

Message from Rev. Bert Baetz

Recently, in our school chapel, I shared with the children about parables. I explained to the children how Jesus liked to tell stories, and these stories are called parables. On that particular day, we heard Jesus tell the parable about someone finding treasure hidden in a field. In the Jesus Storybook Bible, we could see the illustrations of the treasure chest found in the field, and the children knew that those shiny, precious jewels were valuable. Well, Jesus tells us that story to let us know just how valuable we are to God. Like the man in the parable, yes, God would sell all that he owns to buy that field and find that treasure. We are that valuable to God!

The parables are rich with meaning, and not unlike the illustrations in our Jesus Storybook Bible, the parables give us a picture of God and his kingdom. When I was a full-time history teacher in an Episcopal School (before I was ordained a priest), I used to think about our work in schools like a parable. We were "sowing seeds" with our students. Even since that time, I have seen fruit born in those same students. I have officiated some of their weddings and watched them grow up into fine young adults.

The Episcopal School environment, like the one we have at St. Peter's, is fertile ground with good soil. We are sowing seeds with the children God has entrusted to our care, and we are called to raise them up in a nurturing and loving environment.

Jesus gives us a picture of his kingdom through parables, and he also tells us that his kingdom is among us. We are blessed to be given such godly work at St. Peter's. The faculty, the parents, and the school board all share in this work given to us by God. We are living the parable, sowing seeds, and awaiting the full harvest we will come to know in Jesus Christ our Lord.





PARENT ASSOCIATION MEETING: FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH AT NOON IN TUCKER HALL.

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 8TH.

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD: APRIL 8TH THRU APRIL 12TH. CELEBRATE EARLY YEARS ARE LEARNING YEARS.

Annual Mother's Day Campaign: April 8th to May 8th.

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SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH.

SCHOOL CLOSED: FRIDAY, APRIL 19TH AND MONDAY, APRIL 22ND FOR EASTER BREAK.

<u>SKYSCRAPER DAY</u>: TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD. ALL THE CLASSES WILL BE BUILDING SKYSCRAPERS AND TOWERS FROM RECYCLED BOXES.

PLANNING AHEAD

MOTHER'S DAY CHAPEL: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH AT 9:00 A.M. MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS PLEASE JOIN US.

SPRING FLING: THURSDAY, MAY 9TH STARTING AT 6:30 P.M. AT CAILLOUX THEATER. SILENT AUCTION OPENS AT 4:30 P.M.

SEE OUR 2019-20 CALENDAR ON THIS WEBSITE. START PLANNING DAYS OFF AND VACATIONS NOW.



Message from the Parent Association: Amanda McDonald, President

Thursday, May 9th at 6:30 p.m. is Spring Fling. This is our year-end celebration in which our children do a short performance and we host a Silent Auction. Make plans to be at the Cailloux Theater at 6:10 p.m. to check in your child. We will open the Silent Auction at 4:30 p.m.

If you know of someone (yourself, family member, friend or business) who would be willing to donate an item for the silent auction, please contact the School Office. The SPPA is organizing a Silent Auction and would appreciate help in gathering donated items. Each class will be busy creating a group project. Please plan to support our auction. If you have questions about Spring Fling, please let us know.

Our next meeting is Friday, April 5th at Noon in Tucker Hall. Please join us!







What early childhood research tells us about how young children learn . . .

What you will find in our NAEYC classrooms

As adults, we are concerned with the outcomes or the product of our efforts. We want the report to look nice, the cookies to taste great, or the hedges to be perfectly straight. We participate in few activities just for the fun of doing them.

In part this is because we are not still learning how to do most of these activities. But do you remember when you learned how to play tennis or golf? Or use a new computer program? In the beginning you needed to do a certain amount of "messing around" - exploring what would happen if you did this or that.

That is the way it is with your child. Kids are learning new things all the time, and they need the freedom to try things out without worrying about the product.

Luckily, young children tend to be more involved with the process or the doing than they are with the end product or results. That is why your child may draw all afternoon yet still not be able to tell you what they drew. And why one child can pour rice back and forth between pitchers all day long, and another will string and unstring beads every day for a week.

It is hard for us adults to look beyond the product of an activity and see what the child is learning from the process. Perhaps they're learning coordination or beginning writing skills or making discoveries about triangles or gravity. They are certainly finding out that doing for one's self is very satisfying — and that builds confidence.

Be patient. Allow your child the time to grow and learn through the various processes that are part of the task. Enjoy watching his or her involvement. Later, we all can be proud of the product.

> Early Years Are Learning Years, Janet Boutin School Director





