



Kindergarten News

September 15, 2011

Dear Parents,

This is the first “formal” newsletter of the year. We are all getting comfortable with the routines and hard work in kindergarten. You should expect to see a newsletter either every week or every other week throughout the year.

Here is a peek at what we’ve been up to:

- In Jolly Phonics, we have introduced the first 13 letter sounds: s, a, t, i, p, n, c, k, e, h, r, m and d. We are blending and making words with all of the sounds we’ve learned so far. Please continue to practice the sounds at least three times per day.
- We have done quite a bit of shared reading with our Making Meaning program as well as big books and poetry. We learned three ways to read – reading the pictures – taking a picture walk, reading the words and re-telling the story. Our Principal, Dr. Kotalik, came in and read *Chicka, Chicka, Boom Boom* to the students. They were all familiar with this story as we read this our first week of school and it is also a favorite that many have read before.
 - In Making Meaning, our shared reading (comprehension) program, we are making text-to-self connections and answering questions to understand the stories. Socially, they are beginning to build a reading community. We are learning the routines for read-alouds and “Turn to Your Partner”. The children are also beginning to take responsibility for their learning and behavior as they are learning the group skill of listening to one another.
- In math we completed our topic on sorting and classifying (same and different, sorting by one attribute, sorting the same set in different ways and sorting by more than one attribute as well as using logical reasoning). We are working on our second topic on position and location (inside, outside, over, under and on). We will complete this topic next week with (top, middle, and bottom; before and after; and left and right).
- We continue to work with our names and the formation of each letter. I will be sending home name practice writing sheets for homework next week.
- We continue to work on following our classroom rules – the children are very aware and trying their best.

Next Week:

- We will continue with MAP testing. Our testing days are a.m. – Monday and Thursday and p.m. – Tuesday and Thursday. Please make sure your child gets plenty of sleep and eats well to be better prepared for testing.
- Tuesday, September 20: Vision and hearing screening during the school day
- Friday, September 23 – last day to submit Scholastic book orders for September if you are interested.

Reminders:

- Please remember to send back sound books every day so the new sound may be added.
- Tuesday we have P.E. (Gym) – please remember to send your child in gym shoes.
- Thursday is Library day; all books need to be returned by Thursday.

Enjoy your weekend!
Mrs. Tonia Cyrus