings, and the importance of self-worth.

Some current book titles are “The Blessing of a Skinned Knee” by Wendy Mogel, Ph.D., and “How to Talk So Kids Will Listen and Listen so Kids Will Talk” by Adele Faber and Elaine Mazlish. Some current videos include Trevor Romain’s “What on Earth Do You Do When Someone Dies?” and a DVD from last year’s Good Shepherd speaker and the author of “I Thought It Was Just Me (but it isn’t),” Brene Brown.

4) “BAG IT UP” This is a fabulous new program that began last year! Once a week during the spring, children in the kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes can check out reading bags and take them home. These fun themed bags hold several kids’ books and a hands-on activity related to the reading that the parent and child can do together. This is designed to encourage and support children’s reading

activities at home. Participation is voluntary- this is not a graded or monitored gig. We guessed that it was likely that you are already reading and sharing story time with your kiddos, so this kit should just provide new books for that existing tradition.

An example of a “Bag It Up” is the Penguin themed bag which contains the chapter book Magic Tree House #40: “Eve of the Emperor Penguin” by Mary Pope Osborne. It also contains the picture book “365 Penguins” by Jean-Luc Fromental. Also in the bag is a penguin snow-globe craft kit with instructions so that parent and child can make their own penguin snow globe.

Dad, Wayne Brumley, reads to the kindergarteners.



LITERACY FOR LIFE CALENDAR 2010 -11 SCHOOL YEAR

WED, OCT 20 & THURS, OCT 21

Literature on the Lawn

THURS, NOV 4 & FRI, NOV 5

Book Sale of "The Whistling Season" & "The Portable Pediatrician"

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

"The Whistling Season" by Ivan Doig
Book Club Discussion / 9:00 am to 10:00 am

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

"The Portable Pediatrician"

by Laura W. Nathanson

Discussion of Developmental Stages of Children, Pediatrician and Psychologist lead Panel
11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Panel Participants:

W. T. "Buddy" Langston, MD (J.J.'s favorite pediatrician grandfather)
and Suzanne Mouton-Odum, PhD

DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED

National Recognized Award Winning

Author Trevor Romain Speaks

"Bullies are a Pain in the Brain" / 7:00 pm

THURS, MAR 10 & FRI, MAR 11

Literature on the Lawn, Dads Read

THURSDAY, MAY 12

Volunteer Appreciation and Thank You
Cocktail Hour with Austin Comedy Troupe,
"Dad's Lab"

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

VOLUNTEERS

Chair of Literacy for Life- Ann Kendrick Horan

Co-Chairs Literature on the Lawn-

Olivia Osborne, Donna Baldwin

and Matt Paulson

Co-Chairs Parent Enrichment-

Ann Kendrick Horan and Mari Allan Hanna

Bag It Up Co Chairs-

Courtney Hill and Christine Grable

Graphics- Missy Allen

And a host of other fabulous volunteers.

CURRICULUM KINDERGARTEN!

BY ALEXIS GLEITMAN,
LEAD TEACHER

Recently as I was cleaning out my father's desk I came across a cassette tape of my daughter, Rachel, then 5 years old, telling my Dad all about Good Shepherd kindergarten. Of course at first, my breath just caught and my heart went pitter patter as I listened to her sweet little voice and her adorable giggle. Immediately I was swept back to those wonderful days of her childhood. Now, Rachel is 21 and immersed in her college studies. Where did the time go?? How quickly it passed.

All too often in our daily lives, we get caught up with the world around us and the expectations placed upon our children to be successful, be the best and to be well prepared academically. And it is a dangerous road to take, for the risk of depriving our children of what really is important for their natural growth.

How lucky we are at Good Shepherd to honor what is important - their childhood. How fortunate we are that our children can enjoy learning in a safe nurturing environment that emphasizes play and keeps a balance on academic instruction. We strive to make sure our Kindergarten children are well prepared academically to enter first grade - and at the same time make sure we honor their childhood and need to play.

It is a privilege to work with two wonderful women who compliment our Kindergarten program.

Catherine Heidrick brings laughter and joy to the children as she teaches them math concepts with a variety of materials. What fun it is to learn fractions by cutting up pancakes or sorting and graphing candy corn! What better way to learn about measurement and shapes than by designing an original house for The Three Little Pigs.

Jennifer Timmermans, so very gifted and artistic, exposes the children to the world of artists and different mediums. They create their own Georgia O'Keefes or Jackson Pollack's by splatter painting on the back fence. She inspires their artistic confidence as she encourages them to "fill the paper with color".

Learning to read and write is fun as the children journaling everyday, write original stories and create class books.

Life in the Kindergarten is all about children learning everything they need to know - but on their own time and in a place where they can feel successful.

We love being here with the children each and every day. We want them to enjoy these precious years of early childhood, much like my Rachel did, so they can have as fond of memories of Good Shepherd as she does.

2010-11 Kindergarten
and teachers,
Catherine Heidrick,
Alexis Gleitman,
and Jenifer Timmermans





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Statement of Mission

*Within a nurturing Christian community,
 Good Shepherd Episcopal School builds in
 each child the foundation for good character
 and a lifelong love of learning.*

DAD'S B★B★Q

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13
 THANK YOU
 JENNIFER CAMPBELL
 & COMMITTEE



LEFT: Alum, Bray Stratton



ABOVE: Gigi Thomas
 LEFT: Hardin Hanson



BELOW: Elise & Rob Bridges and
 lots of kiddos and Dads!



ABOVE: Gus Stratton
 LEFT: Isabella Stanton



CALENDAR

November 2010

THURSDAY & FRIDAY,
 NOVEMBER 4 & 5
Literacy for Life Books for Sale

TUESDAY,
 NOVEMBER 9
Drop Off & Donuts

THURSDAY,
 NOVEMBER 11
A Night at Good Shepherd

TUESDAY,
 NOVEMBER 16
Coffee with Jeanie

MONDAY-FRIDAY,
 NOVEMBER 22-26
*Thanksgiving Holidays
 No School*