

October 5, 2018

Dear Parents,

The students were so proud/happy to hear on Wednesday that they had won the box top competition for the month of September. They enjoyed popsicles that afternoon to celebrate that were donated by the PTA. If you didn't send in any box tops last month try to support this activity in future months. Every coupon counts and they add up quickly. Ask friends, family members, coworkers, etc. It is a very easy way to support our school. You might also like to try to attend a PTA meeting as a way of getting involved in our school and also learning more about our school. This is a way to get to know some parents as well.

I hope you have also heard about the amount of chrysalis' that we have in our tank in our classroom. Some of them will begin to hatch next week. I don't think I have ever had this many in any other year that I have done this unit. It will be exciting to see how many hatch.

I am enclosing some information about our whole body listening that we have been learning about over the last couple of weeks. We have Listening Larry on a poster in our classroom. On top of this we will be using a social skills program called Second Step next week. I will send information home occasionally about this program and what we are working on.

We began our new Number Corner routines this week. We are learning about different position words (i.e. to the left, to the right, up, down, etc.). We have also been talking about our math hands more using them to learn 6-10. We are practicing counting the teen numbers. We also continue our additional items from the previous month (adding a link each day, adding a dot to a tens frame and adding a number to the number path). In our math lessons, we learned a new activity for our math centers. It is called Spill Five Beans. Students shake five beans that are colored red on one side and white on the other side, count the number of red and trace the number of red on a sheet that has numbers 1-5. You might have seen one of these come home as we practiced as a class when we introduced it to be sure during centers they would know how to play this activity. They enjoy math centers whenever we do them. It is a great way to practice their math skills.

During our Reader's Workshop we have moved to favorite story books. We continue to practice our skills as readers both privately and with a partner. Adults support students that might struggle, but most of the children truly are feeling like readers. They might not be reading a story the traditional way, but they are reading it the way they hear it. I am including a letter about reading a story multiple times and when a child is ready to bring a book from home to read to me or the class we will celebrate with them. Hopefully, you will share with this excitement. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

In Foundations, we have been having some fun with the letters that we have learned about so far. I might say what letter do we use bat for? What letter has /f/ for it's sound. We also have

worked on sentences recognizing that a tall letter needs to be at the beginning of each sentence and a period/stop sign has to be at the end of each sentence. The letters that we are working on are b,c,f,i,m,n,t,u. They also have learned about vowels and consonants.

I am sending home new book orders today. They will be due on Friday, October 19. If you want to order online the code is GXJYC.

Our days are full, but the students are really adjusting to the long day. I am sure you get tired children at the end of the day. Hopefully, you have established bedtime routines and this will help everyone.

Upcoming Events:

October 8: Inservice Day- No school for students

October 11: PTA Meeting 6:30

October 12: PTA Game Night

October 19: Book Orders Due

October 21: Color Run- PTA Fundraiser

November 1: Early Release-Parent Conferences

November 2: Parent Conferences-No school for students

Have a great weekend!