



Angelic News

October 2014



It's October already! A huge welcome to all the new staff, children and parents who have joined our school community this year! We're glad you are here. Our new school year is off to a magnificent start! The children are becoming more comfortable with their teachers, new friends, and the school environment. October brings fall leaves, changing weather, harvest time, and lots of fun for little ones! The excitement is contagious! These days are filled with memories that will last forever! I continue to be convinced that God places little children into the lives of older persons in order to remind us daily of the miracles, wonders, and surprises of life!

We are looking forward to **BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT** on **Tuesday, October 7** when all the grownups get to come to school and visit the classrooms. We will begin at **7:00 p.m.** in the church and then we will dismiss to individual classrooms. The evening is designed to give you a glimpse into the year ahead for your child's social, emotional, and academic development while at preschool. Please remember that this is not a time to have a parent-teacher conference. If you desire to talk to the teacher about your child specifically please kindly make an appointment to do so. Each teacher wants to give you their full attention and this is not possible during a group meeting. Thanks for understanding! **This is an adult's only event. See you on October 7th!**

WHO IS "I CARE CAT"? He is a puppet who comes to visit the children. He is called I Care Cat because he cares about others and their feelings. We want to take time to prepare children to be happy, caring, loving and responsible individuals. The I Care Cat Program is an excellent teaching tool for young children. Be sure to ask your child about their friend, and mine – I Care Cat!

WHAT ARE HEARTPRINTS? A heartprint is ..."the impression left behind by a deliberate act of kindness in thought, word, or deed; a simple act of sharing God's love." When your love touches others, it leaves a heartprint behind! You cannot see heartprints because, unlike fingerprints, they are invisible. But oh, are they for real! It's more often than not the quiet kindnesses that leave their marks on our hearts and lives. It's things like a friendly smile, an arm around a weary shoulder or an unexpected hug from a child. Parents, won't you join us and make a sincere effort to leave heartprints everywhere you go — thus producing a kinder, gentler world in which to live! That's what your children will be learning to do right here in their little corner of the world at Littlest Angels! We will be using the following books this year to teach our virtues. You might just like to obtain a copy for home use too! The titles of the two books are: *HEARTPRINTS* by P.K. Hallinan and *HUMBLE HEART: A BOOK OF VIRTUES* by Amy Meyer Allen.



WHO ARE WE? We are the Little Bunnies, Busy Bees, Little Turtles, Little Bears, Little Lambs, Little Tigers, and Little Lions! Why do we have class names?

A unifying title stresses the fact that it is not the teacher's class. It is the _____ Class! It gives the children a sense of ownership and helps create a cooperative classroom. Preschool is the first community to which your children belong other than your family. We teach them to love and take care of each other. Social skills are learned. Children need to be taught the skills to help friendships grow. We end each day on a positive note and remember that each day is a day of fresh, new beginnings! And so each class ends the day by saying:

*We are the _____ Class!
We work together.
We play together.
We learn together.
We pray together.
I'll see you again for another great day!*

Reminders:

- Please try to have your children at school on time. This helps us say our “see you later’s” and begin our scheduled day. Thanks for making your drop-offs quick. We promise if your child needs you, we will call!
- Please dress your child in clothes that are easily manipulated by the child (and the teachers). That way they can go potty all by themselves and we will have fewer accidents.
- Label all clothing, backpacks, lunch boxes, etc. What a time saver for teachers this is!
- Make an effort to pick your child up on time. They get very anxious if they don't see their special grown-up at the scheduled pick-up time.
- Limit the choices in your child's lunch. A protein, fruit, vegetable and a small treat are plenty!
- **Please park your car in the center of the parking lot when you co-op.** We need to shut the gates so that the children can ride bikes during outside time and cars parked in the entrance obstruct the gate. Thank you!



Want to Fix a Wrinkled Heart?

Be an encourager!!!!!!! We all know the world can never have too many encouragers! Encouragement is inspiring someone with hope, courage, or confidence; telling someone, “You can do it!” Anyone can be an encourager! You don’t need money or special talents. You don’t even need to be the smartest person in the world. All you need is a caring and understanding heart.

May I ask you to take a few minutes right now and picture in your mind some of the people who have encouraged you along your life’s journey? People who believed in you; someone who frequently spoke words of encouragement and praise. The kind of person who made you feel like you could do it—whatever “it” was? Do you have lots of memories and mental pictures of those significant people? Do you think your life would be the same without these “cheerleaders”? Were they parents? Grandparents? Teachers? Neighbors? Pastors? Friends? Husband? Wife? Doctor? Bus driver? Siblings? A little child? A stranger?

I think that I would be right if I said that we are who we are today mostly because of all the people God placed in our lives who loved us and Be an encourager!!!!!!! We all know the world can never have too many encouragers! Encouragement is inspiring someone with hope, courage, or confidence; telling someone, “You can do it!” Anyone can be an encourager! You don’t need money or special talents. You don’t even need to be the smartest person in the world. All you need is a caring and understanding heart.

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I think that I would be right if I said that we are who we are today mostly because of all the people God placed in our lives who loved us and encouraged us along the way. I’m a sensitive person and I have to tell you that as I closed my eyes and pictured all the encouragers I have had or still have in my life, I got teary-eyed and was reminded of the great plans God has for me and how He has worked out all the circumstances in my life for good since the day I was born. He placed some very significant encouragers in my life to make that happen!

You see, God calls each of us to be an encourager. 1Thess. 5:11 says, “**Therefore encourage one another and build each other up.**” It’s not a difficult task. Encouragement can come in the form of a gentle hug, a positive note, a kind word at just the right moment, a pat on the back, a sincere smile, a simple phone call, a listening ear...and the list could go on and on.

This month at preschool our “**heartprint**” virtue is encouragement. We will be teaching the children mostly by our example. We will do some role playing scenarios and we will be correcting discouraging behavior quickly.

I encourage you to find someone to encourage today and tomorrow and the next day and the next. Be the someone that a child or friend remembers as one of their great encouragers. We can make a difference — one heart at a time.

Kathy Stinson
Director

LITTLE BUNNIES NEWS



One bunny, two bunnies, three bunnies, four; five bunnies, six bunnies, seven bunnies, look there's more! Our late start bunnies keep joining us each week - by January our Little Bunnies class will be full! What fun it is to make new friends and keep the old! The "first day of school anxieties" are settling down now and we are seeing fewer tears and more happy faces! Hooray!!!

We had a delightful time exploring "Old MacDonald's Farm" in September. We enjoyed reading many farm books, making neat farm animal projects, and of course, singing, "Old McDonald Had a Farm" many, many times! The little ones love repetition! It helps them build their "I can do it!" attitude!

Throughout the year, we will be sharing one of the children's favorite books, *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do you Hear?* by Eric Carle. This book will help us learn our colors. In September, our color was **RED**.

Our theme for October will be "All About Me!" and Halloween. Our colors of the month will be **orange** and black! We will have a Halloween Party in our classroom. We would like to invite our parents to help out by bringing special snacks. There will be a sign-up sheet for these special snacks on the bulletin board outside by our classroom door. Thanks in advance for your help!

The weather is changing each day. It is a good idea to have a light jacket to keep in your child's cubby. We do go out to the playground early in the day and it can still be a bit chilly. Please do not send your child to school in croc shoes. They tend to slip off easily and they can be dangerous on the playground and the stairs. We want each child to be safe.

Have a colorful October!
Teacher Mindy, Teacher Teresita and Teacher Ruth



BUSY BEE NEWS

The leaves are falling down,
The leaves are falling down,
Red, yellow, orange and brown,
The leaves are falling down!

In September, the Busy Bees did a lot of buzzing around the classroom and the playground discovering "their hive"! The girls and boys are doing a great job adapting to their new school, classroom, teachers, friends, and outside environment. It's great to see their beautiful smiles in the morning.

Cars, buses, hot air balloons — oh my! Our transportation theme went really well last month. The month of October will be a very exciting one as we head into fall and talk about harvest time. We will explore apples, pumpkins, colorful leaves and much more! And of course, we will be having some Halloween fun in our classroom.

We can just tell this is going to be a great school year! Happy fall!
Teacher Lisa, Teacher Dani and Teacher Lupe

LITTLE TURTLES NEWS



Welcome to all of our Little Turtle families! We are looking forward to a fun year in the Little Turtle's class!

In September we had a great time exploring turtles and other animals that live in a "pond". God created so many interesting animals for us to enjoy! We also have had a delightful time getting to know each other and learn all about our classroom routines and rules.

In the month of October, we will be taking a pretend trip to "Old McDonald's Farm"! We will also talk about the colorful season of fall. And of course, our classroom will be getting ready for Halloween too! Be on the look out for all the information regarding our Halloween Parade and classroom parties.

Our color for this month will be **orange** and our shape will be a square. We will continue to learn a new letter each week, as well.

Have a wonderful October and a safe Halloween!

God bless,
Teacher Bettina and Teacher Amanda



LITTLE BEARS NEWS

Hello and welcome to another great year in the Little Bears Class! Most everyone has adjusted to our routines and daily schedule. It's so much fun to make new friends!

Our September theme was Sea Life. We sure had lots of interesting facts to learn about all the creatures that live in the sea... humongous whales, slippery fish, great white shark and oh so many more! But, in October, we will be leaving the sea and traveling to the farm!

**Chickens, kittens, piglets too,
Fish that swim down in the pond,
Ducklings quacking all day long.
All these animals you can see
If you go to the farm with me.**

We will be talking all about farm animals and how they give us food to eat. We will also enjoy the delightful time of dress-up and pretend as we celebrate Halloween. We'll be creating cats, bats, spiders and pumpkins to decorate our classroom and your home. Our letters for the month are E, F, G and H. Our virtue is "encouragement".

Finally, we want to extend a BIG "thank you" to those parents who have had the opportunity to co-op in our classroom. It is a pleasure getting to know you. Your help is very much appreciated!

Happy Halloween,
Teacher Ana and Teacher Ariel

LITTLE LAMB'S NEWS



Happy autumn everyone!

The year has gotten off to a great start! The Little Lambs have been busy making new friends, learning our classroom routines and rules, and learning the letters S, E, and D. We have also learned that **blue** and **yellow** make **green**. Our shape for September was the oval.

We have been having a terrific time learning about dinosaurs! The Little Lambs have been working on learning what makes a carnivore different from an herbivore and learning some of the different dinosaur names. We have also learned a fun poem as part of our dinosaur theme. Ask your child to share it with you!

*Five huge dinosaurs, looking fierce and mean.
The first one said, "I eat things that are green."
The second one said, "I hatch from an egg."
The third one said, "I have big strong legs."
The fourth one said, "I can fly through the air."
The fifth one said, "I give everyone a scare!"
STOMP, STOMP, went Tyrannosaurus Rex that day,
And the five little dinosaurs all ran away...!*



In October our theme will be "At Night". We will be talking about what happens at night and learning about nocturnal animals. At the end of the month, we will enjoy preparing for and celebrating Halloween. Our virtue for October is encouragement.

Teacher Aida and I have greatly enjoyed getting to know each Little Lamb, and are looking forward to getting acquainted with each family as you co-op in the classroom.

Enjoy the beauty and blessings autumn brings!
Teacher Katie and Teacher Aida



LITTLE TIGERS NEWS

What a grrrrrrrrrrreat first couple of weeks we've had. The Tiger's Class has jumped right into our daily routine. Our September theme was apples. Our letters were L, F, and E. Our color was **yellow** and our shape was a circle.

Our theme for October will be the season of "FALL"! Our letters will be H, T, I, U, and, C. We will work on numbers 3 – 7. Our color will be **orange** and our shape will be the rectangle.

We will learn the following poem:

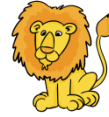
**I love all the seasons,
But autumn is the best!
Let's put on our sweaters,
Now we are dressed.
In the leaves, we love to play
And this is what we hear:
Crunch, crunch, crunch, crunch!
That's the season's cheer.**



We hope to see all of our parents at Back to School Night on Tuesday, October 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Blessings!
Teacher Robin, Teacher Anna, and Teacher Elizabeth

LITTLE LIONS NEWS



As you have hopefully seen, we have been very busy in the Little Lions class: practicing our names with lower case letters, cutting, gluing and tracing things!

October promises to be quite something too...celebrating “Autumn Treasures” and the excitement as Halloween draws near. What a great time to be outside and make observations with your child. It’s truly my favorite time of year.



This month, the Lions will enjoy new experiences as we explore more of God’s beautiful world. Later in the month we will enjoy some “Halloween Fun”.

We will continue to work with “Big Line, Small Line” letters; T and I...as well as begin to learn the “Curve Letters” U and C. We will also look how different they compare to their lower case partners.

We will identify, count and sort objects related to our theme, season and letters of the week.

All of the children seem to be adjusting well and are familiarizing themselves with the routines and classroom/school rules. I hope your child is feeling comfortable and happy about being in the Lions Class. Please let me know if I can help out in any way if they are having any problems.

Have you tried to find out what’s happening at school, only to get the answer “nothing”? Try this tonight and see if you find out some good information! Good questions to ask your child at the end of the school day are:

- What did you choose to do during “free choice” time today?
- What is the letter of the week? What words do you think start with the letter of the week?
- What happened in the story your teacher read today?

Here’s to the start of a great year!
Teacher Staci and Teacher Lori

Happy Halloween!



It's a Halloween Parade!

Friday, October 31
Family Center
9:20 a.m.



Please read the following details carefully:

This is an important day to be on time because the parade starts promptly at 9:20 a.m.!

- Bring your child to their classroom in costume dressed and ready for the parade.
- The children will change out of their costumes after the parade so please send a bag for the costume to be stored in safely.
- Each classroom will have a little Halloween fun and goodies later in the day.
- If your child does not attend school on Friday you are welcome to bring them to the Family Center and parade with them.
- No masks that cover the eyes or frightening costumes should be worn.
- The **Little Bunnies and the Busy Bees** will not be participating in the large parade in the Family Center. They will have their own celebration in the classroom. Please watch for more details. The large parade is a bit over-whelming and can be a bit scary for the little ones.

Thanks for your cooperation in these matters!
Have a safe and happy Halloween!
Littlest Angels Preschool Staff