

OCTOBER 2011

SONSHINE TIMES

Sonshine Christian Preschool
Harvey Oaks Baptist Church

14515 Harvey Oaks Avenue
Omaha, NE 68144 402-208-7333

Just Playing By Anita Wadley

When I'm building in the block room, please don't say I'm "Just Playing."
For, you see, I'm learning as I play, about balance and shapes.
Who knows, I may be an architect someday.

When I'm getting all dressed up, setting the table, caring for the babies,
Don't get the idea I'm "Just Playing". For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I may be a mother or a father someday.

When you see me up to my elbows in paint, or standing at an easel, or molding and shaping clay,
Please don't let me hear you say, "He is Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm expressing myself and being creative. I may be an artist or an inventor someday.

When you see me sitting in a chair "Reading" to an imaginary audience,
Please don't laugh and think I'm "Just Playing." For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me combing the bushes for bugs, or packing my pockets with choice things I find,
Don't pass it off as "Just Play". For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I may be a scientist someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle, or some "plaything" at my school,
Please don't feel the time is wasted in "Play". For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning to solve problems and concentrate. I may be in business someday.

When you see me cooking or tasting foods, please don't think that because I enjoy it, it is "Just Play".
For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning to follow directions and see differences. I may be a chef someday.

When you see me learning to skip, hop, run, and move my body, please don't say I'm "Just Playing".
For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning how my body works. I may be a doctor, nurse or athlete someday.

When you ask me what I've done at school today, and I say, "I Just Played".
Please don't misunderstand me. For, you see, I'm learning as I play.
I'm learning to enjoy and be successful in my work. I'm preparing for tomorrow.
Today, I'm a child and my work is play.

Giving Tree

Our giving tree is located in the front entryway and is a great way to give back. We greatly appreciate all of your help!

We are also looking for any indoor or outdoor holiday home decor items for Dillon's House :)

Critter Check Out!

Our pets here at Sonshine love to spend the weekend with friends! Sign up sheets are located by the office door. We have Chai the rabbit and Minnie the guinea pig.

Mom's Afternoon Out!

For just \$17, your child can enjoy an afternoon full of games and activities! Pack them a lunch and let the fun begin! Sign up will be posted in the entryway.

Who: MWF and 5 Day Children

When: Oct. 24th, 31st, Nov. 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

Time: 11:30-2:30

Please no outside food or drink inside the building, unless it's for snack of course!

Scholastic Book Orders are now Online!

One of the greatest gifts you can provide to your child is the gift of reading!

Scholastic offers a great selection of books for every reading level! Let Scholastic know we sent you and Sonshine earns points to purchase books for our library here at school. Just click on the link on our website and register. Use the code H6LN9 to link your account to Sonshine.

October's deadline is the 28th.

Say Cheese!

Mrs. Dickens with Imagery Photography did a wonderful job with our school pictures this year! Please make sure to return your order forms by Friday, October 28th!

The temperature is Falling...

Outside time is an important part of your child's day here at Sonshine and we plan to continue until the Mother Nature says otherwise. Please remember to bring your child in the appropriate attire for that day; coat, hat and mittens.



Dillon Michael Hayes (6/10/94 - 2/6/10) was a 15 year old student at Millard North High School who, in his own words, had a great life.

"Dillon left us far too soon and not a day goes by that we don't miss and remember him as we see the lives he's touched in his short time with us," said David Hayes, Dillon's father. "His laugh and smile will always be a fond memory."

In memory of Dillon, "Dillon's House" located on the playground of Sunshine Christian Preschool was dedicated on Sunday, October 9, 2011.

"Dillon's House is and will be a vivid reminder that the ministry to children is not only important but it can change the world around because young hearts and minds are transformed by the power and love of Jesus," said Pastor Bryan Galloway of Harvey Oaks Baptist Church, who presided over the dedication.

"Dillon's House provides a unique and important part of our preschool morning where children can work out the important issues of their daily lives through play," said Mrs. Carey, director of Sunshine Christian Preschool.

October Calendar...

October 24: Mom's Afternoon Out

October 27: Fall Festival for all Tues/Thurs. and Toddler classes (toddlers who attend on Tues. and Wed. may join us at 10:30) Parents and siblings may join us from 10:30-11:30, it's going to be a great time!

October 28: Fall Festival for all M/W/F, M/F, and 5 day classes. Parents and siblings may join us from 10:30-11:30!

October 28: Date Night with Daddy 7:00pm-8:00pm (MWF and 5-Day) Bring a pumpkin to carve, carving tools, candle and matches, and most of all... your imagination!

October 31: Mom's Afternoon Out

Look ahead to November...

November 7: Mom's Afternoon Out

November 14: Mom's Afternoon Out

November 16: Games Galore!

Our 5 day class will enjoy a day full of fun games to play, it's going to be great!

November 21: Mom's Afternoon Out

November 24-25: No School

November 28: Mom's Afternoon Out

A CLASSROOM GLANCE!

TODDLER CLASSES...

We've been busy searching for acorns and watching the squirrels scurry around the playground. There have been lots of opportunities to use orange, yellow, brown, and red for our art projects. Saying "Boo!" during our pumpkin poem and falling like leaves were also a fun part of circle time. It is definitely fall!

Looking ahead, we are planning some more fun autumn projects and are looking forward to the the Fall Festival. The first week of November, we will be focusing on some of our favorite stories. If you have gotten to peek in the window during a circle time, you know that Hi Pizza Man is the favorite book for all of the toddler classes. We get requests for this book EVERY morning and will be opening a pizza parlor for some dramatic play to go along with the story and the Tuesday class will try their hand at making pizza. Our Wednesday friends enjoy It Looked Like Split Milk and will be making their own "split milk" pictures to go along with that. Thursday toddlers will get to paint with golf balls after reading Sometimes I Like to Curl Up Like a Ball. Beyond that, the children will practice covering their sneezes and coughs when we introduce "The Sneezing Song" and will practice washing their hands before and after sensory activities as we talk about being Healthy Kids.

The children continue to enjoy being out on the playground. We have some children who are very loyal to that sandbox, while others prefer to do their scooping and dumping with the big trucks in the mulch. We are watching as the children are gaining the skills and confidence to climb up the climber or onto the horses. (For some, the challenge wasn't getting on the horses, but getting off... How exciting when they were able to master it for themselves!) Ms. Jordan and I seem to get a lot of calls on the phone inside Dillon's House ;) and it is fun to see the children make dinner for each other with the dishes that are also in there. Once they discovered the table behind the house, we saw more picnics as well! We do hope to get outside for as long as we can, so please make sure to send jackets or coats, hats and mittens (labelled with names!) on those chilly mornings.

These toddler mornings have been such fun and we look forward to spending more time with these kiddos as they grow, work, and play!

2 DAY A WEEK CLASSES...

How can we be looking forward to Fall Festival next week already? We are excited to celebrate fall and all its colors, sights and smells! Pumpkins will keep us busy in the next week...watch for our pumpkin prints coming soon and a pretty nifty pumpkin experiment! We will also be experimenting with colors and get to mix some of our own. Noah's Ark may also take a float through our room as we learn about all the animals he took with him and what a rainbow means when we see it. Everyday it amazes me so to see them grow...talking to each other, making friends, trying new things and just learning the routines of school! This is going to be a busy month!

M/W/F CLASSES...

We are well on our way with our alphabet adventure. We will be talking about D, E, F and G in the weeks to come. We will learn all about the Doctor and the Dentist for D week. E will bring us a lesson in healthy eating and a day filled with games and exercise, we will remind your little ones to dress appropriately for the exercise/game day when it gets closer. We will also get a chance to bring our lunch from home to eat for our snack, this is sure to be a fun time for everyone! We will get to learn about firefighters and read the book Rainbow Fish for F week. The letter G will give us a chance to read some great stories and learn all about germs. We continue to talk about the sound each new letter we learn makes as well as words that start with that letter. We also are learning the american sign language sign for each letter we have learned.

We are now doing show and tell which is a great exercise in language development for the kids. Be sure to limit your child to one item to share when it is their turn. We have some very fun events coming up with Fall Festival Friday October 28th from 10:30 to 11:30, please see the website for further information. We also have Daddy and me Friday October 28th as well, this is in the evening and the details are on the website as well. This is always a fun time and a chance for the kids and their Dad's to spend time together!

We are continuing to play outside so be sure your child is wearing the appropriate attire. It is a joy to spend time with your children on a weekly basis, we feel blessed to have the opportunity to do this. They are really starting to make good friends and become very social with their peers, such a fun thing to watch. Remember if you have any questions to email us at waller@sonshinechristianpreschool.org or dickens@sonshinechristianpreschool.org.

5 DAY CLASS...

From Mrs. Waller

The kids are really enjoying science and cooking. We are practicing our math skills by measuring when we cook and practicing reading skills and following directions by talking about the recipes and the steps we follow when we are cooking. We also have talked about kitchen safety and cleanliness as well as healthy eating habits. I see some future chefs in this class! In science we continue to make predictions about what we think might happen with our experiments and have talked about how scientists try things over and over again to see if they get the same results. In the weeks to come we will be talking about the planet Earth, Frogs, guinea pigs, lady bugs and germs in science. We will be cooking up French Toast, Green Eggs and Ham and even making our own pizza's. I will be sure to let you know if we need ingredients donated and want to thank you for your kind contributions in the past. It is a joy to share with your children the fun of science and cooking.

From Mrs. Logan

This past month was full of imagination and exploration, it's great to see their little minds at work! Everyone was super excited when we found our "map" to the costume party. The map took us into Mrs. Huntington's room, up the stairs, across the long hallway and down the hidden staircase. To everyone's surprise, the party ended up being in our very own room! We danced the morning away while wearing our awesome costumes.

Next month, our fun continues! It will be a month full of fun and silliness as we dive into the letter E, F, G, and H. This will be a messy month as we explore different ways to paint! We'll use our feet, a hammer, and even make a painting using painters tape... be prepared for some messy fingers for the next few weeks to come :) G is for Games Galore and that's just what will happen on November 16th. Our morning will be packed full of fun games to play, so make sure to wear your tennis shoes.

This is such a great group of children, we are excited to see where this school year takes us! Thank you for sharing them with us!