



*'St. Jerome Early Childhood Center, a Catholic Community, provides a loving and accepting environment that fosters respect for all people, by modeling Christian values as our children grow and learn.'*

**ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE**

During the Thanksgiving season, we take time to acknowledge God as the source of all life. As followers of Christ, we are continually asked to reflect and act upon the social teachings of our faith – to love our global sisters & brothers; to care for God’s creation; to attend to the needs of the poor; to live and work together in community for the common good and well-being of all.

The staff of St. Jerome ECC wish you & your families a blessed Thanksgiving season. May God continue to bless the work we do in His Name.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Phyllis Steele, ECC Administrator

**YOUR 2022-23 ECC STAFF**

- Phyllis Steele, ECC Administrator
- Michelle Sherman, Office Manager
- Kayleigh Sloman, EC2 Teacher
- Christina Miller, EC2 Asst. Tchr
- Carmen Pollock, EC2/3 Teacher
- Melissa Bittenbender, EC2/3 Asst. Teacher
- Ashley Chappel, EC3 Teacher
- Milenka Jokanovic, EC3 Asst. Teacher
- Diana Demes, EC4 Teacher
- Samantha Harris, EC4 Asst. Teacher
- Danijela Aslanovic, Substitute Teacher
- Tarah Harrop, Substitute Teacher
- Kara Holland, Substitute Teacher
- Abigail Martin, Substitute Teacher
- Kylie Ready, Substitute Teacher
- Traci Silversen, Substitute Teacher

**Thank you for participating in the  
St. Jerome ECC  
4th Annual Poinsettia Sale**



Plants will be available for distribution from 9AM – 7PM, November 28th  
in the parking lot next to the school. Look for us under the white tent!

Our Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> Parent Meeting on  
Conscious Discipline has been  
postponed until a later date.



Kindergarten Readiness Packets  
will be sent home with our  
EC4/VPK students next week.

**DID YOU KNOW???**

- ◆ Teachers communicate with parents through daily notes (EC2), weekly notes, conferences, “incident/accident” reports, Communication Folders, Family Communication Board (outside classrooms) and conversations with parents, phone calls, and emails.
- ◆ Incident/accident reports are completed to inform parents of injuries, special situations, behavior concerns, etc.
- ◆ In May, all parents receive a program assessment & survey to complete regarding our programs.
- ◆ Parents are welcome and encouraged to check out materials from our ECC Parent Resource Library.
- ◆ St. Jerome ECC is a NAEYC accredited center... the only *nationally* accredited *Catholic* early childhood program in Pinellas County. You have made a great choice for you and your child!

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

- ◆ **Picture Viewing:** You can view your child's photo through the code sent home. Preview and purchase your pictures directly through Suncoast Smiles.
- ◆ **Parent Night (11/6):** This special presentation of Conscious Discipline will be rescheduled for a later date.
- ◆ **Kindergarten Readiness Packets:** Our EC4 families will receive a packet of resources related to the transition to Kindergarten. Information includes developmental readiness, registration expectations and strategies for a successful transition to the next step in your child's education. Parents should be prepared for early registration deadlines for both private and public schools.
- ◆ **Saturday Workforce** – Playground Cleanup Day is coming soon! Grab your rake and shovel and join us in the beautification of our property. Mulch is on its way...we just need YOU! Saturday, November 11 8:00am – 12:00pm
- ◆ **Volunteers Needed:** We need help with our Christmas Fundraiser. There are many jobs before, during and after the event. Call the office to find the perfect volunteer spot!
- ◆ **Thanksgiving Prayer Service:** On Wednesday, November 15th, St Jerome ECC children will celebrate their Thanksgiving Prayer Service at 11:15am on the playground. We invite families to join us for this special event. EC2 classes will come out and participate for the last ten minutes with a special song. (NO PM EXTENDED CARE)
- ◆ **Food Drive:** St. Jerome ECC is sponsoring its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive this month. The food drive begins November 1st and will continue through Tuesday, November 7th. Your child may bring canned or dry foods to the center, which will be presented to the Lifeline Ministries. On November 7<sup>th</sup> the students will count and sort the donations into different categories as part of their nutrition lessons. Then on November 8<sup>th</sup>, the EC4 class will deliver them to the Lifeline Food Pantry on our church grounds. Lifeline is in need of many contributions to serve the needy in our local community.
- ◆ **Class Raffle Baskets:** Each class is "building" a beautiful basket to be raffled at our Christmas event. Families are asked to donate items to fill the baskets. Class themes are: Room 1 – Family Fun; Room 2 – Jingle Bucks; Room 3 – Date Night; Room 4 – A Taste of Italy. Parents will receive more details and ideas in a separate email. We will gladly accept any donations for these baskets or a basket of your own making!
- ◆ **Additional Raffle Prizes:** To date, we have gift cards to: Bonafish, Ippolitos, VIP Mexican Cantina, Maple Street Biscuit Company, Shell, Indian Rocks Café, Be Nail Bar, Practally Picasso, Slyce Pizza, and Osteria Bricco. We have tickets to American Stage, Glazer Children's Museum, Dali Museum, Clearwater Marine Aquarium, and Great Explorations. We also have vouchers for Treasure Island Fun Center, Stefanec's Barber Shop, and Auto Dynamics. Get your raffle tickets today for a donation of \$5 per six tickets.

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Nov. 1	Tuition due
Nov. 1	All Saints' Day
Nov. 1- 7	Food Drive
Nov. 6	CANCELED - Parent Night Meeting – Conscious Discipline - TO BE RESCHEDULED
Nov. 11	Saturday Workforce – Playground Clean Up
Nov. 15	Thanksgiving Prayer Service 11:15 on ECC Playground <b>NO PM EXTENDED CARE</b>
Nov. 27	Scholastic Book order due
Nov. 20-24	<b>NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Holidays</b>
<b>Nov. 21,22,23</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Camp (for registered students)</b>
Nov. 28	Poinsettia delivery 9am – 7pm
Nov. 29	Advent Prayer Services in classrooms
Dec. 1	Decorating/Fundraiser Set Up 9am – 3pm Sign up to help while your child is in school!
Dec. 2	<b>CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER – JACK HARTMANN AND SANTA</b>

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Landen  
Hunter  
Ms. Taylor  
Ms. Danijela  
Harvey  
Kalina



# SJECC Christmas Fundraiser December 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:00 – 3:00pm

Your \$10.00 ticket includes:  
Lunch (JOTO's pizza, chips, Rita's Italian ice), Jack Hartmann Concert,  
Kiddie Crafts, Facepainting, Raffle Prizes and photos with Santa!  
(under two years of age FREE)



## **THANK YOU TO:**

- ◆ Everyone who donated to our FLUFF Animal Rescue service project for the Feast of St. Francis.
- ◆ Lori Collins of Pinellas County Emergency Services for teaching our students about 9-1-1.
- ◆ The parents who attended Parent/Teacher Conferences.
- ◆ Sertoma Speech and Hearing Foundation for conducting hearing screenings for interested families.
- ◆ The families that participate in our Pledge Program to supplement the state funding for VPK
- ◆ Kelli McCann and Christina Smith, who generously donated their weekend time to work the poinsettia order table.
- ◆ The families for their generous support of our classes especially at Halloween.

## **Family Fun Night 2023**

Thank you, Stretch n Grow Coaches for leading us in some awesome activities!



Stretch n Grow offers after school classes in Music (Tuesdays), Sports (Wednesdays) and Dance (Thursdays).

Dance participants will have a Christmas and Spring Recital. See their website for more details.

<https://sng-stpete.com/>

# We love our Community Helpers!

Thank you to Corporal Joe May of the Clearwater Police Department, the Firefighters of Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue and Ms. Lori Collins from Pinellas County Emergency! We greatly appreciate your service to our community and your care for our children.



# Halloween Parade 2023

Thank you to St. Jerome Parish staff, Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue, and our family of faithful volunteers!!





We hope to see everyone at the St. Jerome Church All Saints Day procession on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00am Mass. Children should come dressed as their favorite Saint! Special activities to follow sponsored by Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.