



Serra Preschool

A Parent Participation Nursery School
Where Kids and Parents Learn Together.

November
2017
Newsletter

Director's Message

~Sex Ed Starts in Preschool~

That title comes from a chapter in a book I have read and recommended to preschool parents. The book in case you missed the information is ***"It's Ok Not to Share and other Renegade Rules for raising Competent and Compassionate Kids"*** by Heather Shumaker.

It's a very easy book to read and reflects a lot of the ways we do things around here at Serra Preschool.

I also like the way it is laid out. If you are concerned about your child's love of war and gun play you can go directly to that chapter and read all about it. It is not a book that you necessarily have to read all at once or in order.

Lately a few parents have shared concerns about keeping children safe. How

can we empower children to say "NO" when they feel uncomfortable and keep them safe from people who might want to hurt them?

I think its fair to say that it is important for children to: Be informed and have accurate information. Have shame free feelings about his or her body. Understand which parts are private. Make you, the parent the first stop when he or she has a sexual or sensitive question.

If your child can come to you at age six and get an honest answer, she is going to know how she can talk to you as a teenager. If you do not teach your children you can be guaranteed someone else will. The more children know and understand actually arms them against sexual abuse.

Deciding when, what

and how you will talk to your children about the birds and the bees is something all parents should think about and educate themselves about. Remember, you are not just providing information you are conveying attitudes. There are plenty of books available to teach sex ed to kids, and you want to choose ones that match your child's needs and your family style.

There is a free online booklet that one could begin with and I suggest that you buy the book I mentioned above and go right to the section on sex ed.

The free online booklet is titled

Right from the start: Guidelines for Sexuality Issues, Birth to Five Years, published by the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the



Serra Preschool Director Mrs. Nowicki

United States, it gives good information and has a section on resources as well.

I hope this information answers some of the questions parents have had lately or points you in the direction you want to go. If you have not been thinking about this maybe you will now. I guess you could thank me or curse me for that!!!!

Love, Mrs. Nowicki



President's Message

Hi Serra Families,

I am currently taking an online education class, and one of our discussions was about getting to know your students and making connections with your students, which is one of the foundations of creating differentiated instruction. It made me think of how blessed we are to be in a community where not only our teacher and aide are dedicated to getting to know us and our children, but how we are all working together to get to know each other. Throughout our basic 2-year experience, we get to know the children, their likes and dislikes, their strengths and weaknesses, their thoughts, opinions, creative endeavors, and academic readiness. And while our kids are still in such an egocentric stage- it's not that easy to view a situation from another vantage point other than your own- they nonetheless learn all these things about each other. And by learning about each other, we begin to care about each other. This brings me back to something I've written before: to help our kids with one of our classroom rules, "We take care of each other," we first have to just actually care.

When Luke was in 2day last spring, he said to me, "Hey, Mom, there is a girl in my class named Natalie." I said, "Yes, I know. She's been in your class since the first day of school." To his amazement, all of those kids had been in his class since the first day of school. He was first so focused on Maysa. She was his world, and he talked about her all the time. Miller soon followed, and little by

little, I think Luke did get to know all the kids in his class, even Natalie! I think it was so obvious to me who those kids were and that Luke played with them twice a week, but to him, I really think it wasn't until springtime that he cared to even realize that Natalie was in the class. It can take time to care about each other, but when you are present, it all falls into place.

In 5th grade my oldest daughter, Anya, developed her first crush on a boy in her class. A few months into 6th grade, I asked her, "Anya, do you still have a crush on Aiden?" She replied, "No, I don't ever see him. We don't have any classes together, and we don't sit near each other during lunch. I literally don't even think I pass him in the halls walking to and from class." And thus, her care for him dissipated.

I think my point is that for us to care about each other, and for our kids to "take care of each other," we have to see each other. Regularly. Our kids need to play together and sit next to each other and talk to each other and give messages and receive messages and do all those things that we do at preschool and outside of preschool. I am so grateful that Serra is a place that's not just drop off and pick up. We have so many other activities and events planned, and it's wonderful! Some are required and some aren't, but there is something for everyone. And not everyone can make everything, but with enough activities on our calendar, most everyone can make something. Thank you to

everyone for making Serra what it is. We're a community who cares more for each other every day, and I love it! I hope you do, too.

-:) Cori

Serra Bakery Coming Soon!

We are about to create a classroom bakery for our next dramatic play scene. Will you please save and bring to school any used baking item boxes or containers that you have: empty boxes of sugar, baking soda, egg cartons, frosting, and/or plastic clear cartons from baked goods you may have purchased (muffins, cookies, etc.). I will put a box by the front gate to collect those items this week. Also, if you have any mini-chef costumes that we can borrow, that would be great! Chef's hats, aprons. Just label them with your name on the tag.

*-Jamie Thrash
Mae's mama*

Dates to Know:

- **Dec 1** | Patty's Bday Bash
- **Dec 7** | Storywalk Field Trip
- **Dec 13** | Street Sweeping
- **Dec 14** | Street Sweeping
- **Dec 15** | Bake Sale
- **Dec 20** | 6 Week Clean Up
- **Dec 22** | Winter Break (No School)
- **Jan 10** | Board Meeting

“Kids Say The Funniest Things!” Thanksgiving Edition:

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How Do You Catch a Turkey? (2 Day) How Do You Cook a Turkey. (3 Day)

Raef – With a net then eat him!

Leo- With my hands, then I would take him home.

Mae- Run so fast , then cook it, then cut it, then eat it.

Camilla- With a net. I licked it and it was yucky.

Simon- On a motorcycle, then eat it.

Oliver- I would catch it by my foot, then I would put in the forest.

Harper- I don't know how I would catch a turkey.

Ryder- With a net, then we cool him up, then we eat him for dinner, then we would throw him back in the water, then shoot him.

Sylas- You run very fast, then you catch him, then you put him in a cage.

Rivers- You shoot a gun at them so they die, then you grab them, then you cook him and then you eat him.

Antonio- Just grab it and pull it.

Isla- I just don't know how I would do that.

Violet- You get him with a big net.

Jonah- With a car then throw him in a sack.

Isaia- I grab him with my arms and then I catch him, he is super fast.

Bayon- You put soda inside it hen you put something to plug it, then you cook it in the oven and its done when it dings.

Miles- You cut it in half, then you take out the brains since we don't want to eat that. Then you put it in the oven. Its done by the time thing, then you eat it.

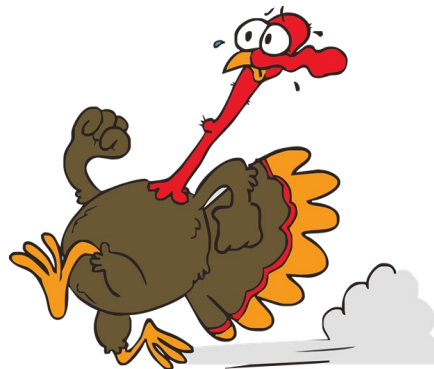
Bohdi- You kill it then cook it. (How do you know when it is done?) Because I am smart!

Diem- You get it, put it in the oven and then cook it.

Dylan- Put it in a pot, then put the chicken in it, then put a bone in it then eat it.

Dane- You have to run and get him, slice it with a knife bake him then eat him.

Now we know how to catch a turkey and cook it. Thanks Kids!!!!!!



Serra Preschool Board of Directors

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December Birthdays

- Dec 4 | Rivers De La Puente
- Dec 6 | Leila Richter
- Dec 9 | Mae Thrash
- Dec 17 | Dylan Berkompas
- Dec 18 | Maysa Condon
- Dec 18 | Wylan Condon

Serra Preschool

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Upcoming Local Community Events

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND | 5-8 PM

Tree Lighting Ceremony 5 p.m.
Join the Mayor to Light the Community Tree

Christmas at the Casa: 5-7:30 p.m.
Holiday Entertainment | Children's Crafts
Santa Visits | Letters to Santa
Hot Cocoa & Cookies | Dickens Carolers

Santa's Village and Del Mar Glitz: 5-8 p.m.
Santa Visits | Snow Hill Sledding | Holiday Games
Outdoor Movie | Hot Cocoa Factory
Cookie Decorating | Train Rides
Stores Open Late | Cinderella's Carriage
Live Holiday Music | Beer & Wine Garden




HO HO HO
Letters
..... to
Santa

Send Santa your letter and he will write you back!
Mail your letter along with a self-addressed,
stamped envelope to:

Santa Letters
c/o San Clemente Recreation Division
100 North Calle Seville
San Clemente, CA 92672

Letters need to be received by December 14.