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## March News

As the days get longer and brighter, the anticipation of new changes brings excitement to us. As you noticed, the building renovations continue. We are so excited about remodeling our kids' learning environment. We ask you to please help us keep our children's learning environment clean by removing dirt or snow off your shoes before entering the building. Your help is greatly appreciated! If you like to DIY and would like to use your talents, please let us know. We still have some painting to do and furniture repairs. Thank you for being part of the Open Arms' family.

### **Here are some important reminders:**

- If you are planning on enrolling your children in the school age summer program, please let us know as soon as possible.
- Please call us if your child will be absent, especially if he/she uses transportation to and from school.
- Please label your child's clothing items.
- Toys from home are not allowed, we are not responsible for broken or lost toys.



Early Childhood Higher Education Programs

“in his heart, a  
man plans his  
course, but the  
Lord determines  
his steps.”

***Proverbs 16:9***

# Parenting Tips

Parents are the most valuable and powerful teachers in a child's life. Children watch carefully how the important adults in their life act and react in every situation.

## Say No to Rewards

Parents who are unfamiliar with positive parenting techniques are often surprised when I discourage them from using rewards. After all, rewards *sound* positive, but the truth is they do more harm than good and can lead to a [major dose of entitlement](#) down the road. Parenting is a marathon, not a sprint. When making disciplined decisions for your kids, it's important to keep your long-term goals in mind. Rewards are ineffective because they only offer short-term gain.

Think about it..maybe today you rewarded your child with a cookie for behaving well in the grocery store, but what will she expect next time? *At least one cookie, right? Maybe even two? Will a similar reward be expected during the next doctor's office visit or trip to the mall?*

Or perhaps [you bribed your picky eater](#) to eat their vegetables by offering ice cream for dessert? Now that he knows vegetables can be sold for the price of ice cream, it only makes sense he would hold out on eating his greens until he's offered ice cream or another equally appealing sweet reward.

Using rewards as a bargaining chip for the desired behavior is a slippery slope to an attitude of entitlement.

Further, many [studies have shown that kids who are rewarded actually lose interest in the activity](#) they're being rewarded for – coloring, reading, practicing piano, doing their homework, etc. Hold your ground, my friend, children don't need rewards to behave appropriately.

**Related:** [When Treats Turn Sour: 3 Things to do Instead of Offering Rewards](#)

## Volunteer Hour Ideas

- Window washing (indoor/outdoor)
- Toy washing (indoor/outdoor)
- Fundraisers and events
- Yard maintenance
- Backyard clean-up
- Help with professional development days
- Playground reconstruction
- Classroom help
- Laundry
- Classroom donations
- Parent Committee
- Sunday church participation

Please see Ms. Elia regarding volunteer opportunities. For classroom donations, please see your child's teacher. Please turn in receipts to your classroom teacher. You'll need to contribute 12 volunteer hours every fiscal year.

### TUITION

Infant -	\$1,450.00
Wobbler-	\$1,300.00
Toddler-	\$1,210.00
Preschool	\$985.00

### Meals are included in the tuition:

Breakfast is served from 7:45-8:30

Morning snack is from 10:00-10:30

Lunch is from 11:00-12:30

Afternoon snack is from 3:00-3:30

## New Happenings at Open Arms

Professional Development will take place on 3/8/24

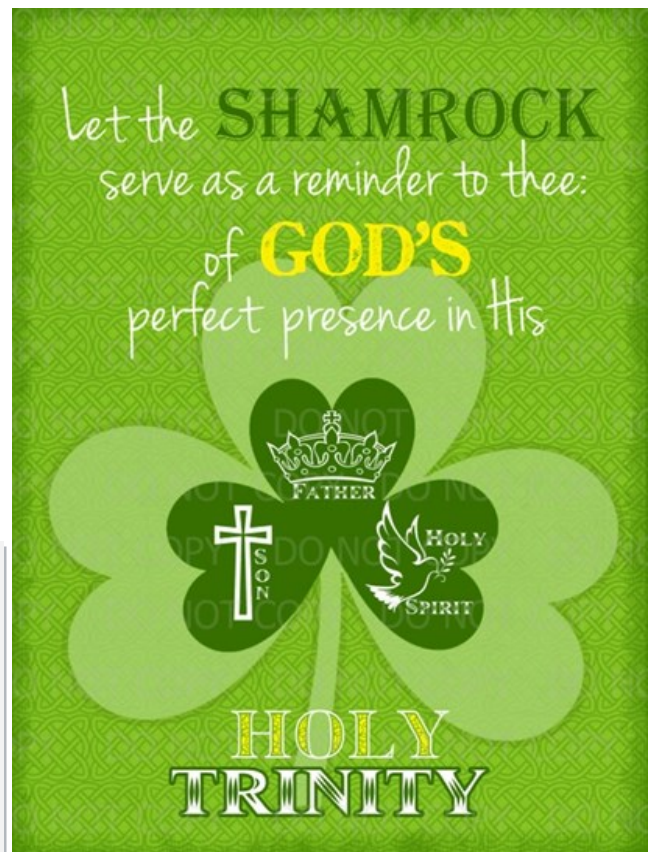
We are looking for volunteers to do child care for our staff. There will be 7 children total. Lunch will be provided.

Shifts are:

8:00-12:00

12:00-4:00

Families who volunteer for this day will get 12 hrs. credit.

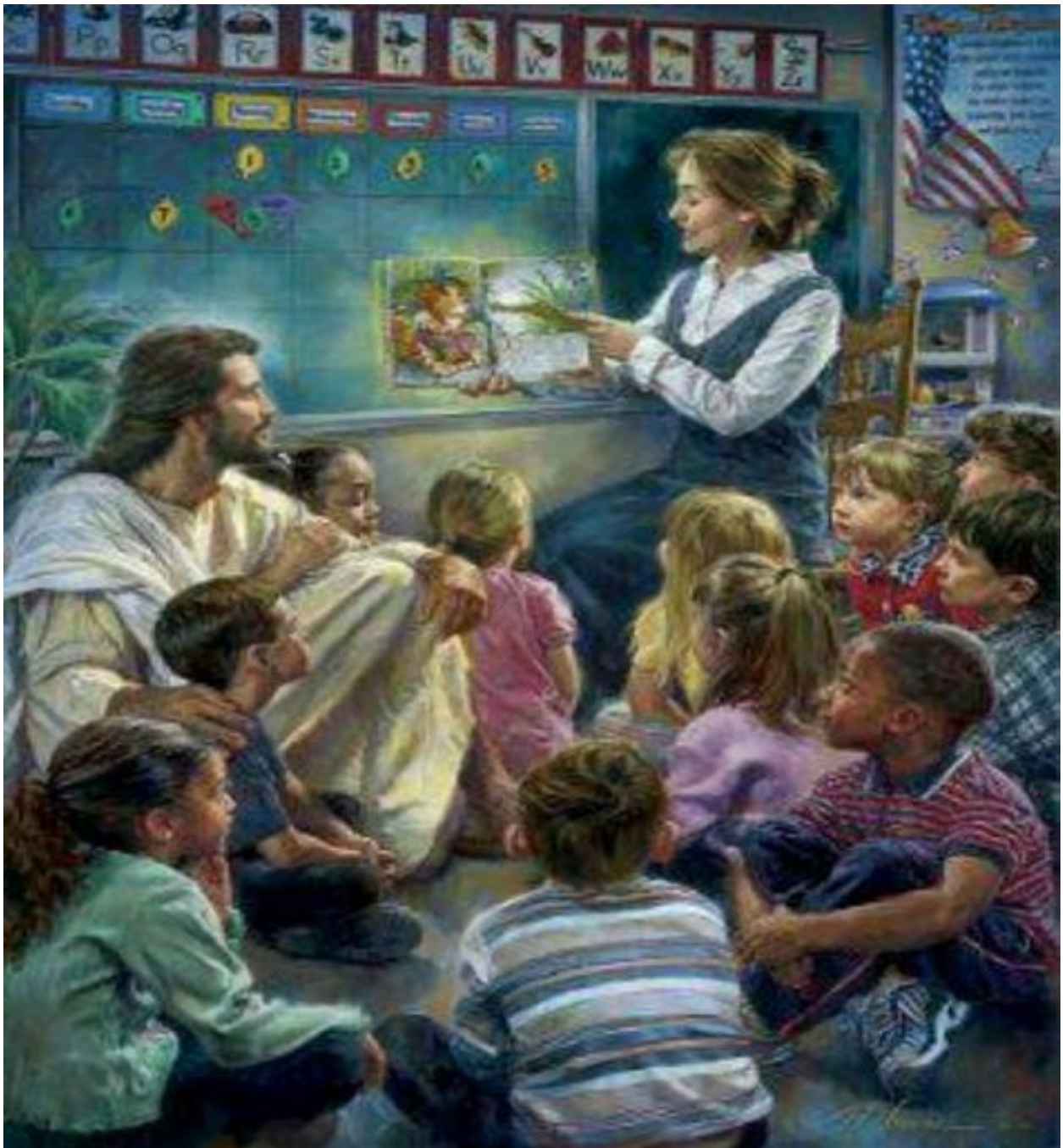




## OUR MISSION

TO PROCLAIM CHRIST'S LOVE TO CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES BY PROVIDING A NURTURING AND EDUCATIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT.

*Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*





# THINGS TO REMEMBER

3/8/2024 Center closed– professional development

3/10,/2024 Don't forget day light savings, forward your clock 1 hour ahead

3/29/2024 Center closed– Good Friday

It's time to update immunization records



## Infants cruising the hallways

In the Spot light!





# Toddler 2

Miss Nicia behaving like a toddler.



**Friends on their way to their preschool class after a hard day at the toddler room.**



# Chapel Time

Praising God with their hearts and voices!





## Preschool 4

Preschoolers learning about fire safety and strengthening their cutting skills.



**Preschool 3**  
**Doing science experiments**

