

September 13, 2019

Dear Parents,

This was our first full week and the children did very well. They were tired by the end of the week, but are really settling into our routine quite nicely. They are beginning to adjust to the length of the day well too.

We continue to work on our routines and learn about each other at the same time. We are spending time with a book called Listening Larry, which teaches about listening skills using different parts of our bodies. We have talked about how we use our eyes, ears, mouth, hands and feet. The children really enjoy this.

We are learning a lot of math skills through our number corner. They are learning about the days of the week, month, date, counting, grouping things together and much more. We continue to learn more through our calendar each day. We learned about using our math hands to count and show numbers. Ask your child to show you how we get our math hands ready. Then you can ask them to show you different numbers using their math hands. This is such a fun way to practice math for the students. In math, they enjoy counting 1:1 and doing different activities to count. We are also learning about different manipulatives that we will use in different ways in the future.

In Foundations, we are beginning to learn about the letter t and b. These letters are what we refer to as skyline letters. The students will learn the letter, keyword and sound. They will also learn an action to go along with the letter. They trace the letter in their workbook and practice writing the letter on a whiteboard. We are still learning about how to sit correctly when they are writing and how to pick up and hold a pencil correctly. They work very hard during this time.

In our readers workshop time, they are learning about how to be a reader. They are learning that readers look, think, read and learn from books. We are using nonfiction books, which they are calling, "learn about the world books". They are really doing a great job during our private time to look at books and then during partner time to share what they have learned with a partner. It is very exciting to see in our classroom. They truly believe they are reading these books which is great to see! Some students are noticing words that are labeling pictures which is also exciting. Some just can tell what their book is about, which is okay as well.

You might have heard about our exciting time this week when one of our caterpillars turned into a chrysalis right in front of us! Hopefully we will see more. It never gets old to watch and see this wonderful event. I have adults come to just stand and watch this miracle. Stay tuned for the butterflies to begin hatching in a couple of weeks.

We will go on our apple picking trip next Thursday, September 19. We will be going to Riverview Farm in Plainfield, NH. We will travel by bus. The students will need \$3.00 to pick a small bag of apples to bring home. They should also dress for the weather. It could be cool and wet during the morning when we go to the orchard. We will be back for our normal lunch. Please label money for apple picking. Please contact me with any questions. Thank you!

I will begin sending colors home with students next week. Remember, these are to support students in a positive way as a reminder and each day is a new start. We always say, tomorrow is a new day and a fresh start. We talk about how they can learn from what they have done and not dwell on the color.

Our first PTA meeting is next Thursday. They usually try to keep the meeting to an hour, but sometimes does run over. It is a great way to learn more about what is happening in our school. It is usually the second Thursday, but did get moved this month due to conflicts with the officers having another commitment.

School pictures will be taken next Friday. There is more information included today in your child's folder. The code for our school should be on the paperwork.

Thanks to so many of you who have sent in money for our cooking program! This helps to keep it going. If you would like to send in for the year it is \$16.50. Please contact me with any questions. We cook each Friday afternoon instead of having our normal snack.

Our fruit program has begun. We have fresh fruit each morning for snack. This allows the children to try new types of fruits and vegetables. This is a free program that runs most of the school year. It usually ends near the end of May.

The first book order is due next Friday.

Thanks for washing and sending back towels last weekend. I will send them again next weekend.

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

Have a great weekend!