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## NEWSLETTER - MAY

### From the Director's Desk

Welcome to Spring! We are in the home stretch of the school year. I can't believe it's almost Graduation and Moving Up Day. Our three year olds and four year olds are all busily working on their programs and songs for their special celebration days. It's hard to believe I am sending out my final newsletter for the 2021-2022 school year. This year has moved at a very rapid pace with June just around the corner. We are already looking ahead to next year.

So thanks for a wonderful year. We have all of you to thank for it. You always support us and when we need to look at things from a different perspective you let us know.

Watching children grow and learn and laugh this year has help us to grow, learn and laugh with them. Each child brings us their individual view of life and their individual quirks; in so many ways it is fund and expanding and challenging for us to try to tailor Saint Gregory the Great Preschool to work for all our children. With just a little more than a month left of school, we always have a difficult time saying goodbye to all our kids, especially those moving on to Kindergarten.

We're ready for a nice relaxing Extended Preschool Program and even nicer relaxing during our July and August vacation. Enjoy your children and your summer and we will see some of you at our Extended Pre K Program in June, in September at Assessments/Meet and Greets, and for some when you stop by for a visit. We appreciate your letting us spend our time with you and your children.

## Dates to Remember

- May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Teacher Appreciation Day  
May 3<sup>rd</sup>: Staff Meeting 8 a.m.  
May 4<sup>th</sup>: Parent Zoom Meeting 7 p.m.  
May 5<sup>th</sup>: May Crowning  
May 5<sup>th</sup>: Cinco de Mayo  
May 6th: Dismissal 11:30 for all classes /  
Teacher Recognition Luncheon at Sedona's Taphouse  
May 8<sup>th</sup>: Mother's Day  
May 9<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>: Scholastic Book Fair 9 to 11 a.m.  
Mystery Reader's Week  
May 10<sup>th</sup>: Pajamarama Day  
May 11<sup>th</sup>: Muffins With Mom Threes/Fours 8:45  
May 12<sup>th</sup>: Muffins With Mom Threes/Fours 8:45  
May 18<sup>th</sup>: Ice Cream Sundae Day  
May 18<sup>th</sup>: Half Day of School for All Classes - Dismissal at 11:30 p.m.  
Quality Stars Teacher's Conference 12:30 to 2:00  
May 19<sup>th</sup>: Creativity Fair 6:30 p.m.  
May 25<sup>th</sup>: Field Day Threes  
May 26<sup>th</sup>: Field Day Fours  
May 27<sup>th</sup>: Unused Snow Day  
May 30<sup>th</sup>: School Closed  
May 31<sup>st</sup>: School Resumes  
Moving Up and Graduation Practices for 3's and 4's.  
Dismissal 11:30  
No PM CLASSES



June 1<sup>st</sup>: Moving Up and Graduation Practices for 3's and 4's  
Dismissal 11:30 NO PM CLASSES

June 2<sup>nd</sup>:: Moving Up AND Graduation Practices for 3's and 4's  
Dismissal 11:30  
NO PM CLASSES

June 3<sup>rd</sup>: Moving Up and Graduation Practices for 3's and 4's  
Dismissal 11:30  
NO PM CLASSES

June 6<sup>th</sup>: Moving Up Ceremony 9:15 A.M.

June 7<sup>th</sup>: Graduation Ceremony  
Group A: 9:15  
Group B: 10:30

June 10<sup>th</sup>: Last Day for Teacher's and Assistants

June 13<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Extension Program for Fours 8:45 to 11:30 a.m.

June 13<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> : Preschool Extension Program for Threes 8:45 to 11:30 a.m.

## Creativity Fair Themes

Robin Hughes: Springtime

Adrienne Utschig: Under the Sea



## Teacher Recognition Day

During Teacher's Recognition Week, May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 6<sup>th</sup> let us all gratefully acknowledge the wonderful teachers and assistants on our preschool staff. Let each of us take time to honor our teachers and assistants with a week long celebration of their daily commitment to our school and our children.

### Suggestions:

- A Class Scrap Book - 1 Page for each child
- A Bouquet of Flowers
- A Book for the Classroom Library
- A Pail full of School Supplies
- Personalized Stationary
- A Homemade Card designed by the student
- A Gift Card
- A Treat, such as Coffee, Latte, Tea, a Bagel/Donut
- A Spa Basket

### What Is A Teacher:

A teacher is someone who sees each child as a unique person and encourages individual talents and strengths.

A teacher looks beyond each child's face and sees inside their souls.

A teacher is someone with a special touch and a ready smile who takes the time to listen to both sides and always tries to be fair.

A teacher has a caring heart that respects and understands.

A teacher is someone who can look past disruption and rebellion, and recognize hurt and pain.

A teacher teaches the entire child and helps to build confidence and raise self-esteem.

A teacher makes a difference in each child's life and affects each family and the future of us all.



## **Monthly Themes:**

- Birds
- Caterpillars/Butterflies
- Insects
- Plants
- Flowers
- May Day
- Cinco de Mayo
- Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth
- Getting Ready for Summer

## **Mary's Month:**

The Month of May is traditionally dedicated to Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We will celebrate May by crowning the statue of our Lady in our grotto on the front lawn of the school.

## **Muffins With Mom:**

Moms start your day with a sweet treat. Your child will be so proud to have you visit their classroom. In honor of Mother's Day all our mommies are invited to come to our preschool celebration, "Muffins With Mom." This is a very special event for our children. It is an opportunity for them to show off their school to their moms and share a tasty breakfast treat. The time will be from 8:45 to 9:45 a.m. on May 11<sup>th</sup> for our fours, and May 12 for our threes.



## **Field Day:**

Field Day, our yearly event engages our children in a day that celebrates physical activity and movement. Thank you to all the teachers and assistants who helped out.



## **A Special Thank You:**

We are grateful to all the moms for volunteering their time, talents, and treasures to make our school a better place. Our Class Moms helped throughout the school year.



### A Special Thank You:

We are grateful to all our Saint Gregory the Great parents for volunteering their time, talents and treasures to make our school a better place. A special "thank you" to all our Class Moms who helped throughout the school year. Thank for the interesting visits to our classrooms, as well as special parties, welcome teas, family socials and helping hands when needed. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful families in our preschool.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER:

LAST TUITION PAYMENTS AND ANY LATE FEES INCURRED DURING THE YEAR ARE DUE ON MAY 1<sup>st</sup>. ANY FAMILY STILL IN ARREARS WILL BE NOTIFIED INDEPENDENTLY.

### Routines for a Special Summer:

When school is out, having a routine lets your youngster know what to expect and keep him/her from misbehaving or being bored. Help make days run smoothly with these tips.

- Keep Some Things Predictable: Relaxed summer days are perfect for spur-of-the-moment fun, but try to have a few activities that repeat regularly. Your child might have a play date every Tuesday or go to the park on Saturday afternoons for instance.
- Share the Plan: Each day, talk about what will happen tomorrow. You could discuss it over dinner or before bedtime. "We are going to spend the morning at Grandma's. And after that, we're going on a picnic for lunch."
- Leave Wiggle Room: Set aside time each day or week for an activity your youngster chooses. Help him/her write ideas on index cards ("Play under the sprinkler," "Finger Paint," "Visit the library.") Keep the cards, and let him/her pick one out.
- Extended Pre K Program: June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> from 8:45 - 11:30 a.m.
- Extended Program for the 3's: June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:45 - 11:30 am



## Closing Thoughts:

Minutes have turned into hours, hours into days, days into weeks, weeks into months, and all too soon another preschool year is over. Robert Louis Stevenson, the Scottish writer, tells us that we should not judge our days by the harvest we reap, but by the seeds we plant. Working with young children is much like that. We plant lots of seeds with every experience we offer our children, knowing that we may never personally see the harvest of all these seeds.

We teach with the faith that some of the seeds we plant, added to those that the children gather from all their daily experiences, will reap a full harvest of knowledge that will serve them well in life. We pray that Saint Gregory the Great will in some way guide them in their growth and development.

As I personally reflect over this year, I have many cherished memories, and most especially many new friends. That is what makes the end of a preschool year so bittersweet. While I am anxious for the renewal of spirit that summer brings, I will miss my devoted staff, my hard working parents, and most of all my laughing, smiling children. It is all of you that make Saint Gregory the Great a truly wonderful preschool.

I am eternally grateful for all of you. With the approach of summer, I hope everyone is looking forward to all the restful and relaxing things that the season can hold. Let us return to our new school year in September 2022 with a fresh spirit and heightened enthusiasm for all that a new year brings, happy to be together once again.

To our families who will be returning to us next year---I look forward to serving you again in the fall. To our families who are moving on from Saint Gregory the Great---it has been a pleasure to have you as part of our preschool, and wish you much future success. I wish everyone a safe, happy and fun filled summer.

God Bless All of You.

Ms. G

