



March 2017
MESSENGER

Outreach Opportunities

March chapel will be NEXT WEEK Tuesday, March 7 for Toddlers and 2-day Twos and Wednesday, March 8 for Threes and PreK in sanctuary and 3-day Twos in class rooms. We will be accepting donations of Spring stickers (or really any type of sticker) for Hope Hill elementary students. (If you wish to plan ahead for April chapel, we will once again be collecting a snack for teachers who may have forgotten their lunch or are looking to sustain their energetic teaching style - think granola bars or popcorn. This was also a big hit for providing snacks to students during academic mentoring.)

There are additional coin banks available for the children to add to throughout Lent to raise funds for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta programs that cheer up children when they must visit the hospital. See details in Coin Bank article!



Registration for Next School Year

We are pleased to report that we *almost* filled the school for next school year on the first week of registration. Tell your friends and neighbors that we have two PreK openings. Be sure to turn in your signed Enrollment Agreement with one month's deposit by March 15.

Continuing Education for our Teachers

We want to once again share our thanks for the support of our families in offering continuing education opportunities to our teachers. By closing the school on March 3, teachers are able to attend the Georgia Preschool Association Conference. Some of the many classes that we are looking forward to attending include Messy Learning: Hands-on Art Activities for Toddlers, Building an Emotionally Intelligent Classroom, Behavior CPR: Building Connections and Preventing Challenges. This wealth of information gives us exciting ideas to bring back to our classes and strengthen our knowledge of early childhood education.

Contacting the Office
 404-685-8758 calls & voice messages for MPP business

Call or text Director Melinda Sandkam's cell 404-687-0683 for urgent communications

mpp@morningsidepc.org school business and emails regarding children being sick or permission being given for someone else to pick up children
Office Hours
 Mondays-Thursdays 8 am - 4:30 pm
 Fridays 8 am - 2 pm

WELCOME BABY WILLIAM



Congratulations to the Stewart Family on the arrival of William on January 31. His big brother Owen is in the Younger Toddlers and his older big brother, Colin is a graduate of MPP.

Mission Statement

As we continue our celebration of Morningside Presbyterian Preschool's 15th Anniversary, we would like to share the important work that was done when MPP was formed that states what we believe as a community in our Mission Statement.

We come together as Morningside Presbyterian Preschool, a ministry of Morningside Presbyterian Church, in order to serve the children of our community, and to teach them that they are loved by God and accepted in this community of faith. We welcome children of all faiths, races, and nationalities and will teach them to value themselves as well as others. Morningside Presbyterian Preschool will encourage children to have concern for their family, friends, and the world around them, and will help them grow in preparation for kindergarten, first grade and beyond.

Further, the MPP Bylaws state that the Preschool Committee is the guardian of the mission statement with the responsibility to ensure it remains vital and that the school fulfills the statement. There is a strong history of this over our fifteen years. Not only has the annual work of the Committee reflected the Mission Statement, but successive Strategic Plans, including our current three year plan, have built on the foundation of the MPP Mission Statement.

WELCOME TO NEW STUDENTS WHO ARE STARTING AT MPP IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

Ellie Carey began in the Older Twos class with Ms. Heather and Ms. Morgan on March 1 as she moves into the neighborhood with parents Monica and Robert and big sister Sophie. Ian West starts in the 3-day Threes on March 6. Welcome to Ian and parents Leslie Body and Scott West. We do still have one opening in the 3-day Threes if you know of anyone moving into the neighborhood this spring.

Calendar Reminders

Last 2016-17 Tuition Due **3/1**
Remember, you can stop automatic payments now! This pays for April and your deposit last year pays for May 2017.

MPP Book Fair **8:45-1:15 each day through Thursday 3/2**

Book Fair Breakdown **Thur. 3/2 1:15**

School CLOSED **Fri. 3/3**
for teachers to attend GA Preschool Conference

In-Class Chapel for Toddlers & Twos **Tues. 3/7**

Chapel for Threes & PreK **9:15 Wed. 3/8**
In-Class Chapel 3-day Twos

Announced Tornado Drill **9:15 Wed. 3/15**

Deposit for 2017-18 Due **Wed. 3/15**

Early Registration Deadline for Summer Camp **Wed. 3/15**

Dine Out at El Taco **Tues. 3/28**

Musical Trio for Toddlers & 2-day Twos **Thur. 3/30**

Spring Break School CLOSED **Mon.-Fri. 4/3-7**



Book Fair a Great Success!



Many thanks to our volunteers led by co-chairs Michelle Spady and McCall Webster for a great Book Fair! Once we have final total, we will share how much we earned towards books from teacher wish lists. Thank you for your support!

SPRING FLING, SAT., APRIL 22

Don't be confused by the date in the picture:) This young lady was taking the Spring Fling banner to get date changed so that we can start spreading the word: SAVE THE DATE April 22. Spring Fling plans are underway! YOU are a key part to making the day happen. Watch for opportunities to sign up to help - the participation of our families makes this day possible! There will be a prize drawing, petting zoo, train, bouncies, inside play area for younger ones and a special Grill Event.

As with all our fundraisers, the Spring Fling supports the annual budget of the preschool - bringing exciting new materials to our class rooms, replacing items well used and supporting our teachers through continuing education and teacher appreciation.



WELCOMING IRISH DANCERS ON ALUMNI DAY



Since APS does not have school on Friday, March

17 when MPP does have school, we are inviting our alumni to join us 9-11 a.m.

to share memories of their preschool days, enjoy our Irish dancers (two of them are alumni themselves) and lead some activities with our current students.

Deadline to sign up is March 10. Permission form must be completed and

turned in. Adult volunteers welcome too! All are invited to waer their crazy green as it is St. Patrick's Day!!!



**Dine Out at El
Taco, Tuesday,
March 28**

Choose an easy and fun dinner on Tuesday, March 28 at El Taco on N. Highland. Be sure to tell them you are with the preschool so that we can get a percentage of the evening's profits. Feeding your family, enjoying a ladies' night and welcoming alumni are all great reasons to come out and enjoy some great food while supporting MPP.



MPP is proud to collect coins for Children's Healthcare of Atlanta!
Feb 28th through April 12th

*MPP has raised over \$9,200 since 2008...
let's surpass \$10,000 this year!*

Coin banks have been distributed and our kids have started collecting! If you still need a coin bank, please email Catherine Gordon catherine.liscum@gmail.com or Lindsay Boorman allen.lindsay0128@gmail.com who can coordinate to get you one. Use the next month to encourage your child to add coins to the bank. Maybe they will share some of their allowance, ask parents or family members to contribute, sell some toys to friends in the neighborhood, or set-up a lemonade stand! Remember, in addition to coins we will gladly accept bills and checks for Children's Healthcare as well! Coin banks will be collected on April 11th and 12th.

The money raised will help fund kid-oriented initiatives at Children's, including the Big Apple Circus Clown Care Unit. Delivering giggles and grins to patients and their families, these clowns take "kidding around" to a whole new level -- a much-needed distraction that takes patients' minds off being in the hospital.



New Last Day of School

APS has changed their last day of school to Thursday, May 25, 2017. Therefore, we also have changed our last day of school here at MPP to Thursday, May 25. Be sure to update your calendars!

Summer Camp

Weeks Filling Quickly - Don't Miss Out

Weeks 2, 3, 4 & 7 of (completed) Twos camp have gone to wait list. However, be sure

to add your child's name to wait list if you are interested in these weeks as we can consider adding a second class if there is the demand (we were able to add a second class for most weeks last summer). (Early registration cost will be honored if received by March 15). Certain weeks of (completed)

Toddlers camps are also close to filling.

And, don't forget those holiday weeks (Memorial Day & Fourth of July). We will be open four days each week. Register TODAY! The earlier we know how many would like to come to MPP Camp, the earlier we can add second classes in response to interest.

MANY THANKS TO FIESTA HOSTS

Thanks to all of you who bought tickets for the Fiesta during Fun-Raiser. And a big thank you to the the hosts: Chris & Danielle Artabasy, Anne & Will Barnette, Ali & Jon Bradway, Brendan & Carrie Branon, Hal & Kim Nuckols, Erica & Sarat Piduru, Becky & Fred Schreiber and Charles & Tish Woolley.