



Christ the King Community Daycare

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Middle Village, NY 11379

718-417-6770

www.ctkny.org

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MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER



May is here and finally some cheerful Spring weather. With the arrival of Spring, we will be spending more time outdoors. Classes will be going on nature walks and planting beautiful flowers. We will learn about baby animals, insects, plants and their life cycles. Our Painted Lady butterfly larvae will arrive later this month, and we hope to release the mature butterflies in early June. Learning about science and nature helps children expand their vocabulary and develop a better understanding of basic science concepts in their everyday life.

We will also be encouraging the children to be more physically active than ever. As their large motor muscles are developing in leaps and bounds, the children will have lots of opportunities through exercise and games, such as soccer, freeze dance, musical chairs, red light green light, parachutes and more. We also support children as they develop specific skills, like jumping, kicking, catching and throwing. These are skills that the children will use for a lifetime of physical activity, including sports.

A popular event that we all enjoyed last month was our annual Recycling Contest. Each class created a masterpiece, ranging from “cleverly creative” to “out of this world”. Every class was indeed a winner.

The winning votes went to:
3K: Sunflowers- 1st Place
Daycare: Bunnies - 2nd Place
PreK: Bears-3rd Place

On behalf of everyone at Christ the King Community Daycare/ Preschool, we wish all Mommies and Mommies' helpers a Happy Mother's Day!



Reminders

- Please Note: The 3K, Pre-K and Daycare will be *closed on May 25th* in observance of Memorial Day.
- As the weather becomes nicer, the children will be spending more time outdoors. If your child is outside when you are picking up, please remember to come in and sign your child out first. We would also like to remind parents to please refrain from picking your child up over the fence. This is for the safety of the children.
- When calling the facility, please keep in mind that calls should be ideally be made between 12-2pm while the children are napping. The daycare phone number is 718-417-6770.
- Please remember to make sure your child's cubby contains weather-appropriate clothing. We also appreciate all of our parents continuing to bring in diapers and a box of wipes twice each month on the 1st and the 15th.

Monthly Themes



- **Colors:** Purple and Pink
- **Concepts:** Baby Animals, Insects, Growing Plants, Flowers and Vegetables
- **Shape:** Square
- **Letters:** W, X, Y
- **Number(s):**

Ages (1-2) # 9

Ages (3-4) #'s 17, 18

Little Einsteins



Science with the Puppies

Happy May! This month, the Puppies are excited to spend more time outdoors in the sunny weather! We can't wait to blow bubbles and play with chalk! We are also looking forward to celebrating Cinco de Mayo! It's sure to be a vibrant fun-filled day full of color, culture and joy.

In April, the Puppies had a wonderful time learning about science through art projects! They learned about rain with U for umbrella, along with V for volcano, and T for tree when they painted beautiful cherry blossom trees. We also worked on a recycling project together using materials from around the classroom.

We had so much fun during Easter celebrations with our egg hunt last month, which was a very exciting moment for everyone to find a surprise inside each egg! We're looking forward to another fun-filled month of learning and making memories with our Puppy friends!

Science with the Bumblebees

Goodbye April showers and hello May flowers. The Bumblebees have been practicing their singing and dancing with Miss Jen in Music Class. We are very excited to go on stage for the Spring Music Show. Mother's Day is approaching and we are working on a special gift for our moms. Also for those who don't know, May 20th is World Bumblebee Day. We are buzzing with excitement for all the fun activities this month.

During April we welcomed spring and prepared for Easter. We painted fake eggs by putting paint in a ziploc bag and squishing it around. The annual egg hunt was awesome because we did it outside in the playground. The table for our brunch was set up beautifully, thanks to all our parents. We also got plenty of work done, reviewing our letters, numbers, shapes and colors. For the recycling contest we made a bumblebee and a hive in a field of flowers. To celebrate Earth Day we helped plant flowers around the school.

In April we introduced more science into our lessons. One rainy day, we made a rainbow rain cloud in a bowl with water and shaving cream. It was cool to watch the colored water travel through the "cloud." Science also found its way into our crafts. For the letter "V" we painted an erupting volcano. Baking soda was added to the paint then vinegar was dripped onto it, causing a reaction - it bubbled. The Bumblebees' reaction to all this was great, they were in awe. We also learned about outer space by creating a mini solar system. Science is cool and lots of fun.

Science with the Pandas

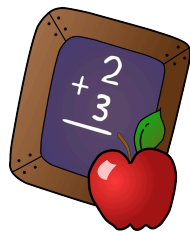
Welcome May!! This month, we are looking forward to our Spring Music Show, where we will be dancing and singing for our families. The Pandas will also be

starting our new unit on "Tubes and Tunnels." We will discuss the characteristics of tubes and tunnels and learn where we can find them and who uses them.

As we entered the month of April, the Pandas were excited to explore the theme of "Gardening." The students learned all about gardening, planting, and recycling. The children discovered how important it is to keep the Earth clean and how recycling can help achieve that goal. We also explored the importance of plants and trees in our environment and how recycling helps preserve them.

For science, we learned about planting, the life cycle of plants, and the parts of a plant. The Pandas planted lima beans in a Ziploc bag. Using paper towels dampened with a spray bottle, the children placed the lima beans inside, folded the towel, sprayed it with water, and sealed it in the bag. We then placed each bag by the window to receive sunlight. Each day, the class checked their beans to observe the first stage of the life cycle: germination. The Pandas were so excited to see the sprouts emerging from the beans!

Mathematicians



Math with the Bunnies

Happy May! In April, we had a lot of fun planting and making our project for Earth Day! The Bunnies were introduced to the number 8 and practiced counting! During Circle Time, we counted how many friends were present each day and counted our 10 fingers with the teacher's help! To learn about the number eight, we tapped into our love of cars! Each child peeled 8 stickers and placed them on a number 8 that looked like a racetrack. We are also practicing our shapes. During art time the teachers drew shapes and taught us the names of each. Then the teachers helped us draw triangles and circles.

This month we will introduce squares, the number 9 and continue our counting. We will also be celebrating Cinco de Mayo and practicing for our Spring Show!

Math with the Lions

Welcome to the month of May! The weather is warmer and the Lions are looking forward to spending more time in the sun! In April, the Lions explored the topic of "Reuse, Reduce and Recycle." We learned steps on how to make the Earth a cleaner and more efficient place to live. We also talked about how plants help the Earth while planting in the garden.

We always find fun ways to learn, and this month the Lions created beautiful flowers while practicing their counting skills. The children placed a paper stem and a bottle cap on paper, then counted how many paper petals they wanted on their flowers. The final results were colorful and unique, with each flower showing different amounts of petals.

In May, we will be starting our Water Unit, which will be a wet and wild time while learning about the different uses of water and how to conserve it.

Math with the Dolphins

We Have a Little Garden

by Beatrix Potter

We have a little garden,
A garden of our own,
And every day we water there
The seeds that we have sown.

We love our little garden,
And tend it with such care,
You will not find a faded leaf
Or blighted blossom there.

The birds are chirping, the bees are buzzing, and we are all so happy that spring has finally sprung. May is here, and before you know it, June will be here soon. With all the fun we've been having all year long, we wish we could make the school year longer. The Dolphins couldn't have done it all without the help of such wonderful parents like you. Thank you for contributing to our Easter party and egg hunt. As always, thank you for your thoughtfulness throughout the year—we truly appreciate you.

During the month of May, the Dolphins will be learning about tubes and tunnels. The children will compare lengths (longer and shorter), which introduces beginning measurement using nonstandard tools. Using paper towel and toilet paper tubes, Miss Diane will first hold up two tubes—one long and one short. She will then ask, "Which tube is longer?" and "How do you know?" to help build comparison skills. Next, the students will use string to measure the tubes, discovering that a longer piece of string means a longer tube, helping them understand measurement in a hands-on way.

In April, the Dolphins learned about gardening. In our math center, each student worked on a flower puzzle with numbers. This activity supported number recognition and sequencing, helping the children place the parts of a flower in order. Hands-on exploration like this encourages language development and critical thinking.

Little Picassos



Art with Snugglies II

Hello May! Last month, we had so much fun making flowers of our hand prints to put in a vase made from toilet paper rolls. This was our recycling project for Earth Day. For the letters of the month, we made T for tree, U for umbrella, and V for a violet. To create these projects, we used our hand and fingerprints. For the number 8, we used the Dot Marker and also counted 1 to 8 dots in 8 oval shapes. We have a great time doing many art projects by using different methods.

We also liked planting flowers in our garden. We look forward to the many art projects we do.

This month, we're looking forward to many sunny days, so we can go outside for walks and also run around in the playground. We will be learning about baby animals and different types of insects. We can't wait to see all of the fun that May will bring.

Art with the Monkeys

The Monkeys are so happy to welcome the month of May! Last month, our class explored our amazing planet, recycling, and the world around us!

We began the month learning about rain, rainbows, and clouds. The children enjoyed creating a special craft that helped them see the differences between each of these weather elements. It was a fun and colorful way to introduce early science concepts!

We also focused on recycling and how we can help take care of our planet. The children watched educational videos and read books about recycling and protecting the Earth. Our big project, "Monkey Jungle," was a class favorite! Using cardboard, toilet paper rolls, paint, and recycled paper, we created a jungle scene with 13 little monkeys hanging and playing. The children had so much fun turning everyday materials into something creative!

Another highlight in April was our outdoor gardening activity. The children became little gardeners for the day as we planted beautiful, colorful flowers in our garden. They explored how the dirt felt, practiced digging holes, and helped water the plants after planting them. It was a wonderful hands-on experience connecting them to nature.

In art, we explored watercolor painting. The children discovered how adding different amounts of water can change colors, creating lighter and darker shades. It was exciting to see their creativity come to life! We are so proud of all the learning and fun we shared this month. We're excited to see what May brings! One of our main upcoming events is our Spring Show. We can't wait to see the children shine on stage!

Art with the Bears

In the month of April, the Bears learned all about "Plants and Flowers." The class discussed different types of plants and flowers, and during small group, the students shared what they knew about different flowers. The children noticed that we can find plants all around us.

During group art time, the children had the choice of picturing which flower or plant they wanted to paint. We used beautiful colors to create our artwork. The children had a great time painting petals, stems, grass, roots, leaves, and other things we find in gardens. They also had fun painting with real flowers. Using watercolors, the children dipped flowers into the paint to create prints and explore the different parts of a flower.

Another project the children enjoyed was making a flower garden. As we continued learning about Earth Day, the children created a garden using recycled materials. The Bears are very excited to show their families what we made. We all had a great time planting for Earth Day.

As we enter May, we will be learning all about "Tubes and Tunnels." The children are looking forward to discussing this new topic. Some of the questions we will explore include: What are the characteristics of tubes and tunnels? Where can we find them? How do we use them? How can we make them? Who works with tubes and tunnels? How can we make sounds with tubes? The Bears are excited to use different tubes and tunnels in our block center as they explore and build.

Musicians in the Making



Music with the Kitties

Welcome May! Last month, the Kitties had so much fun celebrating Easter and welcoming Spring! One of their favorite things to do is listen to music and dance. A big favorite is "Chug Like A Train" by Danny Go! The Kitties love to make the "choo choo" sounds and chug around the classroom. They love the song so much, we even used it for our class recycling project. They also love "Hop Little Bunnies" where the children hop around like bunnies. The children love to sing the "Hello Song" in the morning during center time. They all smile when their name is sang! The kitties also enjoy having music with Ms. Jen and Ms. Melissa. For some songs we dance around shaking egg shakers.

This month, the Kitties are looking forward to celebrating Cinco de Mayo, and learning about baby animals, insects and plants. The children are also excited to get ready for their Spring Music Show and can't wait to perform for their families!

Music with the Chipmunks

As we welcome the month of May, the Chipmunks are filled with excitement as they continue preparing for our upcoming Music Show! The children have been working so hard practicing songs, movements, and performances, and they are so proud and eager to share their talents with their families and friends. Music has been at the heart of our classroom this month, bringing joy, creativity, and togetherness to our learning each day.

In April, we explored songs about how flowers grow in honor of Earth Day and our planting experiences. Through music, the children learned the stages of a flower's life cycle in a fun and meaningful way. After learning how flowers grow, we had the special opportunity to plant our very own flowers. Since then, we have continued to care for them by watering them and watching them grow. We even connected music to our gardening unit by singing songs while we worked, helping us remember what plants need to survive.

We also explored music through our Reduce, Reuse, Recycle unit by creating our own musical instruments using recycled materials. The children used their instruments to explore rhythm, sound, and beat, discovering that music can be made from many different everyday items. This hands-on experience helped strengthen their creativity while also reinforcing the importance of reusing materials in new and meaningful ways.

As we move into May, we are excited to begin our next unit of study: Water! We will continue to use music as a tool for learning by singing songs about water, movement, and nature. The children will explore how water flows, changes, and moves—bringing these concepts to life through songs, rhythm, and movement activities. Music will continue to support our learning as we make connections between sound, science, and creativity.

We are so proud of the Chipmunks and all the confidence they are showing as performers, learners, and friends. May is sure to be filled with music, joy, and exciting new discoveries!

Music with the Turtles

As we reflect on the month of April, the Turtles enjoyed learning all about plants. Throughout the month, they had a wonderful time exploring the gardening unit of study. The Turtles were actively engaged in learning about plants, how they grow, and what they need to survive. From planting seeds to observing changes over time, they showed curiosity, care, and excitement every step of the way.

As part of our learning, we also incorporated music into our classroom experiences. The children enjoyed singing songs about plants and nature, using rhythm and movement to bring our learning to life. Music helped reinforce key concepts while encouraging creativity and self-expression.

We also completed a math project where students practiced matching numbers to their correct quantities using pictures of different types of flowers. This hands-on activity helped strengthen their counting skills while connecting math to our gardening unit. One of the highlights of this unit was getting the opportunity to plant actual flowers in our school parking lot gardens.

As we move into May, the Turtles are looking forward to beginning our next unit of study: Tubes & Tunnels! This unit will encourage students to explore how things move through space, build structures, and think like little engineers through hands-on play and discovery. The children will also continue to engage with music through songs, movement, and rhythm activities that support their learning.

Athletes in Training & Technology Tots



Gym with the Angels

The Angels are so excited to welcome the month of May. Thank you to all of our parents that helped make our Easter egg hunt and party a huge success. Last month, the Angels had a great time learning all about our planet and plants for Earth Day. They enjoyed getting messy digging and planting in the garden. We are looking forward to watering our flowers and watching them grow!

The Angels have so much fun playing in the gym. One game we play is called the square game. There are a few different colored square tiles that are spread out on the gym floor. All of the children line up against the wall. Then, a teacher will shout out the color of one of the squares. All of the children then run and find the colored square that was called, stand right on top of it and freeze! We are so proud of ourselves when we find the correct color. After that all of the children run back to the wall and eagerly awaiting for the next color to be called. Sometimes we change our movements and we will crawl or hop over to the colored squares. This activity is great for our gross motor skills and helps reinforce our colors.

The Angels are looking forward to showing off their moves on stage during our Spring show. We are also looking forward to celebrating Cinco De Mayo with a piñata and tasty treats!

Tech and Gym with the Sunflowers

As we welcome the month of May, the Sunflowers are excited to enjoy the warmer weather and continue their learning journey! In April, we had a wonderful time exploring our unit, "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle." Through hands-on activities and discussions, the children learned about ways to care for our Earth. They discovered which items can be recycled and which belong in the trash, as well as simple ways to reduce waste in their everyday lives.

The Sunflowers especially enjoyed using the classroom computers to watch an engaging video that showed how recyclable materials are sorted, processed, and transformed into new items. They also took part in a variety of sorting activities, applying their knowledge of recyclable materials and exploring which actions make the Earth "happy" and which make the Earth "sad."

In May, we will begin a new and exciting unit all about Water! The Sunflowers will explore where water can be found in our world and how we use it in our daily lives. We will continue to incorporate technology by watching a child-friendly video that introduces the water cycle in a fun and understandable way. Our learning will extend into the gym, where students will creatively explore the movement of water through yoga poses that represent different parts of the water cycle. This hands-on approach will help bring the concept to life in an engaging and memorable way.

Gym and Tech with the Ducks

We are so excited to welcome May in the Duck Class! Our classroom continues to be filled with so much joy, movement, and growing independence. The Ducks are becoming more confident each day, and it has been so special to watch their learning come to life through play.

Last month, we had such a fun time exploring music together. The children loved singing, dancing, and using instruments to explore different sounds and rhythms. We practiced moving our bodies to fast and slow beats and expressing ourselves through music and movement. One of our class favorites was "The Excavator Song," which connected nicely to our Building Unit as the children continued to explore construction vehicles through song and play. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they participated and shared in group activities.

In May, we are excited to explore gym and technology while diving into our new units of study: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Life Cycles! During gym and outdoor play, the Ducks will continue building their strength and confidence on the

playground, especially as they climb the rock wall and ladders. These experiences help support their coordination, balance, and perseverance. We will also begin incorporating simple technology experiences, such as interactive songs, visuals, and classroom tools, to support learning in fun and engaging ways. As we learn about Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, the children will explore how we can take care of our environment by reusing materials and making thoughtful choices. During our Life Cycle study, we will begin to learn about how living things grow and change over time.

I am so proud of our Ducks and all the growth they continue to show. May will be full of movement, discovery, and meaningful learning experiences!

The Nurse's Station



Health Policy

Spring has finally arrived! The children are so excited to be spending more time outdoors. For your child's comfort and safety, please have your child wear sneakers or rubber-soled shoes to school. This will enable your child to run, jump, and climb with less falls, bumps and scratches.

Below are a few important Health and Safety reminders:

- **Physicals and Immunizations:** Child & Adolescent Physical Examination forms must be submitted in a timely fashion. Please stay up to date on your child's physicals and immunizations. Physicals must be submitted after each milestone: 2 months, 4 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months, 15 months, 18 months and annually thereafter. We are mandated by the Department of Health to keep records of all physicals and immunizations. Your child will not be allowed to attend Day Care/Pre-School without the appropriate updates and forms submitted. You may download a [Child and Adolescent Health Examination Form](#) from our website or obtain a form from the Nurse's Office.
- **Medication Administration:** During this time of year, allergies and asthma are one of the most prevalent illnesses children experience. As a preventive measure, it is important for your child to bring an in an inhaler to school. If medication is required for allergies and/or asthma, a Medication Administration Form must be filled out by your pediatrician. In addition, a Medication Care Plan must also be filled out by your pediatrician. You can obtain these forms on the Current Parent Page of our website. For all other medication, a doctor's note must be provided and medication must be in its original box/container. No medication will be administered unless protocol is followed.

- **Absences:** As per the Department of Health rules and regulations, absences must be called in on a daily basis to the front desk. Should a health concern arise, please be sure to inform the Directors or Nurse.
- **Contagious Illnesses:** As a reminder, please remember to inform the school if your child was exposed or diagnosed with any contagious illness. This helps us maintain a clean and safe environment.
- **Nut-Free School:** Keep in mind that we are a nut-free school. Please help us to maintain a nut free environment by refraining from sending any such items (nuts, peanut butter, almond butter, any items containing nut oils, etc.) to school with your children.

Happy Mother's Day!

CLASS QUOTES AND STORIES

Angels

During snack time, a teacher asked Lucas if he would like a cracker. Lucas politely responded, "Oh yes, thank you!"

Bears

While the children were in the kitchen area playing "flower shop," they were buying flowers, plants, and seeds. Grace, Matteo, Luke, and Gianna were near the register when Grace asked Gianna, "Are these flowers on sale?" Gianna said, "No." Matteo said, "Let me check my phone to see if we have any coupons." Grace then said, "Matteo, good thinking! We should get flowers that are on sale."

Bumblebees

One afternoon, Ms. Tina returned from her break to see that Amandine was still awake. Ms. Tina said, "Bubby you should go to sleep." Amandine replied back, "Hi Bubby, how are you?"

Bunnies

One afternoon, Kendal said, "Bye" and waived to Sonny as she was leaving. It was very cute!

Chipmunks

One day, Jason walked up to Alyssa, tapped her on the back and said, "Are you 4?!" She turned and said, "Yeah, why?" and he said, "I am too!" and walked away so excited that he and his friend were the same age!

Dolphins

During center time, Elena told Miss Diane, "I have a headache." Kaya told Elena, "You need to drink water—it will go away. That is what Mommy does when she has a headache."

Ducks

During closing circle each day, Ms. Jordan asks the children what their favorite part of the day was. One afternoon, Rowan responded, "My favorite part of the day is spending time with Ms. Jordan and Ms. Kasia." :)

Kitties

In the playground, Giovanni was climbing up the stairs to the slide and Bella said, "Be careful. Gio!"

Lions

On day, Haley was wearing a pretty dress, and before we went to the playground, Miss Melissa asked her if she had shorts underneath. She replied, "No, I only have legs."

Monkeys

As we were walking to our Easter Egg Hunt, Sophia turned to Carter and said, "I'm here Carter. I will help you pick up all the eggs."

Pandas

During morning tabletop activities, Jack said to Miss Nancy, "Do you know I came from the Red Planet?" Miss Nancy replied, "You came all the way from Mars! How did you get here?" Jack said, "I took a plane here!!"

Puppies

One day on the playground, some of the Puppies hid in the playset's tunnel together! They loved playing peek-a-boo with their friends peeking in from the outside!

Sunflowers

As the Sunflowers were getting ready for lunch, Nathan turned to Camila and asked, "Did you bring the Camila pizza yet?" Camila replied, laughing, "No, it will be on my birthday."

Turtles

During circle time, while learning about the different parts of a flower, Eden said, "Look Ms. Raquel, the stem is like the flower's neck... it holds the head up!"

CK Kids | 68-02 Metropolitan Avenue | Middle Village, NY 11379 US

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