

NOVEMBER 2019

THE Outlook

A NEWSLETTER OF ORLAND PARK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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Preschoolers Investigate Signs of Fall

KIDS ENJOY A FIELD TRIP TO LAKE KATHERINE



Orland Park Christian Preschool's teaching plan is based on using a new theme for learning each week. The teachers plan and build learning activities in the curricular areas of math, science, language, Kindergarten readiness, gym, and literature. In October we chose "Signs of Fall" as one of our weekly themes. For three days at the beginning of the

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PRESCHOOL FIELD TRIP TO LAKE KATHERINE



Will it sink or float?



Petting the rabbit was a highlight of the day!

Story continued from page 1...

week, we stayed in the classroom to learn about trees changing colors and dropping their leaves and squirrels gathering nuts to prepare for winter. Then we ended the week by taking a field trip to the Lake Katherine Nature Preserve in Palos Heights. It was a great way to explore God's creation with hands-on learning.

We enjoyed a tour around the grounds which included a pond, a wooded trail, a waterfall, a butterfly garden, and an herb garden. It was interesting to see swans and fish in the lake, bugs underneath logs, and butterflies. In the herb garden we were invited to rub the leaves of herb plants with our fingers and then sniff our fingers to figure out what kind of plant we were touching. There were strong scents of lemon, mint, basil, lavender, and much more.

We were also able to spend some time indoors in the learning center doing activities in the program "I Spy Fall!" We made leaf rubbings, sorted seeds, picked corn kernels off the cob, measured many items gathered from the woods, and played a game of "sink or float" with items in a bucket of water. Our day ended in the area where live animals were housed. We were thrilled to observe turtles swimming, snakes in their tanks, a guinea pig, and a rabbit. Our tour guide said we were so well-behaved that she treated us to the opportunity to pet the rabbit while she held it. What a great day of exploring God's beautiful creation in the season of Fall!



Preschool News

PRESCHOOL FIRE SAFETY WEEK

Each year in October, the children at Orland Park Christian Preschool observe Fire Safety Week. This school year we were treated to some special visitors to help us learn ways of staying safe. A retired fire-fighter who is the grandfather of one of our students from the community came to our pre-school classroom with his gear and gave a presentation to the children about the important work of fire-fighters. It was interesting to see him put his gear on and to realize that even though he looked so different, we didn't need to be afraid of him because he was still a friend who was there to help us if we needed it. We learned that we should never hide in the house if there is a fire; instead we should "Get Out and Stay Out!"

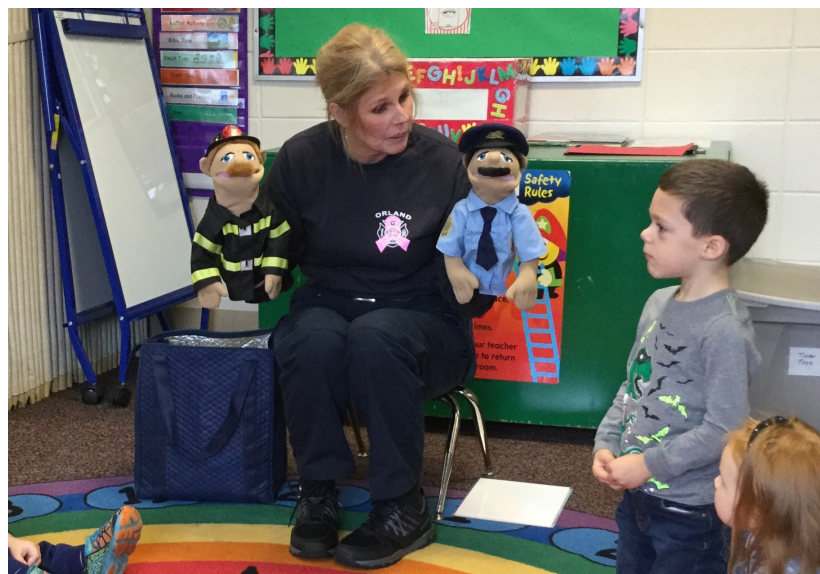
We also invited the Fire Safety Educator, Ms. Betsy, from the Orland Park Fire District to come and visit

us at school. The children listened intently as fire safety concepts were taught and demonstrated. Fire fighter and police officer puppets kept our interest as we learned about smoke detectors, the emergency number 9-1-1, and the safety techniques of crawling

down low to stay under the smoke, feeling a door with the back of the hand before opening it, and "Stop, Drop, and Roll" if your clothing catches on fire. The children were invited to practice by acting out these techniques right in the classroom.

The best part of the day was when

the fire-fighters from Orland Park drove up to our school parking lot in a big red fire truck! What a treat it was to climb up into the truck and sit in the driver's seat for a photo. We also enjoyed seeing the many tools and hoses that fire-fighters use to do their important work. Fire Safety Week is always a great week of learning!



Our Fire Safety Educator used puppets to make learning interesting.

Preschool News

PRESCHOOL FALL FAMILY FEST

Every year, Orland Park Christian Preschool hosts a party called Fall Family Fest for our students and their families. This year we held the event on Tuesday, October 15 in our church gym. The children were so happy to bring their parents, grandparents, and siblings to school at night so they could celebrate the season of Fall together!

We started with a performance of some favorite Fall songs. As proud family members listened in delight, the children sang about autumn leaves, apple trees, and silly acorns.

Then everyone was invited to go to three centers spread around the gym. They took turns making a harvest corn craft, an apple wreath, and hunting for candy treats in a pile of shredded paper. It was fun for the whole family! Many comments of appreciation were received from families who enjoyed the activities for their children and the fellowship of meeting the families of their children's classmates.

Our night ended with warm apple cider, coffee, juice, and a variety of delicious cookies and treats (thanks to our 4-year-old class's parents.) We appreciate the help and support received from the following people for this event: our elder representative Bryan Boersma, board member Kellie Damstra, and custodian Matt Kamp. The staff at Orland Park Christian Preschool also appreciates the support and prayers of our whole church family as we serve the Lord by teaching His precious children.



Apple Wreath Craft



Candy Hunt

THANKSGIVING

Join us for our combined Thanksgiving Day worship service at our church at 10:00 am on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28!

OPEN HOUSES AT CHICAGO CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

Chicago Christian High School will hold several open houses and special-focus shadow days for prospective students and their families:

Monday, November 11:
STEM Shadow Day*

Thursday, November 14:
Open House at 6:45 pm

Friday, November 15:
Fine Arts Shadow Day*

For additional information, please call 708-388-7656 or email admissions@swchristian.org.
*Registration required for some of the events.