

Children of Hope Child Development Center

February 2022

Hope Happenings: News from Mrs. H's Office

Lynn Hockenberger
Preschool Director



We are doing it, parents...we are getting through a pandemic together! I am thankful for these hours at school when life can be a little "normal". The comfort of our routine and familiarity and schedule gives me peace. The moments we get to spend with these kiddos gives us such appreciation. They say and do some amazing things! The pandemic continues to cancel our plans, infect our loved ones, and upset our world. But we are doing it...we are getting through it together. I hope that by having your children here it has given you some peace as well. It has certainly been good and joyful medicine for us!

Happy Birthday!



No February Birthdays
for Staff

We are looking forward to meeting in person this month as we share your child's progress with you at Parent/Teacher Conferences. The growth during these years is so remarkable. We can't wait to brag on your child and share what we see every day!

Registration for the 2022-23 school year will begin following conferences. Enrollment packets will be shared soon. If you return your packet by February 28th, you will be guaranteed a spot. I will begin accepting enrollments from new families on March 1st. We so value our relationships with you and hope you will continue to share your child with us next year. We do not take this responsibility lightly and promise that we will continue to provide the best environment where your child can learn, explore, and thrive under the expert care of my loving teachers.

Happy February, everyone! Let us go and love.

Mrs. H

#fillyourchildwithhope



ALL ARE WELCOME!



***First Communion Workshops
February 13 & 27***

If you feel your child is ready to receive communion and grow their faith, we invite you to join us! Please contact Deacon Connie for more information at Deacon.Connie@myesperanza.org



Pray-Ground

At Esperanza, as Jesus did, we welcome children of all ages as integral members of the body of Christ, and we welcome the sounds and activity that accompany them! One option for families is the new Pray-Ground, located in the sanctuary. **This area is designed for young children** to quietly engage in age-appropriate activities while experiencing worship in the sanctuary along with their families. See Pastor Annemarie and/or Deacon Connie for more info!

**FAMILY
CHAPEL TIME**



**February 15: Ducklings
February 16: Penguins
February 17: Butterflies**

11:10am in the Sanctuary

**PARENTS! We invite you to be a part
of Family Chapel Time!**

Please join us where you will sit on the floor with your child in your lap and participate in monthly Family Chapel Time with Deacon Connie, Pastor Annemarie, and Mrs. H. (If a parent cannot attend, no worries...we will take great care of your children and keep them happy & engaged)

**Children:
WEAR YOUR SCHOOL SHIRT**

**February Songs
Bugs for Lunch
My God is So Big**

**Lesson: Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness &
John the Baptist
Galatians 5:22-23**

WHY LUNCH BUNCH?



Lunch Bunch offers our students opportunities for additional socialization through mealtime, extended activities, and play. We provide a safe, nurturing place where the children can eat lunch with their peers, while learning to manage and clean up their own space, with the bonus of added time to socialize and play with their friends.

With the company of our supportive teachers, Lunch Bunch kiddos can acclimate to a longer school day, can make mistakes (such as spills) and be helped to fix them, and can gain confidence and independence.

Lunch Time is very fast in elementary school and here at Hope we believe in providing Lunch Bunch as an opportunity for our students to practice the “soft skills” needed for kindergarten success.

Available Daily

Sign up Book is located outside Mrs. H's office

Pick Up at 12:30pm: \$10

Pick Up at 1:30pm: \$15

Pick Up at 2:00pm: \$20

Must be enrolled in 3's or Pre-K.

Not available to our Toddler Class due to diapering/licensing issues.

NO LUNCH BUNCH Thursday, February 10th (due to Staff Meeting)

From Early Childhood Research Quarterly:

Relations between preschool attention span-persistence and age 25 educational outcomes

Attention span-persistence at age 4 and later educational outcomes were examined.

- ▶ Age 4 attention span-persistence predicted math and reading achievement at age 21.
- ▶ Age 4 attention span-persistence predicted college completion by age 25.
- ▶ Relations were mostly direct and not fully mediated by early math or reading.
- ▶ Strong attention span-persistence predicted 49% greater odds of completing college

So what can you do?

Practice Focus

The explosion of device use has definitely caused all sorts of problems with focus in both children and adults. There is an instant gratification to screens that makes it hard to put them aside and focus on less stimulating tasks. Now, more than ever, it's important to:

- Enforce screen-free time, even if they complain (parents need to abide by this too).
- Have the materials on hand to make or build things. Find projects that will take an hour or two. Do it with them!
- Read **print books** out loud together, including chapter books. Having to picture things themselves rather than seeing it on a screen helps children learn to focus.
- Play board games, such as Candy Land, Chutes & Ladders, Trouble.



Podcast: Kindergarten Readiness

Episode 5: Kindergarten Readiness is Life Readiness

This episode of the pArentZ pod may change how you think about preparing for kindergarten. **Dr. Isela Garcia** explains that, based on our current understanding of early brain development, kindergarten readiness not about memorizing letters and numbers. It's about things like language, social skills, persistence and the ability to work well with others. So what can parents be doing to help their child develop the skills and abilities they'll need?

[Episode 5: Kindergarten Readiness by First Things First \(soundcloud.com\)](#)

Baby, let's talk! Serve and return

- August 30, 2019 [First Things First](#)

Even though they can't use words yet, having little back-and-forth conversations with your baby is the best way you can help them learn and develop language. Responding to your child with words, conversation and attention makes a big, positive impact on their learning and healthy development.

As their brain develops — incredibly fast in their early days, months and years — they learn by hearing words from you and when you respond back to their sounds, gestures and expressions. These kind of interactions — called “serve and return” in child development lingo — help build strong, healthy brain connections. So find a couple of minutes during your day to talk with your baby. Look for opportunities to return their serve or start a rally yourself. It's easy to do, and it's a lot of fun.

<https://youtu.be/uklupDILkOs>

Upcoming Events

FUN FRIDAY



**Friday, February 11th
8:30 – 11:30am**

**For Penguin &
Butterfly Students**

Send Mrs. H a message on Brightwheel to let her know if your child will join Mrs. Johnson & Mrs. Gerrish for this extra day of Valentine Fun!

Penguins & Butterflies: \$30



Parent-Teacher Conferences

February 22, 23, 24

Sign-up links are on Brightwheel

Mrs. H will watch your child on the playground during your conference at no charge.

Regular Lunch Bunch will also be available and regular rates will apply for those not in conferences.

Registration for 2022-23!

**By Monday, February 28th for current families
Enrollment packets available soon!**



Please make drop off and pick up times with your child

Cell Phone Free Zones 😊

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT

We at **Children of Hope Child Development Center** are committed to providing a smoke-free environment for children, staff members, and child care providers. Due to hazards from exposure to second-hand smoke and as a recognized Empower child care facility, it shall be the policy of this child care facility to provide a tobacco-free environment for children, staff members, child care providers, and parents.



Cleaning & Disinfecting
Services



FORCE SHIELD
FOG • DISINFECT • PROTECT



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Children of Hope Preschool/
Child Development Center of
Ahwatukee