

April 2017

Looking forward to Easter, the children are learning all about new life in God's wonderful creation. Trees are budding, flowers are blooming, we are working in our gardens and we have caterpillars and ladybug larvae that we are watching for the next step in their metamorphosis! Spring certainly provides wonderful opportunities for discovery and experiencing new life helps little ones develop a better understanding of the Resurrection!

The pre-ks and kindergarten children will have a visit from a composer and will walk across the parking lot to hear "the king of instruments", our beautiful pipe organ! Kathryn White, our wonderful organist, explains to the children how the organ works and lets them hear all the wonderful sounds it is capable of making.

Being able to see and hear real instruments helps the children with their understanding of that instrument and enhances their appreciation of music they hear at school and at home. It is so wonderful when the children hear an instrument or a piece of music and say, "That's *Nutcracker* music", or "That's from *Peter and the Wolf*". Music is truly a gift from God that can be enjoyed and appreciated all our lives.

BOOK FAIR FAMILY NIGHT ART SHOW!!!!!

Apr. 4 – Book Fair begins at 9:00 am. Family Night from 5 to 7 pm. Dinner from 5 to 6:45 pm. BOOK FAIR in the Summit Room Dinner in Fellowship Hall ART SHOW (Yellow School) Train rides, treasure hunt, tattoos and more!!! DON'T MISS IT!

Apr. 5 – BOOK FAIR continues... Apr. 6 – Last day of BOOK FAIR

Watch for more information and don't forget to volunteer. It's great fun!

CALENDAR

April 4– Art Show, Family Night, Book Fair.
April 11, 13, 25, 27 - Chapel
April 11 & 13 - Grandpas
April 5 and 6– Book Fair continues
April 14 – No School – Good Friday
April 19 – Pre-ks to sing at The Gathering

PARENT SURVEYS

Beginning Monday, April 3, please go to the Yellow School webpage and click on the link for our Parent Survey. We want to know how we are serving your needs and that of your child(ren). The survey will be available until April 28th. Watch the May newsletter for feedback. We value your opinions and suggestions. Please take a few minutes and let us know your thoughts.

EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS

Once again, the Yellow School is fortunate to have students here from University of Houston doing their observations, practicums and internships. It is an honor for us to be chosen as a training ground for future teachers and this year's group of students is exceptionally fine. They are enthusiastic and eager to learn and participate. In addition to the U of H students, we often have students from the local community colleges.

The researchers from UT Health Science Center are here again working with our children as they develop assessment tools and teaching materials for teachers all over the state. We are blessed to have access to these materials because of our working relationship with the Health Science Center.

WARM WEATHER

As the weather warms up, we will have more water play on the playground. You might want to consider adding an extra pair of shoes to your child's extra clothing in the backpack, just in case his/her shoes get wet in the process of wet (but cooling) play.

PARENTING TIPS

One of the most important activities for developing reading readiness and vocabulary building is reading to your child. It is also important for your child to see that you read and enjoy reading and that people read for many different reasons: to get news, find a recipe, for relaxation and enjoyment, etc.

Think about the following questions.

1. What types of reading materials do you have in your home?

Newspapers? Cookbooks? Magazines? Novels? Children's books? TV Guide? Encyclopedia? "How To" books? Children's books with audio tapes?

- 2. How many books does your child own?
- 3. Does your child like to sit and look at books with you?
- 4. How often do you look at books with your child?
- 5. Does your child ask to look at a favorite book again and again?
- 6. How often does your child look at books all by him/herself?
- 7. Has your child ever asked about letters or words while looking at a book?
- 8. How often does your child scribble or write?
- 9. Do you have a library card?
- 10. How often do you visit the library with your child?
- 11. Do you have a special place in your home to keep your child's books?

Never underestimate the impact you have as a role model.