



April 30, 2012

Dear Parents,

The end of the school year is rapidly approaching and this will be Pre-K's final newsletter for the 2011-2012 year. This has been an exciting year of friendship, faith building, and learning. As a result, I'm very proud to present a wonderful group of socially competent and enthusiastic learners who are prepared for their next stage of learning.

Looking back at our year:

**September:** Getting to know each other and learning about our unique characteristics.

**October:** A time to explore God's animal creatures and we even experienced our own St. Joan of Arc Pet Blessing. We then moved on to community helpers and were visited by both the Phoenix Police and Fire Department. They were kind enough to allow us to hear about their job and we even were allowed to tour their emergency vehicles.

**November:** We learned about our 5 senses, forms of transportation and we discussed what we were thankful for. For our Thanksgiving celebration, we enjoyed a delicious family feast that all classes prepared dishes for.

**December:** A time for thoughtful reflection on Advent and the Nativity. Each class sang songs of praise and presented a meaningful Christmas pageant for our families.

**January:** We explored nursery rhymes, various weather systems (we even played in the snow), and Catholic Schools Week (crazy hair day, sport's jersey day, mismatch day, etc...). The month ended with a wonderful Pastor BBQ hosted by Father Kline.

**February:** We were visited by the staff of Santucci Orthodontics for a presentation on keeping our teeth healthy. Valentine's Day provided a wonderful opportunity to discuss God's commandment that we love one another. St. Joan of Arc hosted its first preschool prom. Everyone had a great time dressing up, enjoying delicious food and

dancing. During February we enjoyed Rodeo Day with a pony rides, lasso training, s'mores and a piñata.

**March:** Our class studied Lent and prepared a prayer box, filled with prayers by the students and staff. We celebrated St. Patrick's Day and enjoyed an all green snack extravaganza. At the end of the month, was Donuts with Dad; we spent the morning with our dads or special guys in our classroom. It was a lot of fun and a special time.

**April:** A time to learn about new life and the Easter story. Our Easter celebration included an ice-cream party followed by an egg hunt. Finally, as a community service project, we held our annual Bike-a-thon and pledges were collected and directed to a charitable organization.

What an amazing year we had.

Please mark your calendars for these important May dates:

May 10<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day celebration immediately follows courtyard prayer/Crowning of Mary in your child's classroom. 9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. invitations will be sent home this week.

May 15<sup>th</sup> Water Day (Parent Volunteers will be needed to help with stations)  
Pre-K is dismissed at 12:00 p.m. M

May 16<sup>th</sup> Step-Up Ceremony – Santa Maria Hall Get your seat directly after Courtyard Prayer and enjoy the music & slideshow prior to our Step-Up Ceremony which begins at 9:30. Cake will be served immediately following in the classroom.  
Students should wear their Sunday best.

Blessing,

Sheri Miles