

# Preschool News

-Ruth Baas, Preschool Director

## LEARNING ABOUT GOD IN EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES

In our preschool promotional literature, the following GOAL is presented to families of 3- and 4-year-old children: "At Orland Park Christian Preschool, your child will be given a positive, first-school experience that provides excellent preparation for Kindergarten in a secure and loving environment where the love of Christ is modeled and shared."

What does this look like in our everyday classroom activities? Here's a peek into our everyday learning activities this past January that show how our students are learning to love school and learning so much about loving God, others, and themselves.

One of our learning themes during the month of January was titled "Snow." It is a privilege to be able to teach the children that God made the snow, explaining to them that each snowflake that God made is different from all other snowflakes – and they are all beautiful. We are able to extend this concept to help the children understand that God made each person too, and each person is beautiful! In Psalm 139:14 we read, "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful. I know that full well." Each child is wonderfully made by our Creator God!

God not only made us but He also takes care of us and gives us the rest we need to stay healthy and grow and learn. The theme of "Sleepy Storytime" gave both the children and teachers alike the opportunity to enjoy sharing bedtime stories together while wearing our comfy pajamas to school! It was really fun to bring our favorite "bedtime friends" in the form of stuffed animals and blankets to school too. Friendships grow while we enjoy learning together.



Pajama Day is so much fun!



Exploring language by reading at the library.

Another weekly theme we chose for January, "Winter Olympics," helped the children to get a glimpse of the great big world that God has made. We had a great time learning that there are many different countries that compete in the games – each with their own flag – and there's even a cool flag with five circles on it for the Olympics. It was interesting to learn about the lighting of the torch, the competition between athletes, and the gold, silver, and bronze medals. When the Winter Olympics are on their television screens this month, the children will recognize them and understand more about the world around them.

A special learning activity the children enjoyed in January was taking a field trip to the Orland Park Public Library. Each year, the children's librarian on staff at the library prepares a half-hour story time for us that includes reading books together, singing songs, and fun large motor movement. Each child is then invited to choose a library book and check it out on our teacher loan cards. We are able to enjoy these favorite books back at school for a few more weeks after our field trip. Our parents love to come along with us as we get out into our community for new learning experiences!

So often, parents and grandparents will comment to the staff at Orland Park Christian Preschool that their children just "LOVE school so much!" It is gratifying to know that we are meeting the goal of a positive first-school experience. Even more importantly, the chil-

dren are learning that they are loved by God who made them and cares for them at all times.

*Mark 10:14 Jesus said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."*

# Preschool Registration Is Open!

## REGISTRATION AND OPEN HOUSE:

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 1:00-3:00 PM • TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 9:00-11:00 AM

Preschool registration time is here! The annual preschool open houses with the opportunity to register for Fall, 2018 classes will be held on Sunday, January 28, from 1-3 p.m. and Tuesday, January 30, from 9-11 a.m. Families of preschoolers are welcome to come in to school while it is in session, take a tour, and meet the teachers. There will be an opportunity to enter a drawing for one free month's tuition with your paid registration. After January 30, registration will be open until classes fill.

Orland Park Christian Preschool offers sessions for 4-year-old children three days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.) The morning session, held from 8:45-11:30 a.m. has a tuition cost of \$160/month and the

extended day session, held from 8:45 a.m.-1:30 p.m. costs \$230/month. The preschool also offers class sessions for 3-year-old children two days a week (Tuesday and Thursday.) This session held in the mornings from 8:45-11:30 a.m., costs \$125/month. The board of our preschool is committed to making this program affordable and has not increased tuition rates for the coming year.



Orland Park Christian Preschool is an excellent choice for your child's first school experience, providing a safe and secure quality Christian learning environment for your child.

Please spread the news about Orland Park Christian Preschool to your family, friends, and neighbors who have 3- or 4-year-old children.

