



# St. Andrew's Preschool News

## December 2021

### From the Director

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas from St. Andrew's Preschool!

We are enjoying the cooler weather. The frost has begun to nip at our toes. The children have been eagerly preparing for the Christmas program in the Parish Hall on Wednesday, December 15 and Thursday, December 16. See the program schedule on the Music page. We can't wait for you to attend.

We were blessed in November to receive a very large donation from The MITRE Corporation to give to our Food for Friends Program. Cub Scout Pack 1346 generously donated their time to pack the meals. This covers our needs through February. In the meantime, we have been collecting socks to donate. Socks are one of the frequently needed items in shelters and places that help those in need. Thank you for all the donations!

This month we asked the teachers to give us their Top Ten list from November. Enjoy reading about all the fun activities that your children experienced last month. Ask your child about their favorites.

As the weather changes, please visit our handbook to review the inclement weather policy. Here are the highlights.

- We follow Fairfax County Public School System
- When FCPS opens 2 hours late, we begin at 11:15 a.m. and dismissal will be at 1:15 p.m. (pack a nut free lunch)
- If there is a delay on an Enrichment or Lunch Bunch day, these classes will be canceled with no charge.

We will be closed for Christmas break from Monday, December 20 through Friday, December 31. See you on January 3, 2022!

Warm regards,  
Tami



### Christmas Break

**Have a wonderful holiday! December 20 through 31.**

**See you January 3, 2022!**



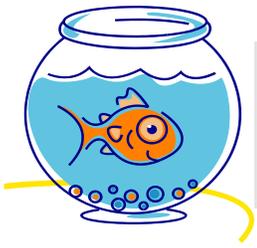


## The Puppy and Kitten Class



### The Kitten & Puppy Class Top 10 List for November

1. Fall Leaf Raking in the Dramatic Play Area
2. Marble Leaf Painting
3. Scavenger Hunt
4. Painted Leaf Rubbings (Kittens) and Nature Leaf Collage (Puppies)
5. Turkey Handprints
6. Playing in the Outdoor Kitchen
7. Digging Bin Popcorn Kernels with pumpkins, acorns, fall leaves, feathers and glass beads
8. Block area Woodland Animals
9. Books: *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Leaves*, *We're Going on a Leaf Hunt*, *The Biggest Leaf Pile*, *Bear Says Thanks*, *Llama Llama Gives Thanks*
10. Friendship Fruit Salad (Puppy Class)



## The Fish and Frog Class



### The Fish & Frog Class Top 10 List for November

1. We discussed Thanksgiving and family and the children shared their stores.
2. Worked on our Stone Soup project. We created artwork and discussed the idea of sharing. Each child pretended to add their own soup item to the Stone Soup recipe.
3. We made Thanksgiving turkey hats that the children loved creating.
4. The children made Turkeys with play-doh, feathers and googly eyes.
5. We discussed transportation and how people travel to see loved ones over the holidays.
6. The children created turkeys with feathers and a spaghetti strainer.
7. We worked on the letters M,N,H, and K.
8. The Children created Christmas tree sun catchers for the windows.
9. We read stories about The Gingerbread Man and the children created their very own gingerbread people.
10. Finally, we decorated our very own Christmas tree and the children made Christmas bracelets for their family and friends.



## The Penguin Class



### The Penguin Class Top 10 List for November

1. Making Thankful Turkeys from hand prints of each family member
2. Reading Stone Soup books
3. Stone Soup art and dramatic play
4. Show and Tell!
5. Stained Glass leaf art for our windows
6. Making Toilet Paper roll turkeys to hang from our classroom ceiling
7. Learning and writing Letters I and U
8. Practicing writing our names
9. Reading about nocturnal animals
10. Playing outside together in the beautiful fall weather!



## The Lion Class



### The Lion Class Top 10 List for November

1. Exploring bats and nocturnal and diurnal animals. Learning about new nocturnal animals that we didn't already know about (ie: the Armadillo).
2. Sorting nocturnal and diurnal animals.
3. Learning about prepositions and taking pictures of the Lions describing different prepositions for a class book.
4. Camping in the classroom and making smores over the fire, grilling on the grill and fishing in our pond. Camping at the mini campsite at the Tinker Table.
5. Making crazy and very unique and crazy scarecrow heads.
6. Learning about the folktale stone soup and that we can accomplish more when we share and work together.
7. Comparing different versions of Stone Soup and talking about what made them different and/or similar. Applying the lessons from Stone Soup when we made our Friendship Fruit salad and our special Thanksgiving snack.
8. Making our giant class turkey applying the same ideas from Stone Soup, that when we all work together, we can make something amazing.
9. Making turkeys with each feather representing a letting in our names and learning all the fun things our Lions are thankful for. Making our unique turkey drawings into a class book.
10. Seeing the awesome dance moves of our Lions during a dance party Friday.



## The Discovery Room "Where no discovery is too small"



### The Discovery Room Top 10 List for "Dinovember"

1. Introduced "Trixie" the Triceratops animatronic stuffed animal kids could ride. Created in 2007, this Dino is a life-size representation of a newborn Triceratops.
2. Played Storybots songs including "1,2,3 Check out my horns!"
3. Paleontologist students performed a chocolate chip cookie excavation by removing as many chips as possible from cookies using toothpicks without breaking the cookies into pieces.
4. Students constructed miniature dinos using battery powered drills, screwdrivers, nuts, bolts, and plastic Dino parts.
5. Kids voted and we made class glyphs determining whether the majority of students preferred herbivorous or carnivorous dinos.
6. Students rescued miniature dinos from volcanic Ooze (black slime) using tweezers.
7. Performed "chit-chat" studies on individual dinos including the Apatasaurus, Stegasaurus, Triceratops, and Iguanodon
8. Discussed how dinos have inspired mythical creatures such as Dragons and compared figurines.
9. Conducted an experiment demonstrating Ankylosaurus tail power by comparing strength of play-doh attached to the end of a straw vs. bamboo skewer.
10. Read many books including a glow the dark Dino skeleton book using a blue light flashlight.



# Music

## Music Room Top 10 List for November

1. Dancing to dinosaur songs to support the Discovery Room
2. Playing instruments to music about Family and Friends
3. Pretending to eat yummy Thanksgiving Food
4. Introduction of Sound Tubes
5. The Sandra Boynton Dinosaur Jump Rope Song
6. Rehearsing Christmas Program Songs
7. The Furry Squirrel Dance
8. Pretend play with Woodland Creatures
9. Woodpecker Woodblocks
10. Bear Hunts

We are busily preparing for our Christmas program. It will be a big surprise! Following is the schedule.



Wednesday	December 15
Fish	10-10:20 a.m.
Penguin	10:55-11:15 a.m.
Puppy	11:25-11:45 a.m.
Thursday	December 16
Frog	10-10:20 a.m.
Lion	10:30-10:50 a.m.
Kitten	11:25-11:45 a.m.



## St. Andrew's Preschool Chapel News

In chapel this month we will tell the Nativity story - from Mary and Joseph making their way back to Joseph's hometown so that they could be counted, to the shepherds watching their flocks who saw an angel before them, to the wisemen who followed the "crazy" star to the place where the King was born. We revisit this story each year so that it burrows its way into the hearts and minds of the children. The stories help us prepare for the mystery - the birth of Jesus - and helps show us the way. We will learn not to be afraid when angels speak to us and how to keep watch and sit in expectant waiting for the miracle to occur.



## Chapel Schedule

Tuesday	Thursday	Story Sequence
	12/2	Mary and Joseph Show the Way
12/7	12/19	The Prophets Show the Way
12/14	12/16	The Shepherds and Magi Show the Way

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## NEWS FROM THE CHURCH

St Andrew's will be hosting our in-person pageant again this year! We are so excited to be able to do this again. We will require all participants to wear masks and we are using fewer costume pieces to cut down on cross contamination - we will just use head pieces to denote the different parts, which are: Wisemen, Joseph, (we already have a Mary), Shepherds, Angels, and various animals. We will be requiring registration to attend this service to keep it to 230 people in the Nave so it won't be so crowded. Participants and their families will be able to register before the rest of the congregation. If your child(ren) would like to participate, please contact me at [amy@standrews.net](mailto:amy@standrews.net)

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT ST ANDREWS

### Friday, December 24th

10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant w/ Holy Eucharist: Rite II (registration required; link will be available on our website soon)

4:00 p.m. Family Service w/ Holy Eucharist: Rite II

8:30 p.m. Carol Sing

9:00 p.m. Brass Ensemble w/ Holy Eucharist: Rite II

### Saturday, December 25th

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II

### Sunday, December 26th

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite I

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist: Rite II



Links for all these services will be on our website ([www.standrews.net](http://www.standrews.net)) and on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/standrewsburke](http://www.facebook.com/standrewsburke))