



All Saints' Day School

Learning Through Play Since 1969



April 2020



1969 Woodside Lane · Virginia Beach, VA 23454
(757)481-0577, ext. 3

allsaintsdayschoolvb.com  All Saints' Day School

ASDS Is CLOSED...



For those of you who may not be completely up-to-date, we share the following which was approved unanimously by our Day School Commission via e-mail on Tuesday, March 23rd. The “decision” content below is taken directly from the e-mail sent to the Commission membership.

These are unique times with unique circumstances. We are all facing challenges and learning new ways of being as we wait for the COVID-19 curve to flatten sufficiently for our lives to begin to return to normal. In the meantime, social distancing, along with handwashing, are our primary courses of action found to curb the spread of this virus.

As you know the Day School loosely follows the public school calendar. With the **Governor Northam's Executive Order Fifty-Three (2020)** and 2:00 p.m. press conference announcement on March 23rd to close all public schools for the balance of the 2019-2020 academic year, coupled with communication from our Bishop to have our churches closed at least through Easter, we have had to make some tough decisions. Our Director, Dianne, and I [Day School Commission Chair, Caryl Felty] feel strongly that we need to close ASDS for the balance of this school year. Needless to say, Dianne and I have devoted a chunk of time to collaborating on a proposal that honors our staff, our parents, and our students while we comply with directives from our authorities. There also have been conversations with our outside accountant, and the approved motion below has been shared with our Rector, Dr. Stan Sawyer, who commends us for our efforts. At this point, we can afford to do what is right without risking the future of the school. However, some plans for improvements to our classroom spaces for the fall will likely need to be postponed.

Germaine Elements of the Motion that Pertain to Our Families and Staff Follow:

Based on the Governor's *Executive Order Number Fifty-Three (2020)* that all public schools be closed for the balance of the school year, ASDS will also be closed for the remainder of the academic year 2019-2020.



- Our staff is salaried (as opposed to being paid by the hour), and they will receive their March, April, and May paychecks in accordance with their employee agreements.
- Teachers will continue to supply lessons for parents to carry out at home.
- The Commission will make a decision on “June DAZE” by May 15th.
- If “June Daze” is cancelled, the parents will be reimbursed what they have paid.
- Parents will also be reimbursed 1/2 of their March tuition. No tuition will be collected for April and May.
- Parents who prepaid tuition for the semester/year, will be reimbursed for 1/2 of March and all of April and May.
- If you have set your tuition up to be paid electronically through May, please contact your bank to have it stopped now.

Please know that it pains us to have to close our doors. We are extremely proud of our teachers, and the efforts they are making, and will continue to make, to enable our students to benefit as much as they can while at home the valuable learning they would have received in our classrooms. We are all happy to hear from you and see your children's efforts in following through on the ideas they have sent home. Please continue to share your progress and reach out to us if we can help you as you continue to teach from home. Please remember that children learn best from play! Make that as big a part of your day as you possibly can! Helping you cook, helping you sort socks by color, counting the rolls of toilet paper you have hidden 😊... these are all a great way to learn!

May each of you stay well and be safe during these most unusual times, and please stay in touch!

Director Dianne
Newsletter Editor Caryl

Different “Look” to our Newsletter...

This “different” look to our newsletter is being used for our time away from ASDS. Our articles will not be covering the usual topics, and teacher columns will likely be truncated, since they are relying on what you tell them about the activities they are sending home and the pictures you are forwarding. We will try to include as many pictures as possible, so that you and your children will feel like we are still in community. I will also make the pictures a bit larger, so the children can see what their friends are doing. It’s going to be a long haul, but we WILL get through this.

Conscious Discipline Offers Advice

As you likely know, ASDS adheres to the tenets of a program called “Conscious Discipline® (CD)”. CD is all based on brain research, and its key is to make our children feel safe so that they can function from their cognitive brains instead of their brain stems, where they are in “fight or flight” mode. It’s the adult who is being “disciplined” to respond appropriately so that the child can develop more fully. CD’s creator, Becky Bailey, Ph.D., has shared some advice with us. It is reflected below:

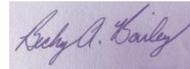
Remember: We’re all in this together.



For 20+ years, “We’re all in this together,” has been a core tenet of Conscious Discipline. It seems ironic that a virus that requires social distancing to slow its spread has drawn our attention to how intimately connected we truly are as friends, neighbors, communities, and nations.

Now more than ever, safety and active calming have become mission-critical for families everywhere. Regardless of how many years we’ve been developing our own social-emotional toolset, it’s difficult to help a child co-regulate when we feel anxious ourselves! It’s important to remember:

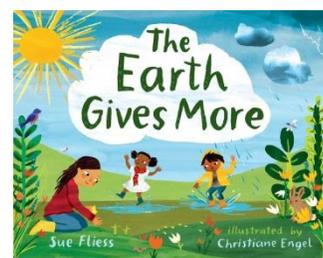
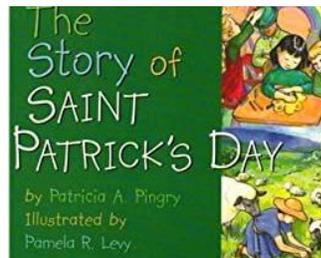
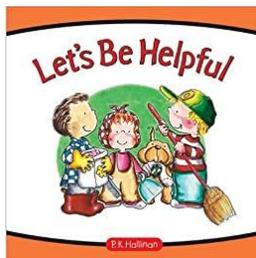
- Our calm increases our children’s calm.
- You are the most important Safe Place for your child.
- The brain requires safety and connection. Be intentional about cultivating both.
- Create a “new normal” together using routines and play.
- Provide helpful ways for children to contribute every day.
- Consciously choose to see the best in others and circumstances.



Chapel

During our very short month of March, we read the book Let's Be Helpful by PK Hallinan and teacher Dana taught us the song “The Wise Man and the Foolish Man”. I had planned for us to read the books The Story of St. Patrick's Day by Patricia Pingry as well as The Earth Gives More by Sue Fliess. Now that so many books are available online, if you run out of reading material please look them up. I would like to wish all of our March birthday friends: Teacher Dana, Halsey, Benjamin, Finn, Kendall, Carter and Charlie, the very happiest of days.

Director Dianne



March 3rd Inservice Day

On March 3rd, Maury Joy, our God's Garden Coordinator, gave the staff an informative inservice on the importance of taking care of the watershed that feeds into our Chesapeake Bay. Using the enviroscape, we got to see just what happens when something harmful gets put into the rivers and streams high up in the mountains and ends up affecting our Bay. Using food coloring and other materials to represent waste, plastic, and chemicals, we could visually get an idea of how rains bring all of this material into our area and damages our



waterways. The teachers and I were so impressed with the presentation that we have arranged for Maury to come back and do an in-house "field trip" for our students. Maury will be returning with the enviroscape on April 29th and 30th [to be re-scheduled for fall 2020] to do activities with all of our students.

Director Dianne

? ✂ 🎵 🗣️ 🖐️ ❤️ 🖋️ 🕒

March Memories From the Classrooms

 Ms. Cathy & Ms Elaine

Garden Fun... Do You Remember Our Kale Chips?



Dr. Seuss's Birthday



Guided Drawing Lesson



Ms. Marianne & Ms. Teresa

A Teacher's Lament to her Director... I had so many fun activities for the rest of the year. My classroom is going to feel so sad when we return in the summer to officially close. There are: Memory Books that ended in March, projects for the Art Show that never got to be displayed or "ooed" and "aaahed" over, their ABC Books that never got to be completed and sent home...and we were on letter "X"! So, so close!

Weather Unit



Favorite Book Character Day and Read Across America Celebrations



Dr. Seuss's Birthday



Ms. Susan, Ms. Brooke, & Ms. Devin

The beginning of March was so much fun for us. We celebrated Dr. Seuss's March 2nd birthday by reading his books, drawing red and white hats, and making blue Jell-O cups with red Swedish Fish (think One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish). We discussed recipes and how important it is to follow the directions correctly. I demonstrated how to measure 1 cup and $\frac{1}{2}$ cup. We also finished learning about the letter Rr. They love acting like pirates for the sound that Rr makes! We began our work with the letter Ss. Ss makes the snae sound, and that's fun too. For Show and Tell, I brought myself to school. Susan starts with Ss! Ha-ha! We practiced writing our names, numbers, and letters in shaving cream. The Stingrays also made some beautiful abstract paintings and shamrock coasters for St. Partick's Day. I will continue sedning home activities, fun crafts, and ideas for ya'll to implement at home. I miss seeing "my" kids terribly! Please tell them that I'm thinking about them and love them all! Hugs and kissed to each of you. Please be safe, wash your hands, and stay healthy! Love to all!

March Memories and Learning Fun at Home



Ms. Sandra & Ms. Beth & Ms. Terry

A picture is worth a thousand words! Ask your children to tell you about what they remember about the pictures below. We hope you enjoy ours and will share yours; especially the "Learning At Home" ones.

Dr. Seuss's Birthday Fun



"X" is For Xylophone Playing

Exploding Rainbows & Lightening Experiences During Our Weather Week



Doughnut Party for Filling Our Class Bucket with Kindness



Learning At Home Fun!



Ms. JoJo & Ms. Patsy

Even though March was short, the Sea Turtles had another terrific month! Our letters were "Jj", "Kk", "Ii", and "Uu". Our color was yellow, our shape was oval, and we added the number "9" to our numerals. We sang the songs "Green Eggs and Ham" and "Shamrock Shake". The students made lovely shamrock and glitter pictures that are displayed on the door!

The students also had fun practicing the letter “Jj” by painting jellyfish. During circle time, we read The Rain Came Down and The Rainy Day. The students made umbrellas with painted filters to make a rainy day scene. We also read No Matter What and made kangaroos out of the letter “K”.

I have sent you everything else that we had planned for the rest of the month! I am so sad that I do not get to do it with them, but know that you will have all of the fun I am missing. I will be sending what we would have been doing for the month of April to you in case you are looking for ideas. Hopefully, you have been using the websites that I sent you. I will include them again when I send you all April’s information. I MISS YOUR CHILDREN! Stay healthy and sane!



March Memories



Music with Ms. Dana

In March, we learned a new finger-play about frogs: “Five Green And Speckled Frogs”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziGG_L9C12o

Five green and speckled frogs

Sat on a speckled log

Eating some most delicious bugs

Yum, Yum!

One jumped into a pool

Where it was nice and cool

Then there were four green speckled frogs

Glug, Glug!



The children enjoyed several movement activities this month that you could try at home. Ask your child to stand in one spot and move his body while you repeat “go, go, go”. When you say “freeze”, the child should freeze in place. You can talk about what kind of shape she has made with her body. Are there spaces? What kind of shapes did he make with his arms? Can she describe the shapes she’s made?

The second activity isolates individual parts of the body. Ask your child to move only one part (ex: hands, foot, knees, shoulders) while you repeat “shake, shake, shake”. When you say “freeze”, the child should freeze the part he was shaking. For both activities, vary the time before you say “freeze”. Talk about whether it was a long time or a short time.

Before the break, we practiced keeping a steady beat with rhythm sticks and learned a new song about dragonflies:

Dragonfly freeze, dragonfly freeze
Fly here dragonfly, fly away dragonfly



Here are some more activities to try at home:

- 1) Make your own egg shakers. Find instructions here: <https://www.mamasmiles.com/fancy-shaker-eggs-version-two/>
- 2) Practice tempi using a drum. If you don't have a drum, you could substitute a plastic bowl and wooden spoon. You can find a metronome app for your phone in the App Store or Google Play.

<https://www.andnextcomes1.com/2014/02/exploring-tempo-in-music-with-drum-games.html>

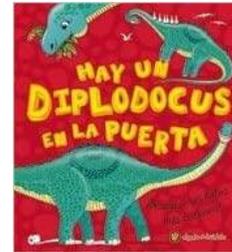
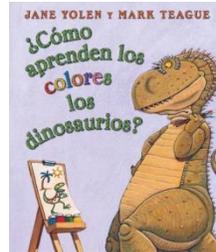
- 3) Here's a fun movement game to try when the kids have lots of energy:
<https://www.toddlerapproved.com/2010/07/ocean-animal-movements.html>



Español with Maestra Mercedes

What a crazy month March has been! We have started to multi-task during Spanish class – singing our songs while working on our coloring books!! The children really enjoy working and singing! We sang “Buenos Dias”, “¡Hola!”, “La Araña Pequeñita”, and “1 2 3” while coloring Los Numeros book.

We learned two new songs this month: “¡Hola!” (Hello) And “Cabeza Hombros Rodillos Y Pies” (Head, Shoulders Knees and Feet). The books we read this period were: El Patito Feo (The Ugly Duckling); ¿Como Aprenden los Colores los Dinosaurios? (How do Dinosaurs Learn Colors); and Hay un Diplodocus en la Puerta (There’s a Diplodocus at the Door).



Songs we are singing:

Buenos Dias - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i1BoQuS4mx4>

¡Hola! - <https://youtu.be/4deUxsQOGps>

La Araña Pequeñita- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nmCY11XqifM>(The Itsy Bitsy Spider)

1 2 3 - <https://youtu.be/8ydJr1s8xl>

Cabeza Hombros Rodillos Y Pies - <https://youtu.be/RVF6YDBQkuo>

Adios - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7NYrRFKnnzA>

I ask for your patience with me as I figure out the best way to instruct the children during this unprecedented time! You'll soon be receiving an email from Dianne with links to videos I have created for the children. Please be safe!

Have You Thought About...

1. Using Family Yoga Videos?
2. Participating in the Virginian Pilot “Peeps Contest”?
3. Using Zoom to let your kids to share lunch with their friends.
4. Share your bright ideas for the May Newsletter! Be sure to identify your class. Remember to include the pics! cfelty1147@gmail.com AND allsaintsdayschool@gmail.com. The first e-mail is for the May newsletter, and the second is for our Facebook page.

