

September 6, 2019

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many of you again last night at our open house! Hopefully the children were able to show you a few things around our classroom and building. They are really settling in nicely. Remember, you can always reach me through email which is:
cerasolia@hartfordschools.net

We have really been focusing on learning our school wide rules which are: Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible. These are in the handbook so you can read specifically about them. We spend a lot of time early on in the year learning about these expectations. We also review periodically if we find that students are struggling with a particular rule. I was hoping to begin the color chart next week, but think we will practice one more week and begin the following week.

We have also begun to learn about whole body listening which is very important in our classroom. Whole body listening teaches students how different parts of our body show that we are listening. This week, we learned how our eyes look at someone to show them we are listening. We practiced this as a class.

In number corner, we are learning the routine and practice counting a lot. The number corner is a big part of our math in kindergarten. They gain a lot of skills through this time. We will also have math lessons and math centers which I will be sharing more about as the year goes on.

Our phonics program is called Foundations. Right now we are focusing on things like how to correctly sit in a chair and pick up a pencil. We have also been learning about the different lines on our writing paper. Next week, we will begin introducing some letters. This program begins with lowercase letters first because this is what students see in print and around them.

In our reading program, the students first goal is to believe that they can read. We began working on this goal during this week. As the students looked around the room they discovered lots of pictures labeling things with words. They recognized the picture and therefore could read the word. We also talked about how they know where McDonalds, etc. is in our community. You will be amazed at how far they will come this year. It is a very exciting adventure to help with and watch.

We of course build in play time, either an extra recess in the morning or free play at the end of the day. They are tired when I send them home, but are doing a great job.

I am sending home towels today to be washed over the weekend.

Thank you for sending in snack money. This really helps me to keep this program going after all of these years.

I am sending home the first book order. You can order online if you would like. The code for our class is: GXJYC. It is due back in two weeks or before. Checks can be made out to Scholastic and not me for this.

We will be going on our first field trip on the morning of Thursday, September 19 to Riverview Farm in Plainfield, NH. This is an annual trip that we have taken for many years. The children will need to bring in \$3.00 to pick a small bag of apples to bring home with them. They will need to dress for the weather that morning as it can be wet and cool this time of year. We will travel by bus to the orchard. Please label money so I know it is for apple picking.

When you are sending in money please label what it is for (i.e. snack money, apple picking money, etc).

If you have not returned your packets for the office please do so. These are important to have because we need the most current information in the case of an emergency. I still have a few missing. Thanks!

Have a great weekend and rest up as the children will have their first full week of school.

Upcoming Events:

9/19 Apple Picking-\$3.00

9/19 First PTA meeting- 6:30 (normally will be the second Thursday)

9/20 School Pictures-see information included in the folder today

9/20 Book order is due