

WINFREE PRESCHOOL NEWS

December, 2011



Rebecca and Ayoko

CHRISTMAS PRESCHOOL CHAPEL

A worship service for three, four and five year-old children will be held in the church sanctuary on December 13 at 9:30 and 11:45, and on December 14 at 9:30, 11:45 and 3:30. We plan to have a short worship that is appropriate for young children and will include music and a story about Jesus' birth. We would love to have many parents join us. Extended Care will be available daily through December 16. Lucky Lunch will be available December 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, and 16 from 12:15 – 3:00. Stop by the school office or phone us at 794-1388 to reserve your child's place in this fun program beginning November 21.

YOU ARE INVITED

You are invited to any or all of our special Christmas activities and services at the church during December. Worship services and Sunday School classes are offered at 9:30 and 11:00. Special Christmas events include:

November 28	7:00 PM	Decorating the Crismon Tree
December 11	5:00 PM	Christmas Musical Program
December 24	4:30 PM	Family Worship Service, Christmas Pageant for kids
	7:00 PM	Traditional Christmas Eve Worship Service
December 25	11:00 AM	Christmas Sunday Family Worship

DECEMBER CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

The children in all our classes will be learning about the birth of Jesus throughout December. We will be learning songs, hearing stories, and dramatizing the nativity story. Classes will also be making decorations for their rooms, making gifts and talking about how families get ready for the holiday season. **School will dismiss after classes and Extended Care on Friday, December 16, for the Christmas holidays and will resume on Monday, January 2, 2012.**

TUITION

Please remember that tuition (one month in advance) is due on the first of each month. If you are behind, please catch up before December 16 so our teachers can receive payroll before the holidays.

CHRISTMAS MITTEN TREE

Beginning December 1, we will be putting a Christmas tree in the preschool hallway, which the children will decorate with new mittens and gloves. These mittens will be given to The Salvation Army for distribution to children and families in need. The parents and children who are able to purchase mittens or gloves for our tree will be warmed from the inside out by this small contribution. Our preschoolers will have a tangible way to learn about this season of giving and thinking about others who are less fortunate. Stop by the school and watch our tree become more and more beautiful as we cover it with mittens.

DECEMBER LUCKY LUNCH HOURS ARE LONGER

Lucky Lunch hours will be extended from 12:15 until 3:00 in December for \$20.00 each day. December Lucky Lunch is always popular with children and parents. Children will eat lunch, rest briefly, play outdoors and make a Christmas craft. If weather prohibits outdoor play, a short Christmas video may be shown as children wait for parents. Sign-ups are made in the school office for each day, beginning November 21. Stop by or phone (794-1388) to see if space remains in the day(s) you desire. **Note: You must sign up anew for December Lucky Lunch days. Also, don't forget to reserve your child's place in January Lucky Lunch starting December 12.**

WINFREE'S BARNES AND NOBLE BOOK SALE A SUCCESS!

A **BIG** thank you to all who helped support our book fair. It was a successful fund raiser, earning \$200 for the school. We would like to especially thank our Barnes and Noble Fair Coordinator, Kathleen Martin, our musical presenter, Jeff Beatman, all the teachers who came to meet and greet families, and the many family members and friends who shopped at Barnes and Noble stores everywhere or on line at www.bn.com/bookfairs. We couldn't have done it without you!

WINFREE T-SHIRTS MAKE TERRIFIC GIFTS

Winfree Preschool T-shirts are available to delight your child for Christmas. We have several children and adult sizes. Winfree holds occasional "Spirit Days" throughout the year when all children who have a Winfree shirt may wear it for a fun day. Also, we hope that every child on a field trip will sport his or her shirt for added security. T-shirts of all sizes cost \$10.00 and are available in the school office.

SNOW CLOSINGS

In the event of bad road conditions, Chesterfield County Public School (CCPS) closings will apply for Winfree. **If CCPS is opening one hour late, we will open one hour late (10:15 AM with no early extended care). If CCPS is opening two hours late, we will open two hours late (11:15 with no early care).** Use your own discretion about driving your child in late or picking up early as driving conditions change. If snow begins falling after school has begun, we will contact afternoon classes and extended care parents by phone if we intend to close early. Be sure that we have accurate phone numbers and cell phone numbers so that we can reach you if necessary. In addition, you may check out our web site, www.winfreepreschool.org, for closings and other announcements.

HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

Place a manger scene or Christmas card showing the manger scene where all family members can see it.

Open a Bible to Luke 2.

Sing "Away in a manger" or another familiar carol.

Ask your child to tell the story of Jesus' birth.

Pray, thanking God for Jesus.

Sing the song, "Oh, how I love Jesus" or "Jesus Loves Me."

COOKIE DOUGH STILL LEFT

We have a few cookie dough tubs left in our freezer for sale. They are available for \$12.00. Stop in the school office if you would like to purchase one more cookie dough tub to make your Christmas baking easier.

REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013

Families are already asking about registration for next fall. Specific details and a re-registration application will be included in the January newsletter, which you should receive during December.

This year we are thrilled to be able to report that tuition and fees will not be increased in light of current economic concerns. New families have been applying since October, but never fear, all current preschool families and church members will have priority in early January.

This year, re-registration applications will be accepted any time during the two weeks after Christmas break. If there is a log jam of too many families requesting a particular class, we will attempt to break the tie by calculating the number of years a family has had children enrolled in the school, with the highest number of years loyalty to Winfree earning priority for their class(es) of choice.

CHRISTMAS SONG

Christmas is such a happy time.
Hear the bells ring.
Christmas is Jesus' birthday.
Be glad and sing.

WINFREE'S WEBSITE IS THE PLACE TO GET THE LATEST NEWS!

Our website will keep you updated on all announcements, closings, recent newsletters, application and registration forms, and so much more. Go to www.winfreepreschool.org and see all the updates or contact us with your ideas and comments.

FAMILY THANKS

Thank you to the amazing parents who have volunteered in many capacities in classrooms. Your support is treasured by each of us, especially the children. We have been grateful for the contributions of birdseed, tissues, and cooking supplies. Our fall fundraisers were another marvelous demonstration of your support. Cookie Dough sales were outstanding. The school received over \$1800 from this fundraiser. In addition, several families have given cash contributions in lieu of purchasing any of these items. Generous gifts to the scholarship fund have touched our hearts. There is no greater compliment to our teachers than a scholarship gift in their honor. We are so pleased with all your support. May God bless each of you during this joyous Christmas season.