

“THE BEAR FACTS”

BEAR CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

January, 2012



2012!



We hope that all of our BCUMCS families enjoyed many blessings with family and friends

over the Christmas break. We extend a hearty “Happy New Year” greeting to everyone and pray that each and every one of you enjoy a healthy and prosperous 2012.

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your journey!

REGISTRATION FOR 2012-2013

Pre-registration for currently enrolled students:

Applications for currently enrolled students *will be distributed on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 24 and 25 and will be due with registration fees on or before February 7.*

REGISTRATION FOR SIBLINGS WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 at 9:30 AM

PUBLIC REGISTRATION WILL BE ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16 at 9:30 AM.

REMINDER: All tuition and fees must be current before registering for 2012-2013 classes.

Splinters from the School Board

- **TREAT THE TEACHERS** - The teachers have REALLY enjoyed having a little sustenance for their after school staff meetings this year. Thank you to all of the moms that have helped make this tradition a big success. As promised, we have more chances to join in the fun each month, so please watch for an email if you signed up to help with these on the volunteer interest form. Listed below are your next opportunities.



- **Wednesday, January 25 & Thursday, January 26** (both noon dismissal) - The kids involved in Dad's night get out early, but the teachers stay until 2:00 and return at 6! Bring a pot-luck dish so we can treat the teachers to lunch while they get their rooms ready for Dad's Night.
- **Monday, February 6** - Bring a snack for the teacher's after school staff meeting.

Toy recall information

www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prereel/category/toy is a link that contains toy and other product recalls. Sign up to receive email notifications of all toy recalls from the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

NEW TODDLER CLASS ON TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS MAY BEGIN IN JANUARY

We have several families who have indicated a desire to begin attending a class for children who have birthdates between August 31, 2009 and August 31, 2010. We have teachers and classroom space, but we need a few more participants to actually open the class. Contact Laurie Mattingly IMMEDIATELY if you are interested, or have a friend who would like to register for this class.

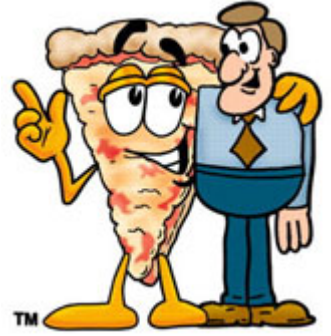
SCHOOL BEGINS AT 9:00 AM

Make punctuality a new year's resolution!

Some of the most important learning experiences of the day, which have been carefully planned by our teachers, take place during the first 45 minutes of the day. It is CRITICAL that each child arrives to be a part of these experiences. Several parents have made comments about liking to sleep in or being slow to move in the morning that have exposed a lack of understanding about how important these first moments of the day are to your child. When they arrive late they miss valuable learning through play experiences and it is often a challenge for them to step in and engage in activities already in progress. It is particularly important for the two and three year old children to arrive in time to begin their day *and* be ready to go to chapel, which for them begins at 9:15. Please be as careful to arrive at 9 AM as you are to return on time for dismissal at the end of the day.

DAD'S NIGHT!

- **Wednesday, January 25 or Thursday, January 26. 6 PM – 7:30 PM**
We will have our special night with Dad's for our children in Two year old classes and older. It starts with a pizza snack in the fellowship hall, followed by fun activities in the classroom!
You don't want to miss this! (If Dad is unavailable, moms or other special men in their lives are welcome, but please limit it to ONE guest per child.)
- Dad's night for Kindergarten will be on Thursday, Jan. 19, 6 PM – 7:30 PM.
- This is a big event that requires classroom preparation, so children involved in Dad's night will go to school in a "Split Shift" that day – leave school at noon, and return at 6 PM!



REMEMBER TO DRESS FOR THE WEATHER!

Outdoor play is a vital part of your child's school experience. Remember that we will go outside even when it is cold – send appropriate clothing for outdoor play.



MOPS meets on the second and fourth Thursday.
See MOPS brochure on the hall table for more info.

GESELL SCREENING

There are still openings for Gesell screening. This tool, which measures developmental age, is required for Kindergarten enrollment and is highly recommended for all four year olds to help evaluate their readiness for kindergarten. Our kindergarten teachers require this screening for their program as they use the information to help them individualize their teaching. The screenings are during the school day January 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13. The cost is \$50, made payable to Kathy Martin, who is trained and qualified to administer this screening process. Make an appointment and pay for the screening in the school office.

KINDERGARTEN OR A YEAR TO GROW?

9:15 AM, Tuesday January 31. This casual meeting for parents to gather with our school director will help you learn more about deciding whether your child would best be served to attend kindergarten next year or enjoy a year to grow in our transition class.

KINDERGARTEN: A YEAR OF MAGIC

6:30 PM, Tuesday, January 31 Come hear from our Kindergarten team about the wonder of Kindergarten at Bear Creek United Methodist Church School! Bring friends! Current enrollment at BCUMCS is not a requirement for registration in our kindergarten class. ***Please note: this gathering is for adults only.***



CHILD SAFETY – NEVER LEAVE A CHILD IN THE CAR ALONE!

It is ***NEVER*** acceptable to leave an infant or child unattended in any car in any parking lot – even the parking lot of our warm and loving school! If you feel the need to "run in" to pick up your child while another one stays in the car, please partner with a friend who can stand by your car while you come inside.