

# Angelic News

## April 2016

### To Err is Human, to Forgive is Divine!

It is impossible to live in the world without getting hurt, offended, misunderstood, lied to, and rejected. It's a fact; making mistakes is human! It is also a fact that being a kind and forgiving person is inspired by God alone. Forgiving others is not easy, especially when we feel like we have been wronged unfairly. So forgiveness can sometimes feel like it goes beyond our human nature. As humans, we like to hold on to our feelings of "I know I am right and you are wrong!" So, when we do forgive we are being Godlike (divine)! Forgiveness is an act of love, mercy, and grace.

How do you feel when you fail to forgive? I can tell you that when I fail to forgive, I lose that peaceful and calm feeling. I feel guilty, angry, and irritated; physically, my heart rhythm changes and I get a headache. These symptoms persist until I restore the broken relationship by showing forgiveness, giving a hug, and wiping the slate clean! I am then at peace once again.

The Bible teaches us much about forgiveness. In Ephesians 4:32, we are told that we are to **forgive because we have been forgiven by God**. "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." We are to **forgive over and over in obedience to God**. "Then Peter came up and said to Him, "Lord how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times" Matthew 18:21-22. Just like Jesus' forgiveness never runs out, neither should ours.

Our virtue at preschool this month is "**I can show love when others hurt me;**" **I can be forgiving**. Forgiveness is a difficult concept for children. It is a skill. Forgiveness is taught by example and, don't we know, it requires practice. Children develop forgiveness in stages as they develop social skills and gain experiences. We explain to the children that when we practice forgiving others, we help our broken hearts heal from our hurts. We want them to understand that forgiveness brings good feelings to all parties involved.

Some children are forgiving by nature. They move on quickly, preferring to get back on course and find their happy place. But, oh my goodness, other children don't. They plant their feet in the ground and stand firm. They don't want to forgive. They would rather be miserable and alone. It's understandable. We all experience different emotions throughout the day, and sometimes it's just better to spend some time alone and think about things. And then find some resolution.

It is so important to take the time to teach children to be divine and that they can forgive. Here are some suggestions that might be helpful:

- Let the child express their sincere feelings about being hurt
- Acknowledge what happened and show some support
- Take your child away from the scene and encourage him to vent for a few minutes (stomp feet, clap hands, clap thighs, etc.)
- Talk it out with the friend after you have rehearsed the script together
- Encourage your child to be empathetic...help him think about what the other friend was feeling and why he did what he did
- Say the words...I forgive you!

“One of the secrets of a long and peaceful life is to forgive everybody everything every night before going to bed!” I’m all for happy, unbroken hearts. How about you?

P.S. We had a visit from the Menlo Park Library Librarian and she applauded the children for their great manners and attentiveness. She was very impressed! God job Littlest Angels! It’s such a joy to hear compliments and know that talking about and teaching about our virtues each month shows! Her words sure made my heart happy!

We had a great time celebrating during **WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD!** It is through children that God gives us a sense of hope and joy. They see possibilities when we see roadblocks. Children bring harmony, serving as masters at mending relationships with a hug, kiss, or a tear. They show honesty when they express anger, fear, and love. At Littlest Angels, it’s wonderful to watch children form their own identities as they become aware of who they are, what they can do, and how they fit into the larger world of friends and family. Children grow more confident as they become aware of their many successes, no matter how small. We try to make children feel special by giving them the chance to say: “I can do it all by myself! I’m a can-do kid!” Do take time every day to celebrate your children and let them know just how special they are to God and to you!

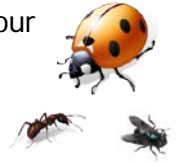
Andy Z was supposed to come and perform for us but he had a mix-up in his scheduling. He will be coming to visit in April or May. A compliment from Teacher Kathy to the kids... You waited and waited and waited so patiently for Andy Z! **YOU ARE CAN DO KIDS!!!!!!**

Kathy Stinson  
Director



## LITTLE BUNNIES NEWS

Spring has sprung and it's going to be lots of fun! We will be learning about our creepy crawly friends this month and about the birds in the sky!



We will swat pesky flies, march like ants, hop like crickets, and dance like butterflies...what a fun way to learn!

Our color of the month is yellow and our shape is the oval. We will also learn some exciting new songs; Five Little Speckled Frogs, I Had a Little Turtle, Bringing Home My Baby Bumble Bee and more!

This month we will be reading several amazing books by Eric Carle: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, *The Very Lonely Firefly*, *The Very Quiet Cricket*, and *The Very Grouchy Ladybug*.

Have an amazing April,  
Teacher Mindy, Teacher Ruth and Teacher Lupe

## BUSY BEE NEWS



Our Community Helper theme was very interesting! Our visit from the Menlo Park Police Officers was a hit! Celebrating the boys and girls during the Week of the Young Child was loads of fun! The Busy Bees are getting to be such Can Do Kids!



Honk, honk  
Rattle, rattle, rattle.  
Crash, beep, beep!

The month of April is all about transportation – zoom, zoom, and more zoom! The Wheels on the Bus and Little Red Caboose are just a couple of the songs we will be singing this month. We will be learning all about how to get from here to there, up in the air or on the ground!

Red means STOP, green means GO, yellow means SLOW down!

Happy Spring!  
Teacher Lisa and Teacher Lindsay



## LITTLE TURTLES NEWS

Happy Spring everyone! We hope you all enjoyed your Easter vacation with your family and friends!

We will be finishing our ABC Book this month with our letters X, Y, and Z and start our numbers 1, 2, 3. Our color will be pink and our shape is a diamond. The nursery rhyme will be Mary, Mary Quite Contrary, How Does Your Garden Grow?



The Little Turtles will be learning about God's beautiful creatures that live in the rainforest, our creepy, crawly friends...bugs, and our new season of Spring! We will also be planting some vegetable seeds and learning how they grow.

We will finish the month getting ready for our special Mother's Day Tea party/luncheons which will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. Be watching for your special invitation! If you are unable to attend, please send in a special someone in your place. The date you are to attend will be on your invitation.

Thank you Little Turtle families for all your help in the classroom and at home! It is truly appreciated!

Sincerely,  
Teacher Bettina and Teacher Teresita

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## LITTLE BEARS NEWS



"April showers bring May flowers!" and we are sure experiencing a lot of those showers lately! Thank you God!

Let's be fish with flashy scales.  
Let's be birds with feathery tails.  
Let's be bears with furry feet,  
The scariest bears you'll ever meet!  
Let's change back to kids again.  
It's so much fun to pretend!



This month we will be learning about Zoo Animals and Dinosaurs. Roar!!!! Look out for all the animal sounds we'll be making this month!

During the last part of the month, we will be busy creating our special Mother's Day projects. Our last letter is "Z" and our virtue is "I can show love when I hurt others" (forgiving).

Happy April!  
Teacher Ana and Teacher Amanda



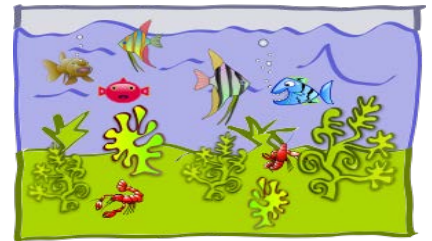
## LITTLE LAMBS NEWS

March was full of fun! We had a great time learning about community helpers. The Little lambs loved talking about what different community helpers do and what they might want to do when they grow up!

We had a wonderful time during Week of the Young Child and celebrating what makes each child special and unique.

Five little fishes swimming in the pool  
The first one said, "The pool is cool."  
The 2<sup>nd</sup> one said, "The pool is deep."  
The 3<sup>rd</sup> one said "I want to sleep."  
The 4<sup>th</sup> one said "Let's take a dip."  
The 5<sup>th</sup> one said "I spy a ship."  
Fisher boat comes, lines go kersplash.  
Away the 5 little fish dash!

In April, we will be learning about the ocean. We will be learning about many of the amazing animals and plants that live in the ocean. We will finish the alphabet and begin working on number recognition and writing. Our color of the month is blue, our shape is a square, and our virtue is "I can be forgiving."



Teacher Katie and Teacher Aida

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## LITTLE TIGERS NEWS



Wow! March was so busy. It came in like a Lion — just like our Weekly Reader taught us. We had a lot of fun learning about all the different Community Helpers. The visit from the Menlo Park Police Officers was a definite hit!

Week of the Young Child kept us busy nonstop. We really are "Can do kids!"

Our theme for April will be All About Books...focusing on Dr. Seuss's books. Our poem will be...

You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose.  
You're on your own and you know what you know.  
You are the guy (or gal) who will decide where to go!  
Dr. Seuss



Our color will be yellow, our shape will be octagon, and our virtue is forgiving. We will be reviewing our letters and working on the lower case letters.

We hope you all had a blessed Easter and enjoyed your spring break.

Teacher Robin and Teacher Ana



## LITTLE LIONS NEWS

Spring has sprung! One simply needs to take a quick peek outside to notice that the season of spring is upon us! Flowers are blooming, the bugs are slowly returning, days are getting longer and warmer, and the trees are getting their foliage for another growing season.

April brings us into our time of Spring Fling! The Lions will be learning about plants and flowers by growing them, dissecting them, observing them on their outside environment, and reading books about them.

We will also spend time observing, drawing, and reading stories about bugs, birds, baby animals, and butterflies. This is a great time in your child's life as they are curious and eager to learn about the world around them. Take time to go outside and explore the world around us. Encourage your child to ask questions and then find answers together!



Our letters for the month are V, W, and X. The classroom will also be filled with many opportunities to review, refine, and master many concepts in these last months of school.

Happy spring!  
Teacher Staci and Teacher Lori

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A big thank you to....

Teacher Elizabeth and Teacher Holly (music teacher on Monday and Tuesday), our amazing "floating" teachers! They send their warmest wishes for a beautiful spring, too! We are so thankful that they are on our preschool staff and spread joy and helpfulness wherever they go!