

October 19, 2018

Dear Parents,

We have had a fun filled week. We were greeted by butterflies that wanted to be released and we continued to release butterflies throughout the week until we released our final one today. Hopefully, they will make it safely to Mexico.

We also were excited to finish our first unit as readers. We had a parade and walked around the school to celebrate the fact that the students are reading. (They are not reading traditionally like we do yet.) They were so excited and people cheered as we walked around the school. Some students are bringing in books to read/share with the class which is also very exciting. Some are reading, but most are telling the story using the pictures. This is the stage that most kindergarten students are doing at this point. We will begin our next unit next week and they will love this unit. The children created certificates that they shared what they liked to do as a storybook reader. I signed the certificate and it is in their folder today. It was an exciting day in kindergarten.

In Foundations, the students did some more word play in sentences. This is something you could do at home with paper or index cards. We use white board magnets that can be erased. You write a simple sentence, i.e. Mom has a dog. We talk about the uppercase letter at the beginning and the period at the end of the sentence. I also mix the sentence up and see if they can put it back together. We talked some about syllables in words this week as well and practiced clapping out some words. We reviewed writing the letters that we have learned so far and learned about the letter a this week. We have also learned about the letter a this week.

In number corner, the students have practiced counting forward and backward through the teen numbers, skywrite numbers 1-9, work on number combinations up to five and look for patterns throughout the calendar. In math, they have practiced some of the activities in our math centers and also learned about a new activity called Beat You to 5. This is a partner game so it helps going to 5 and also turn taking.

I have included the new activity that we did with Second Step. It deals with focusing attention, and reviewing the listening rules that we learned last week.

I am enclosing the conference notes today. Most of you have confirmed with me through email, but this is a final confirmation. I look forward to seeing all of you and sharing updates with each other about your child. You will not get the report card at this meeting as it will come home on December 7, but we will go over information that will hopefully help you as it is a new process for report cards and it will look different to those of you who have seen report cards from previous years. Please sign and return the second sheet and return it by next Friday.

For Halloween, we do not do any costumes at White River School. With that said our two kindergarten classes will get together on the end of the day on Halloween to have a small treat. If you would like to send something in to share please let me know through email or a note. We will need plates and napkins, juice boxes (easier than juice and cups), treats like fruit, popcorn, cheese/crackers, a sweet treat and if anyone wants to join someone else to do treat bags as another treat at the end of the day. Just let me know. Contact me with questions.

Pictures are being included in the children's folders today if you ordered one. If for some reason you do not like them, please return them to the school and retakes will be taken next Friday.

With the weather change please remember to send warm clothes with your children and please label them so if they get separated. Also, practice having your child dress themselves. It helps them, you and us make things simpler. When snow arrives if you would like your child to keep a pair of shoes in their cubby instead of transporting back and forth please consider that (no slippers).

Upcoming Events:

October 19: Book Orders Due

October 21: Color Run- PTA Fundraiser

November 1: Early Release-Parent Conferences, students will leave two hours early.

November 2: Parent Conferences-No school for students

November 8: PTA 6:30

November 12: No School

Have a great weekend!