

April 13, 2018

Dear Parents,

The week began very challenging for many of the students. We took a look on Tuesday and reorganized. We went back and reviewed many of our rules from the fall. It turned our class around to be learners again. They showed that they could be responsible, respectful and safe learners. This shows me that they do care and want to do their best. After vacation we will review some of the other social skills that we had presented earlier in the year as this time of year can be challenging for some of the students.

We finished up with our science unit about plants this week. The students will be bringing home their research packets to show you. I am keeping their writing samples to show to first grade teachers and to create a book in the classroom.

In Foundations, they have learned five more trick words so now know/recognize fifteen words. I have included the list so they can continue to practice over vacation: a, and, are, as, has, the, is, his, was, to, we, he, she, be, me. They are really getting good at these words. We have also learned about A-N for uppercase letters. The uppercase letters go so quickly and we review the lowercase letters as we go. They are really getting so much better at thinking where letters begin and write their letters properly.

In reading groups, we practice being Super Readers. We practiced using what we see to help us figure out a word. We would cover up words using sticky notes (all but the first letter). With reading the sentence together and looking at pictures we try to figure out what the word might be. We prompt with questions like does it look right, does it sound right and does it make sense? They are really using these strategies to help them read a text.

In math, the students are learning about different measurement tools. They are learning about different tools to measure length, weight, capacity and temperature. Look around your house with your child to see if there are any tools that you use for measurement. We have also learned a new activity for our math centers called Which Bug Will Win? They are enjoying learning this new game. It is practicing spinning, counting, keeping track of information, using math language (more than, less than and how many in all, etc).

We also had another RIF distribution this week. Hopefully, your child showed you the free book that they received and you were able to read this book together. It is so important to read and talk with your child every day, even if it is only for a few minutes. It is an activity that you should cherish to build those parent child times.

I will send in any book orders tonight. If for some reason you would like me to wait please contact me through e-mail and I will wait.

As a special treat we watched a movie this afternoon as we realize how hard all of our students work. We watched Homeward Bound.

Upcoming Events:

4/16-4/20- Spring Break

5/24: Spring Concert 6:30

I hope everyone has a wonderful week. Hopefully, the weather will improve so everyone can get outside.